

Oak Trees Newsletter Spring 2 2023

We have a jam packed half term with lots of exciting activities for the children to experience! The launch of a new topic 'Is **There Anybody Out There?**' saw the Year 5 and 6 children taking part in a Stem Challenge – Road to RIAT workshop on Thursday 23rd February led by the Royal Air Force Youth STEM team; Year 3 and 4 were involved in Science launch day activities based around the topic of Changing Materials (photos to follow in the next school newsletter).

We are also celebrating National Science Week by holding a Science day in school on 15th March for all the children – the theme this year is Connections.

As part of the History focus on the Romans and what they did for Britain, we are very excited to have arranged a Roman experience Day on 20th March. Children will dress up as a Roman and take part in workshop activities ran by a visiting company 'Workshops for Schools'. They will have the opportunity to handle real artefacts from the Roman era! During our English lessons, the children will be looking at newspaper reports and writing their own based on the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Our topic culminates in a drama presentation by the children centred around the eruption and Pompeii. The performance will take place on Wednesday 29th March. We hope you can make it!

At the end of term there will be an Easter concert and egg rolling competition (see date below) .

This half term we will continue with **our Hawkes PE lessons on a Monday** for all year groups and all children will also have a **Forest School lesson on this day**. Please see next page for details.

Many thanks for you continued support and if you have any questions, please do send a message via ClassDojo or email the school office.

Dates for your diary

23rd Feb: Topic Launch - **Science workshops**

2nd March – World Book Day – dress up as a book character and bring a favourite book to share.

2nd/16th/30th March - Pop-up library

15th March Leavening Science Day

20th March – Roman Day – dress up as a Roman!

29th March 2:30 –Oak Trees Pompeii performance to parents

30th March 9:30 – Easter concert

PE/Forest School

We expect children to be coming to school in their **PE kit on Monday only** . Please can you ensure this is in line with our uniform policy. This half term is **Invasion Games**. **Long hair** needs to be tied up.

Forest School is also on a **Monday**, so please provide your child with their usual kit of warm outdoor clothing, waterproofs and appropriate outdoor footwear (named carrier bag please).

Times tables and spelling homework

Children are sent home new **spellings** to learn each week for their **test on Monday**. They will bring their red spelling book home with their new spellings stuck in (on Monday) and you will be able to see the scores from their tests in the back. Please help your child to also practise any incorrect spellings.

Children will also bring home a **times table** practise book. Please could you help them to learn these for their **test on a Friday**. They need to know these inside out, back to front and out of order! We do practise in school but the ‘little and often’ approach helps these to secure and embed their knowledge/recall.

Water bottles/snacks

Please ensure your child has a **named** water bottle in school on a daily basis. Children are able to bring a healthy snack for break time- please fruit/veg only.

Reading

In class, children can choose a book from the class library to read for pleasure. They also have a reading book to read with an adult which is matched to their reading level - please read with your child at least three times a week to boost confidence and support progress with their reading skills.

Pop-up library – this continues fortnightly on a Thursday (next one 2nd March) please help your child to remember their book to change.

Curriculum coverage for this half term

The following list outlines the area of the curriculum we will be studying for each subject.

KO indicates that there is a knowledge organiser for this topic, where you can find additional details about the key information the children will be learning:

- **Maths:** **Y3** Multiplication and Division, Length and Perimeter (KO) **Y4** Length and Perimeter, fractions **Y5** Multiplication and Division and Fractions (KO) **Y6** Algebra and decimals
- **English:** fiction – short stories (KO); non-fiction – newspaper reports (KO)
- **Science:** Properties and Changes of Materials (KO)
- **Computing:** E-Safety (KO)
- **History:** What did the Romans do for Britain? (KO)
- **Art and Design:** Roman mosaics
- **RE:** the Y3/4 children will be considering the question 'Why are festivals important to religious communities?' They will explore this notion through the religions of Christianity, and Hinduism. Y5/6 children will be considering 'Is it better to express your religion in arts and architecture or in charity and generosity?' explored through Christianity and Islam.
- **PE:** Invasion Games
- **Forest School:** shelters and knots
- **Music:** exploring the music of Dr Who, particularly the work of Delia Derbyshire. Children will be recording and manipulating sounds to create their own compositions.
- **French:** food, in particular breakfast.