

Oak Class Spring Term 2019

Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that you have all had a wonderful Christmas and trust the children are ready for the term ahead.

Mrs Hunter and myself have many exciting activities planned and can't wait to get started!

Important Dates for Reception Class this Term.....

Reception Class Assembly

Our class assembly will take place on **Wednesday 3rd April at 3.05pm in the school hall.**

Please come along, we would love to share our work with you!

Parents Evening

Tuesday 5th March and Thursday 7th March between 3.30pm and 7.00pm.

Our overall topic for this half term is ***'Winter'***. We will be looking at the changes from Autumn to Winter, how animals survive and how to look after ourselves in the cold. Nick Butterworth's well known character 'Percy the Park keeper' and the many amazing stories he has written, will be a main focus too, looking at the seasonal changes in the park and the jobs Percy has to do.

Our focus will include talking about our environment and the changes in weather, caring for animals and looking after ourselves in the cold weather. We will observe and describe the different snowflake patterns and talk about how they are all unique and each one different like ourselves.

In Literacy, Communication and Language we will be developing confidence in speaking and listening through stories in familiar settings, discussion and role-play activities. The role play area will be transformed into Percy's hut.

We will be reading a range of fiction books linked to the Winter theme:- 'The Snow Globe Family' by Jane O'Connor, 'Snowmen at Night' by Caralyn Bueher, 'Here Comes Jack Frost' by Kazuno Kohara, 'Sneezy the Snowman' by Maureen Wright, 'The Mitten' by Jan Brett and 'One Snowy Night' by Nick Butterworth.

There will be many opportunities to write about events and characters from these fantastic stories. The children will also be sequencing events and re-telling the stories in their own words.

We will compare fiction and non-fiction books and discuss how they are different. We will be finding facts from various 'Winter' themed information books and using these in our writing.

In Mathematics we will be practising addition and subtraction using winter themed counting apparatus, e.g. snowflakes, mittens, icy gems, snowmen etc. We will also continue to practise counting different sets of objects and write numbers accurately. We will also be comparing the capacity of different containers, identifying coins and their values and using positional language.

As part of Creative Development we will be looking at 'Winter' colours and creating collages using various materials. We will look at Winter landscape paintings by different artists to identify the colours used and how to create different effects. The children will practise mixing paint to create different shades of blue. We will explore various paint and their qualities e.g. acrylic, watercolour etc. They will also use different tools to draw with, e.g. pastel, pencil, crayon and pens.

These are just some of the activities we will be completing. Please look at the attached topic web with more of the activities we have planned for the term ahead.

The children will have access to the outdoor area when they visit the POD. They will be able to work collaboratively to explore a variety of activities, e.g. den building, mud kitchen, painting, sand and water play, large construction, giving them plenty of opportunities to develop their team building and communication skills.

Supporting your child's learning at home.

Homework will continue to be in the format of a variety of activities linked to the areas of development. Thank you for all the fantastic homework that has been completed during the Autumn term and the effort put in by yourselves and your children. The work has been a pleasure to look at. The time you spend with your child completing these activities is valuable and will allow your child to practise the skills learnt at school and for you to see the progress they are making.

Phonic strips will continue to be sent home with the key letters and sounds for children to learn to recognise, and know the letter name and sound for.



We are extremely pleased with the progress Oak class are making with their reading. Thank you for your continued hard work and practise. This time is invaluable and makes such a difference.

P.E will continue to take place on a Monday and a Thursday. Please ensure your child has full P.E kit in school.

We look forward to the Spring Term and watching your children progress and enjoy their learning.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Fielding and Mrs Hunter
7th January 2019