



Oak Class Curriculum Newsletter – Spring 2014

Dear Parents,

We hope that you all had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas and New Year. Here is an outline of the curriculum that the children in Oak Class will be covering this term.

English

In English this term, we will be covering a range of narrative and non-fiction texts.

Fiction - Short stories with flashbacks and authors and their texts.

Non-Fiction - Formal and impersonal writing, instructional and explanation texts.

Poetry - Analysis and commentary of poetry: finding a voice for issues.

In spelling, each week, the children will be choosing their own interesting and ambitious words to spell and practicing these daily. In grammar, they will continue to look at higher level sentence structure, exciting sentences and more complex sentences as well as improving their use of punctuation.

Maths

This term, we will be reviewing and extending the children's knowledge of the four operations and applying this to solving real life, multi-step problems. The children will be working on place value, decimals, fractions and percentages and securing number facts, patterns and relationships. They will be collecting, presenting and interpreting data using graphs and charts. They will also be reading different scales and securing the use of metric measurements. We will also be learning how to estimate, measure and work out perimeter and area. Children will be learning how to use coordinates and furthering their knowledge on using time in problem solving questions.

Science

In Science this term, the children will be studying the Earth, Sun and Moon. They will be investigating their different sizes and how they move and spin around. They will also be looking at sunrise and sunset and will be using these patterns to create graphs and interpret data. The children will also be learning about How We See Things. In this topic, they will learn how light comes from sources to our eyes, how the light can be reflected and how shadows are formed and change.

IT

This term, the children will be creating a photostory style presentation incorporating sound in connection with their work on short stories with flashbacks. They will also be learning about spreadsheets and data logging in connection with their work in science. The children will also be using the internet to research information and databases.

PE (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

In PE this term, we will be focusing on dance and the children will be learning about and performing the Haka War Dance. In outdoor games, they will be practising and developing their skills in netball and football.

RE

Hinduism- the class will be learning to understand some aspects of Hindu beliefs in God and the origins of Hinduism. Children will learn about Hindu traditions and practices with worship, festivals and will gain an understanding of vocabulary pertinent to the Hindu faith. Children will be asked to assess their current knowledge about the Hindu faith and then reassess their knowledge at the end of the term.

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History

Our topic in Key Stage 2 this term is World War 2 and Britain Since The 1930's. The children will be looking at timelines and making comparisons of life for different people at this time. We will be thinking about how WW2 affected the local area and learning about what life was like during the Blitz and the blackouts. They will learn about evacuations, rationing, digging for victory and wartime propaganda.

Art

In art, the children will be learning about figure and form and how body gesture and movement is portrayed by artists and in artwork. They will look at methods to show movement and will be creating artwork to show this.

Music

This term, we will be linking music to our history topic, 'Britain Since The 1930's'. This will include singing, composing and appraising a variety of pieces of music and soundscapes.

Design and Technology

In D&T this term we will be learning about moving toys. The children will investigate the movement mechanisms in toys and learn how the movement is made. They will be developing their measuring and cutting skills and will design and make a toy with a moving part.

French

The children will be learning how to say the alphabet in French and counting in multiples of 10 up to 100. They will also be learning how to give simple directions to places in the immediate locality.

PSHE

The term's topics include: *Going For Goals* and *Good To Be Me*. We will also be revisiting *Drugs* and looking at their uses. The children will also be learning about *Healthy Eating* and keeping healthy.

Homework

Homework will be set on a Thursday and will be due in on the following Tuesday. Children will also be given their reading journal on a Thursday to complete for the following Tuesday. The children are expected to read at least three times a week. Please make sure that this is recorded in their reading diaries. Spellings will be given to the children to practise in school each week in preparation for their test on a Friday.

Hints to Help Your Child

- Provide a clear and quiet working space.
- Allow time for homework to be completed to a good standard
- Encourage your child to read every day
- Encourage your child to organize their homework themselves and make sure they bring in their books on the correct days. (Homework diaries need to be with them every day.)
- Do they have a relative or neighbour who has a memory of the War- if so could they interview them to gain further understanding.
- A visit to a museum, Cabinet War Rooms or memorial sites would really help bring their history learning area alive.

Parents' evenings will be held on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th April 2014.