

# Leavening Community Primary School

## Oak Trees Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2025



Hello families,

I hope you have all had a lovely summer break and are ready for school to begin! We have got some brilliant topics this term and lots of exciting things planned.

Our overall, whole school topic is **blood, bottoms and burps** which will be launched through an interactive children's first aid course! This is a brilliant opportunity for the children to extend their knowledge of how to react in an emergency.

We will be continuing with our termly homework grids, please do encourage your children to have a go at taking on a task. Getting creative at home and making links to school learning really supports your child's understanding. Homework tasks will be at the bottom of this newsletter. Remember they are low pressure tasks meant to be a short burst of fun! Due **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> of October**.

**PE** will remain on a **Friday afternoon** – keep coming into school with the appropriate kit. **Forest school** will take place on a **Wednesday afternoon** – both arms and legs must be covered to participate. Sadly, if appropriate kit is not with your child, they may miss out on forest school learning that week.

Spellings will now be set and retested on a Wednesday morning, continuing to use Ed Shed for home and school practise.

Please keep up to date with the school's fortnightly newsletter for dates, events and reminders. These are posted online and outside the school gate.

We are also lucky to be invited back to participate in the sports fixtures again through Malton Schools. This is part of our curriculum focus for PE this year – all children in the allotted year groups will be required to attend.

### League 2 Fixtures

1st Oct	Y5/6	League 2	Football
5th Nov	Y3/4	League 2	Football
3rd Dec	Y5/6	League 2	Dodgeball
28th Jan	Y3/4	League 2	Dodgeball
4th Mar	KS1	League 2	Dodgeball
15th Apr	Y5/6	League 2	Basketball, Handball, Netball
29th Apr	Y5/6	All schools	Quick Rounders & Cross Country
3rd June	Y3/4	League 2	Basketball, Handball, Netball
1st July	Y5/6	All schools	Olympics
15th July	KS1	League 2	Mixed Sports

I look forward to seeing you all very soon!

From Miss Templeman

## English:

In line with our overall topic of “Blood, Bottoms and Burps”, we will be diving into the gut and writing explanation texts to follow “the journey into the wonderful world of your microbiome”.

We will be reading the book “Gut Garden” and finding out the different functions of the body through this.

We will also be reading “Can you feel the noise?” by Stewart Foster to link to our science topic of sound.

We will also be exploring Haiku poetry and writing our own based on the famous pattern!

## Maths:

We will be kicking off the new term with a focus on number, place value and the four written methods!

We will also be launching some new home learning within maths – look out for information coming soon!

## Science:

In science, we will be learning all about sound. We are using our researching, investigating and concluding skills to test out how sounds are made and how we can distort them. Our ‘working scientifically’ focus is ‘comparative and fair testing’, which we will be practising through different sound-based experiments.

Years 3 and 4	Years 5 and 6
How are sounds made?	How does the ear work?
How do sounds travel?	Can sound travel through different mediums?
How are high and low pitch sounds created?	Why do sounds get fainter?
What is pitch?	How can we absorb sound?
How does pitch change?	

## History:

This half term in History, our topic is: *How has the role of the monarchy changed throughout British history after 1066?* We will be learning about famous kings and queens such as William the Conqueror, Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Victoria, and Elizabeth II. The children will discover how monarchs in the past held great power, how events like the Magna Carta and the English Civil War changed this power, and how today's monarchs have more ceremonial roles. By the end of the unit, the children will be able to explain how the monarchy has evolved over time and why it is an important part of Britain's story.

## Computing:

Our computing topic this term will first recap our online safety skills as a class. Years 3 and 4 will then focus

on their topic 'The Internet', whilst years 5 and 6 focus on 'communication and collaboration'.

Year 3 and 4	Year 5 and 6
What is the internet made of?	How can we search the web?
What is the WWW?	How can we select search results?
How can information be shared using the WWW?	How are search results ranked?
What is a website?	How are searches influenced?
Who owns the web?	How do we communicate using technology?
Can I believe what I read?	How can we communicate responsibly and safely on the internet?

## DT:

In DT, we will be exploring moving parts, pulleys and levers to design moving bodies! We will be practising our planning, making and evaluating skills and developing positive constructive feedback.

## PSHE:

In PHSE, we will be exploring 'Being in my World'

Year 3 and 4	Year 5 and 6
Being part of a class team Being a school citizen Rights, responsibilities and democracy (school council) Rewards and consequences Group decision-making Having a voice What motivates behaviour	Identifying goals for the year Global citizenship Children's universal rights Feeling welcome and valued Choices, consequences and rewards Group dynamics Democracy, having a voice Anti-social behaviour Role-modelling

## PE:

In PE, we will be learning netball. This 'Netball' unit will teach the skills players need to play both in defence and attack. The children will learn how to pass and catch the ball using a range of techniques. Defensively, they will develop their skills of marking, including one-on-one marking. Offensively, they will learn how to get free from a defender using skills such as the dodge and straight lead run and the skill of pivoting. They will also learn the technique for shooting and how to do a toss-up. Different netball rules will be covered each week and there will also be a focus on playing as part of a team and evaluating their own and others' performances. The unit culminates with a High 5 Netball tournament, where the children will have an opportunity to put their newly developed skills into practice in competitive games.

