

Oak Trees Newsletter

Spring 2 2022

Dear families,

We have a busy half term, with lots of events to excite and entertain (both parents and children!); check the dates box for details. Our topic is '**It's a Wonderful World**' and there are plenty of learning experiences, linked to this topic, planned throughout the curriculum - please see the curriculum page for further details.

Our **Launch day** involves making the most of our outdoor spaces, where we will be focusing on nature and growth – green fingers will be needed!

There is an opportunity for the children to dress up as their favourite book character for **World Book Day** and bring in their favourite book. We are also holding a book swap in the afternoon, so your child/children will have the opportunity to exchange books they have finished with and replenish their bookshelves with new, exciting stories or information books.

Our postponed **trip to York** has been replanned for this half term (weather permitting!) and we are holding a **Science fortnight** with the theme of Growth – there are several exciting events happening, including on-line workshops with the NFU and parent visits/workshops (a big thank you to those who have offered their time or resources). The children will also have the opportunity to observe first-hand, the hatching of chicks and monitor their growth (thanks to the Hawes family).

During the Geography topic, children will be out and about **exploring the local area** whilst developing their map reading and orienteering skills.

Our **craft morning** will be a fantastic opportunity for families to get together in school to create a special piece of work to be sold at our **Easter Fayre**.

Finally, our topic ends with a visit to **Yorkshire Wildlife Park!**

Dates for your diary

1st March: Topic Launch Day – Forest school kit needed plus gardening gloves/mini trowels/forks if you have them.

3rd March: World Book Day – dressing up and books to bring in.

4th March: parent coffee morning (at drop off time).

14th March: York trip (school uniform, packed lunch and sensible footwear please).

15th March: Science ‘fortnight’ begins – theme of Growth.

16th March: Year 5 and 6 Football tournament.

18th March: global recycling day project and non-uniform day (bring a prize for the Easter Fayre tombola).

25th March: parent coffee morning and craft activity (9:00-11:30).

Easter Fayre – after school.

31st March: Yorkshire Wildlife Park trip.

4th and 6th April: parents’ consultation evenings.

7th April: film afternoon 3:15-5pm

8th April: parent coffee morning and non-uniform day (donations for the development of the school sensory garden)

Instrument lessons These continue to take place on a Thursday, so please encourage your child to practise, and to bring their instrument in on this day.

PE Friday

Please can children continue to wear their PE kits to school on this day. They will not need their Forest School kit this half term (apart from on Tuesday 1st March)

Spellings

Please ensure your child(ren) learn their spellings for their test on Mondays.

'It's a Wonderful World' Curriculum Overview

PE/Forest School

As sportspeople we will be developing our ball skills with a focus on netball and tag rugby.

There will be no Forest School this half term.

PSHE

Our topic for this half term is 'Healthy Me'. This will focus on being and keeping safe and healthy.

Computing

As computer scientists, we will be learning about animation. Our objectives are:

- To discuss what makes a good animated film or cartoon.
- To learn how animations are created by hand.
- To find out how animation can be created in a similar way using the computer.
- To learn about onion skinning in animation.
- To add backgrounds and sounds to animations.
- To be introduced to 'stop motion' animation.
- To share animation on the class display board and by blogging.

Science

As Scientists, we will be studying plants and growth. We will be investigating the key questions:
What do plants need to grow healthily?
What are the parts of a plant and their function?
How is water transported in plants?
What are the reproductive parts of a plant (Y5/6)

Design Technology

As designers, we will be designing, making and evaluating a poison dart frog beanbag.

Humanities

Our focus this half term is on Geography and as **Geographers**, we will be developing our map reading and orienteering skills through field studies.

English

As readers, we will be enjoying texts connected to our topic, and our subject areas. Our Class novel is **Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo** - a dazzling adventure, where the main character Michael, experiences both the wonder and harshness of our world.

As writers, we will be learning how to write **diary entries** from the perspective of Michael in Kensuke's Kingdom.

As poets, we will be learning how to write **kennings**.

In non-fiction we will be looking at the features of **non-chronological reports** and writing our own based on our Science topic of Plants.

Mathematics

As mathematicians, we will be focusing on:

Year 3 and 4: measuring length, perimeter, area and fractions.

Year 5 and 6: decimals and percentages, measures, area and perimeter.

.Practising multiplication tables and related divisions.

RE

In RE, we will look at the key question: **why are festivals important to religious communities?**

Music

As musicians, we will focus on the songs for our Young Voices performance finally set to go ahead on Friday 13th May! Listening skills will be developed exploring the wide variety of music we have been challenged to prepare, increasing our musical vocabulary and also developing our abilities to use our inner ears. We will use our inner ear and musical memory to recall all the songs. We will develop our performance skills – singing with accuracy of pitch, attention to dynamics and phrasing and interpreting the songs through actions. Children are strongly encouraged to practise the songs at home as there is a huge amount still to secure off by heart – use either the My Classmate app or Young Voices Music Room.

French

As French linguists we will continue to learn all about animals. Year 3 will focus on Jungle animals, whilst Year 4 will explore Pets. Year 5 will be working on animals linked to the zoo and Year 6 will be considering a variety of animals allowing them to describe habitats of animals. We will all be developing our writing skills and we will be using a range of adjectives in French. We will endeavour to continue to secure our understanding of adjective placement. Year 5 and 6 will also use Perfect tense. We will be exploring French animal stories to develop our reading and inference skills. We hope to produce some simple French stories ourselves. Throughout the tasks we will be completing speaking, reading, listening and written activities.