



# OAK TREES CLASS CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2 2022

Dear Parents,

Our topic for this half term is '**Heroes and Villains**'. The children have already had their 'launch day' where they enjoyed dressing up as their hero and presenting information about them. We discussed what makes somebody a hero and explored a variety of perspectives – next week we are exploring dogs as heroes when we have a visit from the Dogs' Trust. We are also looking forward to our delayed 'landing' activity - the first aid workshop -from last half term's topic at the beginning of December. Another exciting event we have coming up is an on-line session with UK Parliament when children will learn about the work and role of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. They will learn about the difference between UK Parliament and Government, the work of MPs and members of the House of Lords, how laws are made and how they can get their voices heard. Finally we have Maths week coming up on 8<sup>th</sup> November, where children will partake in additional mathematical activities to inspire and enthuse them about the subject. That's before we even think about Christmas! Phew!

Please see below for more detail of the curriculum.

## PE

PE continues to be on a Friday as well as our daily *Get Active* sessions in the classroom. Children are still expected to come to school in their PE kit on a Friday in Oak Trees class. This half term they will be taking part in both gymnastics and hockey. **They will need to wear shorts and a t-shirt underneath warm outdoor sportswear please, following the school's PE code.**

## Wet Days

**Please ensure the children have a warm coat for playtimes that is waterproof - the children will always be outside unless the weather is dire!**

**Spelling book and Reading Record:** Encouraging independence and a sense of responsibility is high on our priorities at Leavening School, however, please give your child a little nudge to ensure they keep their reading record book and spelling book in their bag when it is not needed. This will ensure they have it for Monday's spelling test and any time when they are reading with an adult in school.



At home Weekly

English

Reading

Please keep reading a range of genres with your child and recording it in their **Reading Record**. Children will have the opportunity to take books home each week, including a 'reading for pleasure' book.

**5 Dojos awarded for reading at least 3 times with an adult (this should be recorded in their reading record).**

Spellings

*Please keep on encouraging your child to learn their spellings each week.*

*They will now be tested and given new spelling words on Mondays.*

Maths

Times tables

Children should be **practising on a regular basis**, on **TT Rock Stars** whenever possible. Little and often is the best approach for learning to be embedded. The children will practise **three times a week in school**, but the ideal is 5 times a week, so please encourage your child to practise at least **twice a week at home**.

**Dojos** will be awarded for practising.

Half termly

**Please see the homework grid for details.**

# Our Curriculum outline this half term

## Computing

As computer scientists, we will be learning about databases, specifically branching diagrams as well as computer simulations.

## Science

As scientists, we will be studying **Sound**. We will be asking the key questions:  
How are sounds made?  
How does sound travel?  
How does the volume of sound change? Why?  
How can sounds be made?  
How can pitch be altered?  
Can sound be blocked?  
Can sound travel through solids/liquids/gases?

## French

As French linguists we will be securing our knowledge of numbers and colours. We will endeavour to secure our understanding of adjective placement. We will also develop our awareness of Christmas in France. Throughout the tasks we will be completing speaking, reading, listening and written activities.

## Music

As musicians we will be exploring characterisation in music. Listening skills will be developed exploring different styles of music recognising musical elements used to represent heroes and villains and increasing our musical vocabulary. Our main focus will be preparing the songs for the Christmas nativity and we must also ensure that we prepare the songs for Young Voices and hope that extra practise is completed at home to allow us to give our best ever performance at Sheffield Arena next February!

## PE

**As sportspeople** we will be developing our gymnastic skills, through a topic on Movement. We are also learning about and practising the skills involved in playing hockey as well as playing small sided games.

## PSHE

Our topic for this half term is 'Celebrating Difference. This will focus on:  
accepting that everyone is different; including others when working and playing; knowing how to help if someone is being bullied; trying to solve problems; and trying to use kind words.

## English

**As readers and writers**, we will be enjoying texts focusing on Heroes and Villains. Our Class novel is Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. We will also be enjoying Roman myths and legends. The writing foci will be story settings, instructions and riddles.

## Design Technology

**As designers and technologists**, we will investigate structure, designing and creating marble runs.

## History

**As Historians**, we will be learning about Romans in Britain.  
**As Geographers**, we will be learning about Roman settlements and Roman roads across Britain.

**In RE** we will look at the key questions: 'Why is Jesus inspiring to some people? And What would Jesus do? Can we live by the values of Jesus in the 21st century?

## Mathematics

**As mathematicians**, we will be focusing on:  
**Year 3 and 4:** addition subtraction, multiplication and division. Year 3 should be secure with their 2,5- and 10-times table and will move onto securing their knowledge with the 3, 4 and 8s. Year 4 will also be becoming more expert with the 6, 7 and 9 x table. Plus, the related divisions for all.  
**Year 5 and 6:** multiplication, division and fractions. Children should be mastering their times tables now and this will help them with more speedy and efficient calculations in these areas of Maths.