## RE:

Year 3 and 4: Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?

Year 5 and 6: What would Jesus do? (Can we live by the values of Jesus in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?)

This half term in RE, we are exploring the life and teachings of Jesus from the perspective of Christians. In Year 3/4, the children are learning why Jesus is inspiring to some people, looking at his teachings and how Christians celebrate Holy Week and Easter. They will understand key ideas such as the gospel, incarnation, and salvation, and why Easter is important to Christians. In Year 5/6, the focus is on the question "*What would Jesus do?*" and whether we can live by his values today. The children will study his parables, explore themes of love, forgiveness, justice, and generosity, and consider how Jesus' teachings might guide Christians in modern life, including in moral dilemmas.

## **Music:**

As musicians, we will be exploring pulse and rhythm. We will read traditional rhythm notation and learn about ostinato and composing rhythm patterns. We will work in groups to create a piece of music based on word rhythms linked to body parts. We will use the pentatonic scale to add pitch to our compositions. We will also listen to music to develop our ability to feel the pulse, recognise ostinato and instruments, considering a range of styles. We will prepare the songs for the Young Voices performance and the Christmas Production.

Music topics will now be completed termly rather than half-termly.

## **French:**

As French linguists, we will be securing our knowledge of French numbers and building on the range of numbers we can understand. We will be learning and revising how family members vocabulary practise being able to state names and ages of different people. We will also work on securing the months of the year linking them to the seasons and numbers, learning how to talk about birthdays. We will explore fetes and celebrations in the French culture and learn a little more about how Christmas is celebrated in France. We will be using our listening, speaking, reading and writing skills alongside singing songs and playing games in French.


French topics will now be completed termly rather than half-termly.

## Homework

My expectation is for you to attempt at least one of each row of homework across the term. On **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> of October**, we will complete our homework sharing session where we will celebrate all our achievements together! (Across 2 pages)

Dojo homework acknowledgement:

1 Piece = 2 Dojos	4 Pieces = 8 Dojos	7 Pieces = 16 Dojos
2 Pieces = 4 Dojos	5 pieces = 10 Dojos	8 Pieces = 19 Dojos
3 Pieces = 6 Dojos	6 Piece = 13 Dojos	9 Pieces = 25 Dojos

<p>Create a "Monarch Trading Card"</p> <p><b>Task:</b> Make a trading card for a monarch with: portrait, dates, fun fact, and one major achievement or challenge. Think carefully about scores to link to their traits. Add scores out of 10 for: Power, anger, scary level, success level or any others you can think of!</p>	<p>Design a "Modern Monarch Role" Poster</p> <p><b>Task:</b> Imagine you are a monarch today. Create a poster showing what your responsibilities would be, including ceremonies, charity work, and symbolic duties.</p> <p><b>Extension:</b> Compare your role to a medieval monarch—what's different?</p>	<p>Explanations station</p> <p>Write, record, make a PowerPoint or presentation of a clear explanation using your English skills about something that interests you.</p> <p>You will become the teacher and show how to do your chosen task. For example, you could demonstrate how to play a chord on a guitar; video how to make a cake or make a presentation on how to build a Lego house!</p>
<p><b>Reflect</b> <b>Talk with a parent/carer about:</b> What makes you feel happy and safe at school? What do you want to get better at this year? What rights do all children have? (e.g. to feel safe, to learn, to be respected) What is fair and unfair behaviour? Why is it important to listen to others and make choices together?</p>	<p><b>Share &amp; Discuss</b>  <b>At school, we'll share our charters and combine ideas to create a real class charter. Be ready to explain:</b></p> <p>Why you included certain rules or values?</p> <p>What being a global citizen means to you?</p> <p>How we can all help each other feel valued?</p>	<p><b>Create a poster, drawing, comic strip, or written piece that shows your ideal classroom or school.</b> 3 goals for yourself this year 3 rules or promises that help everyone feel welcome and respected What should happen if people make good or poor choices A section on "Our Voice Matters" – how pupils can help make decisions A positive role model character (real or imaginary) that shows how to behave kindly and fairly.</p>

Word search Complete the sound word search (ask Miss Templeman for one). Can you remember what the key words mean?

Show how we hear sound! Get creative! Describe, draw and label, model, presentations, demonstration, explanation!

Design a new musical instrument. Think about... How will your instrument make sound! What type of sound will it make? Volume? Pitch?

Homework ideas space! Plan your ideas from our homework launch.