



Oak Class Parents/Carers Term 4 Newsletter

The story of the Trojan Horse: historical fact, legend or classical myth?

Welcome back to Term 4; I hope you all had an enjoyable and restful half term. The children have started the term with a zest for learning and a positive attitude. Thank you for meeting with me at parents evening – it was lovely to chat about your children and the progress that they are making.

English

We will be reading Odysseus and a variety of books about Ancient Greece. We will be practising to read aloud clearly and confidently. Our use of well-chosen vocabulary and varied sentence structures will help to make our writing more interesting. We will be writing narratives this term linked to Odysseus with a particular focus on characterisation and setting description. Children should continue to read at least 5 x a week and will receive a prize for this – the HGSA have kindly given us some money for reading prizes. The reading records need to be signed by an adult – they are checked on a Friday. Library books will be changed every Monday.



Maths

We will be covering fractions, decimals and percentages this term. We will continue to practise calculation methods for addition, subtraction, division and

History

We will be reading the story of the Trojan horse and seeing what evidence exists to authenticate its story. We will also look at what other explanations there could be for the origin of the story and draw our own conclusions about whether it is a myth, legend or historically factual.



DT

Marvellous Structures:
We will be designing and making a marble run structure. We will use skills of designing, making and evaluating and look at how structures can be strengthened, reinforced, joined and shaped. Children will test and evaluate their marble run against design criteria.

Computing

Text Adventures – we will create our own text adventures linked to the story of Odysseus, adding sound and animation for effect.

multiplication and solving problems using these skills. Every morning we will be practising arithmetic to improve our fluency. It is extremely important that the children become fluent in their number bonds, tables, doubles and halves – little and often is the best way to learn. Please do encourage them to use Times Table Rockstars at home.



Science

Electricity: Through investigation the children will learn to associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit. They will compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches and will use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.

Life Skills

My Body – Growing and Changing. We will be learning about puberty and changes that happen as we mature. Year 6 will be learning about conception (letter to follow). We will talk about personal identity and mental health and will also discuss gender identity.



Music

We will start with some straightforward starting points for composing within a groove music context. Using Watermelon man by Herbie Hancock as a stimulus, children will develop their rhythmic awareness, listening skills, and compositional skills through a series of practical activities.

PE

Hockey and Benchball with Mrs Ham. Swimming lessons.

RE

Judaism: What is holiness for Jewish people – a place, a time, and object or something else?

Dates for the Diary

Swimming lessons:

Wednesday 22nd February

Wednesday 1st March

Wednesday 8th March

Wednesday 15th March

Wednesday 22nd March

Wednesday 29th March

World Book Day Thursday 2nd March

Comic Relief – Friday 17th March

Break up and Easter Egg Hunt Friday 31st March

SATs tests Tuesday 9th May – Friday 12th May

Important Reminders

It is really important that your child reads at least 5 x a week for about 20 minutes. This can be non-fiction, poems, news and graphic novels as well as fiction texts. Well done to those who do – I can see the effect on your speaking and in your writing.

PE Days

PE varies from week to week due to sports competitions, so please ensure that your child has a PE kit in school every day.

Useful Websites

I have sent home the TT Rockstars passwords so please can you check that your child can log on and is using it regularly as tables knowledge will help in every area of Maths. 'Hit the button' is also useful for Maths fluency e.g. doubles, halves and number bonds. 'StudyGe' is a really good App to help with mapwork:



Homework

Homework will go out on a Friday and is expected back the following Thursday so that we can go through it. There is less homework than in previous years as we expect more reading as this is the key to learning. Homework consists of 'Grammar Hammer' and spellings. The spelling test and a tables test is on a Friday. Year 6 will have some revision SATs packs to complete too this term

Please contact me via the office or at the end of the day if you would like any additional information. Thank you for your continued support, especially with encouraging your child to read regularly.

Mrs Ivil