

# Outstanding Oak Trees



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had a fantastic Christmas and enjoyed the relaxing break. We have loads of exciting activities planned for the children this half term, so I'm looking forward to getting back into the classroom. Just before Christmas, Oak Trees were asked which topics they would like to learn in school and one of the topic themes they chose is: 'Where do fruits and vegetables originate from?' We will be learning about the different countries around the world that various fruits and vegetables have originated from, how many air miles they have travelled and also investigating what makes up a balanced diet and lifestyle.

Please let me know if you have any questions, my email is:  
[jkelton@leavening.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:jkelton@leavening.n-yorks.sch.uk).

Happy New Year!

Many thanks,  
Mrs Milson

## HANDWRITING COMPETITION AT LEAVENING!

**AT LEAVENING SCHOOL, WE ALWAYS ENCOURAGE CHILDREN TO TAKE PRIDE IN ALL THE WORK THAT THEY PRODUCE IN ALL AREAS OF THE CURRICULUM.**

**ALL THE TEACHING STAFF PROVIDE CLEAR GUIDANCE OF WHAT THE PRESENTATION EXPECTATIONS ARE AND THE CHILDREN ARE REMINDED OF THE NON-NEGOTIABLES REGULARLY, SUCH AS USING A RULER TO CROSS OUT MISTAKES, UNDERLINING DATES AND TITLES WITH A RULER AND CHOOSING TO JOIN THE LETTERS IN WORDS IN THE CORRECT PLACES.**

**ON MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, MRS RAY WILL BE INTRODUCING OUR WHOLE SCHOOL HANDWRITING COMPETITION. THE CHILDREN WILL BE WRITING THEIR POETRY USING THEIR BEST HAND WRITING AND REMEMBERING ALL OF THE SKILLS THEY ARE BEING TAUGHT DAILY.**

## Where do fruits and vegetables originate from?

In Oak Trees, we are going to spend a day exploring different fruits and vegetables using our senses. We will sketch images of interesting and uncommon fruits and vegetables that have been transported to England from all over the world.

Later on, we will investigate the smells, tastes and textures of various fruits and vegetables by sampling them. We will also learn that they can be produced in different ways such as dried, frozen, cooked and pureed, and that 7-10 portions should be eaten every day in order to maintain a balanced diet.

Please could children bring £1 into school by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January, so that we can buy some exotic fruits and vegetables for us to examine, sketch and taste!

## School and PE Uniform

Children look so smart when they are wearing the correct uniform, as they are representing Leavening School. This includes: white/blue shirt or t-shirt, blue Leavening School cardigan or jumper, grey/black trousers or skirt, blue and white or grey checked dress and plain black school shoes.

School PE uniform includes: plain blue/ white t-shirt, trainers, black/ blue shorts, plain dark joggers, school jumper or cardigan.

A newsletter was sent out before Christmas, reminding you that children should come to school wearing their complete school uniform, every day including Funky Fridays. Children can either leave their PE kits on their pegs all week, or bring them into school on a Friday morning and then take them home on a Friday afternoon ready to be washed and brought back the following week.

We will let you know in advance if there is a non-uniform fundraising day in school.

| Langton SATS Club sessions  | Leavening SATS Club sessions  |
|---|---|
| <b>Tues 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b><br>Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar               | <b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b><br>Calculation (Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide) |
| <b>Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018</b><br>Calculation (Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide) | <b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b><br>Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar               |
| <b>Tues 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b><br>Fractions, Decimals & Percentages             | <b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018</b><br>Reading Comprehension                        |
| <b>Tues 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b><br>Reading Comprehension                         | <b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b><br>Number, Place Value & Arithmetic             |
| <b>Tues 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b><br>Geometry - position & direction, shape       | <b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018</b><br>Fractions, Decimals & Percentages            |
| <b>Tues 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b><br>Number, Place Value & Arithmetic             | <b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b><br>Reading Comprehension                       |
| <b>Tues 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b><br>Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar                  | <b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b><br>Geometry - position & direction, shape          |
| <b>Tues 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b><br>Statistics & Measures                           | <b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b><br>Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar                 |
| <b>Tues 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b><br>Ratio, Proportion & Algebra                     | <b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017</b><br>Calculation (Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide)   |
| <b>Tues 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b><br>Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar                 | <b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b><br>Number, Place Value & Arithmetic                |
| <b>Tues 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018</b><br>Fractions, Decimals & Percentages               | <b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018</b><br>Statistics & Measures                           |
| <b>Tues 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018</b><br>Calculation (Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide)   | <b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018</b><br>Reading Comprehension                           |
| <b>Tues 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018</b><br>Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar                    | <b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018</b><br>Ratio, Proportion & Algebra                        |
| <b>Tues 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018</b><br>Number, Place Value & Arithmetic                   | <b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018</b><br>Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar                   |

### Year 6 SATS Club

The first session of SATS club at Langton School is on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January and the first SATS club at Leavening School is on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 3:15pm - 4:15pm.

