



# Oak Trees

Autumn 1

Dear Parents,

We hope you are all well and you and the children are getting used to the 'new normal'. It has been a very strange time for us all, but the children seem to be adapting and settling back into school life very well indeed. As you will be aware, due to Covid19, there are some activities and events that will not be able to take place (for example, trips and visits, and extra-curricular clubs), however we will do our utmost to provide an exciting and rewarding approach to the Curriculum as is possible. Our new topic for this half term will be **Star Gazers** and we will be reading exciting novels including 'Fortunately the Milk' by Neil Gaiman and 'Cosmic -It's One Giant Leap for all Boy-kind' by Frank Cottrell-Boyce. We will be investigating Earth and Space in Science and recreating a figure sculpture in the style of Anthony Gormley.

## At home

### Weekly

#### Reading

Please keep reading a range of genres with your child and recording it in their Reading Record. Reading books will be changed once a week on a **Monday** if the record has been signed 3 times at home. The children will have the opportunity to take two books home each week.

#### Spellings

Your child will be sent home with a list of spelling words and to show they have been practising their spellings at home, and understand the correct definitions, it would be great to see the following:

- Year 3s to write at least 3 sentences using their spelling words.
- Year 4s to write at least 5 sentences using their spelling words.
- Year 5s and 6s to write a sentence for each of their spelling words.

The children will be awarded house points for writing interesting sentences using exciting vocabulary AND with punctuation in the correct place.

#### Times tables

Children should be practising on a regular basis, whenever possible and in a mixed-up order. Try these websites for fun practising:

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/306/Maths-Fishing-Multiplication>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

#### Half termly

Children will continue to be sent home the topic and reading grids when they will have the opportunity to choose a task to complete.

### Teaching timetable

Monday - Thursday: Mrs Price

Friday: Mrs Price until 10:45.

After this, Mrs Stockhill will take the children for French, Music and PE with Mr Bentley.

**PE** Lessons will be on a Tuesday and Friday. Forest School will take place next half term. If possible, children will keep their kits in school until the half term break, unless it is especially muddy, in which case it will be sent home for washing. PE lessons will take place outdoors whenever possible, so please ensure the children have blue or black joggers and a hoodie/warm long sleeved top for this term as well as their shorts and t-shirt, plus outdoor trainers which you don't mind getting dirty!

Parent Pay  
Please login to Parent Pay with your new username and password. A letter has been sent home this week with your child in their book bags.

**Attention parents of Year 6 children!** Malton School are hoping to hold an open evening on 1<sup>st</sup> October at 6:30 (subject to government Covid19 guidelines). This is also open to parents and pupils of Year 5.

### Dojo Points

At Leavening, we reward our children in each class with Dojo points. All staff will be giving out Dojo points for a range of positive behaviours they see, such as politeness, helpfulness, following instructions, sharing, good listening, having great ideas and taking turns. At the end of each week, a prize will be given to the child with the most Dojo points. Children will stay in the same houses as before, but we will be using Dojo points instead of house points for the foreseeable future.

### Named water bottle

Please ensure your child brings a named refillable water bottle into school every day. As always, we will be encouraging children to drink throughout the day, so that they stay hydrated, so it is essential they have their own bottle filled with water in the classroom.

## **Our Curriculum outline this half term**

### History

**As Historians** we will be...

Investigating characteristic features of early Islamic civilisation, particularly looking at the features and the wider impact of life in Baghdad circa A.D. 900, and the silk road. We will also be comparing it to life in Britain at this time.

### Art and Design

**As artists** we will be exploring the work of sculptor Anthony Gorley and creating a sculpture using Mod-Roc.

### French

**As French linguists** we will be securing and developing our ability to greet people. We will also practise introducing ourselves. We will be able to find out information about other people too. We will revise our knowledge of numbers and the months of the year. We will be developing our ability to talk about our families in French. We will also revise the alphabet in French ( or start learning it if we are in Year 3). Throughout the tasks we will be completing speaking, reading, listening and written activities.

### English

**As readers and writers,** we will be reading books and texts about space and those in the Sci-fi genre. We will be writing our own Sci-fi story starters.

We will also be exploring poetry and writing our own narrative poems.

Learning to write persuasively will also be a focus during this topic.

### Mathematics

**As mathematicians** we will be understanding place value, ordering and comparing numbers, counting, finding more or less than a given number, rounding numbers and representing numbers. Year 3 will work with numbers up to 1000; Year 4 with numbers up to 10,000; Year 5 with numbers up to 100,000 and Year 6 up to 1,000,000. Year 4,5 and 6 will also work with Roman numerals. We will also begin calculating using addition and subtraction.

### PSHE

**As citizens** we will be learning about responsibility and respect for ourselves and others. Looking after ourselves and understanding the importance of a healthy life-style for physical and mental health.

**In RE** we will be looking at the question 'What do different people believe about God?' with focus on Christianity and Islam.

### PE

**As sportspeople** we will be learning the skills required to play Quick Cricket successfully, including throwing the ball, catching, aiming for a target and batting.

### Science

**As scientists,** we will be finding out about the Sun as a source of light, the planets in our solar system, the relationship and movements of the Moon, Earth and other planets. We will be investigating the reason for day and night in relation to the Earth's rotation and why the seasons occur.

### Computing

**As computer's,** we will be developing our coding skills to develop a program of varying complexity depending on the year group.

### Music

**As musicians** we will be exploring the music of Holst. We will explore who Holst was and understand the character of the different movements in his masterpiece 'The Planets'. We will perform an arrangement of 'Mars'. We will also explore Variations in music, considering the Enigma Variations by Elgar. We will then compose our own variations borrowing the melody of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star. When the weather allows, we will sing (socially distanced) outside gradually preparing some of the music for Young Voices 2020 – I am relieved to inform you that this has been delayed until May/June 2020.