There are two alterations of dates in the SATS sessions after half term, due to staff training. The Reading Comprehension session on 1.3.18 has been changed to 28.2.18, and also the Geometry (position, direction and shape) session on 8.3.17 has been changed to 7.3.17.

The sessions will be taught by Mrs Milson, Mrs Marshall and Mrs Peers, so we hope to see many year 6 children there every week.

### Spellings and Reading Homework

Oak Trees will continue to be given a new spelling pattern to learn every Thursday afternoon. They are expected to search for at least 10 words that have that particular spelling pattern and then write 5 sentences using different punctuation marks, to ensure they understand the meanings of those words too. Children should be reading to you regularly at home, so please sign their reading records.

### Times Tables Certificates!

Thank you to those children who took part in the sponsored times tables challenge. By the end of year 4, children should be able to confidently recall all their times tables randomly up to 12 x 12, so it is particularly important for your children to practise regularly at home and in school.

I will continue testing children on various times tables in a mental maths test every Thursday afternoon after going through their spelling homework, so they will need their blue homework books in school every week.

Children who do randomly recall any times tables up to 12 x 12 confidently, will be awarded with a special times table certificate and prize in assembly.

### **Morning Mile with Mr Clark!**

Mr Clark will continue doing the morning mile on a Friday morning at 8:45am. Please meet him in the playground at 8:45am and he will walk children over to the field, as long as it isn't too muddy or icy.

### Forest School clothing and footwear

There will be no Forest School this half term.

The first session will be on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018, after February half term. The field is still muddy particularly with all this wet and frosty weather, so it is vital that children have the correct clothing and footwear.

Everyone will be joining in the forest school session, as it is part of our creative curriculum, and it would be a shame for children's uniform to get muddy.

### Spring term I January-February 2018

#### Dates for your diary this half term!

- 15.1.18- Some choir children and Mrs Milson at Young Voices in Sheffield (Mrs Peers and Mrs Marshall teaching Conkers and Oak Trees children who're in school)
- 5.2.18- Handwriting Competition Launch for whole school
- 6.2.18- Parent's Evening 3:30pm-5pm
- 8.2.18- Parent's Evening 3:30pm-5pm
- 9.2.18- Break up for half term
- 19.2.18- Children return back to school

## Mathematics

We are really focussing on reading questions carefully and solving two step word problems in different ways. We will learn how to reflect shapes across the x axis and y axis, plot new coordinates and translate shapes into the 4 different quadrants. We will also be practising loads of problems involving fractions, such as adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators, dividing fractions with whole numbers, simplifying fractions and converting improper fractions into mixed numbers and vice versa. The children will also be learning to find equivalent fractions and then converting them into decimals and percentages.

## Literacy/Geography

Oak Trees will be investigating which countries, fruits and vegetables are transported from and how many air miles they have to travel. We will also be exploring the reasons why some sources of fibre, require high proportions of sun light or rain and why they wouldn't grow as successfully in England. In literacy, we will be writing a persuasive letter to our Prime Minister, to persuade the Government to promote healthy eating even further and ban vending machines in all schools.

Where do fruits and vegetable originate from?

## Computing

The children this half term will be inventing their own video games using the programme Purple Mash. They should all know their personal log in details from memory, so I am encouraging them to log in at home as it works on both iPad and laptops/computers. Children will be creating their own algorithms, by adding objects, sounds and text. They will recognise and correct errors so that their video game has a purpose and an end goal so that the player can either win or lose.

## Art/Design Technology

This half term, children will be sketching various still life fruit and vegetables. They will be using a range of materials such as wax crayons, water colours, poster paints and cross hatch using felt tips. Oak Trees will also be creating a collage using a range of different textured and coloured materials. We have recently enjoyed making stained glass windows showing their favourite fruits and vegetables, using black card and brightly coloured cellophane.

## Music and French

In French, Mrs Stockill and Oak Trees will be teaching animals, adjectives and learning to write an informative postcard. In music, Oak Trees will be exploring rhythm, pulse, ostinato, melody and rondo form writing a composition based on fruit and vegetables. French and music 10:50am-12:10pm every week. Some year 6 children will be having extra maths, reading and grammar, spelling and punctuation revision boosters during this time.

## Physical Education

Year 4, 5 and 6 children will continue to have a full afternoon of PE with Mr Clark every Friday. He will continue to do football club 12:30pm-1:00pm on a Friday lunch time as normal. Also the morning mile will continue at 8:45am on a Friday morning (both weather permitting).

## Science

In Science, Oak Trees will be learning about the Eat Well Plate that the Government recommends. We will also be exploring how different food sources are divided into 5 food groups. We will investigate the positive impacts that a healthy balanced diet and regular exercise can have on our bodies. On the other hand, we will also look at the negative impacts of eating too many unhealthy foods and not exercising regularly, such as the serious long term health issues.