

Newsletter

February 2024



Dear Parents & Carers,

A fab start to 2024 with lots going on in and out of school! Have a read through of the class updates and check out the class pages on the website for some pictures too.

When we come back after the break, we have a very short term, but with lots packed in! The calendar is all updated, keep an eye to see what's coming up.

See you back on Monday 26th.

Oak Class

The children have enjoyed creating their very own stories based on the traditional tale, Jack and the Beanstalk. Imaginations have run wild! Giant candy canes, ferocious dinosaurs and gingerbread boys to name but a few of the ideas. All the staff have been very impressed with the children's writing skills and well done to everyone for working so hard on their writing targets. Some of the Year 5 and 6 children have been able to see the work completed and have been impressed with the presentation of the stories. Keep up the fantastic effort everyone.

There have been some thoughtful discussions about differences in our class assemblies this term. Children have learnt about Martin Luther King Jnr and Rosa Parks. It was encouraging to hear the children talk with respect and kindness.

Sports and Teams

We have competed in two competitions this half term. Firstly, we entered a team in the sportshall athletics. The team finished 5th and all competed very well, particularly in the throwing and jumping events. We then competed in the basketball event. The team played excellently winning 3 matches and drawing 1 match. They played well as a team and scored some amazing baskets. We have also had a disco dancing enrichment day that the children enjoyed.

Birch Class

Birch Class have had a very busy half term. Year 5 have been swimming every Friday and are making great progress. Whilst they are swimming, year 6 have been busy preparing for the upcoming SATs. I have been very impressed with their attitude and effort. Well done. We have been learning about animals and humans in science, map skills in geography and 3D modelling in computing. They have also produced some great flashback stories and created sets of instructions.

Chestnut Class

In Chestnut class, we spend a week on each of our foundation subjects and recently have been learning in RE about Hinduism and answering: Why does a Hindu want to collect good karma? We played a game of Snakes and Ladders (see photographs) to help us answer this question. The Chestnut class time machines were fired up a few weeks ago to help us travel back in time to learn about the Anglo-Saxons and in March, we will be visiting the Longship in Woodbridge to support us in this learning. We have been learning to play glockenspiels and sing in Music and in art, we have used our printing skills. For DT, we have been stitching and making our own mini cushions!

Swimming

A fantastic start to swimming this term. The effort that the children are putting in every week is amazing, and we can see how many of them are pushing themselves to achieve.

4 more sessions after half term, Well done everyone!

Miss Knights & Mrs Icke

Ash Class

This half term the children have been very busy in Ash Class, learning lots of new sounds, practising our reading every day, starting to write sentences and progressing with our number work too.

Our topics have included New and Old Toys, Chinese New Year and Pancake Day. On Tuesdays, the children have been joining in well with 'Show and Tell', showing us a variety of toys and books or telling us their news. We have also enjoyed reading the 'Wow' cards that the children have brought in, to share their successes outside of school.

We have had fun playing together, helping each other and working as a team. We hope the children (and the parents) have a safe and enjoyable half term break.
Mrs Mitchell

Mon Feb 26 th	Back to School
Wed Feb 28 th	KS2 trip to Pipers Vale
Thurs Mar 7 th	World Book Day
Mon Mar 11 th	Parents Evening Week
Mon Mar 11 th	Chestnut trip to the Longshed, Woodbridge
Tues Mar 12 th	KS21 trip to Pipers Vale
Fri Mar 15 th	Enrichment P.E – Orienteering
Tues Mar 19 th	Values Morning
Wed Mar 20 th	Wonderful Wednesday
Tues Mar 26 th	DHS liaison morning
Thurs Mar 28 th	Church Service
Thurs Mar 28 th	End of Term
Mon Apr 1 st – Fri Apr 12 th	Easter holidays
Tues May 7 th	P.E Enrichment day – Musical Theatre
Mon May 13 th	SATS WEEK
Mon May 20 th	Walk to School Week
Mon May 27 th – Fri May 31 st	Half Term
Fri July 19 th	END OF TERM.



Safer Internet Day

On February 6th we looked at Safer Internet day, with discussions in each class about how to stay safe online.

To help you with this, the UK Safer Internet Centre has created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at: saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents . Whether you have just 5 minutes to start a conversation or hours to spare, there are top tips, quizzes and films which you can use at home with your child.



School Value:

This half term, we have been learning about HOPE in our assemblies.

Next half term, we will focus on COMMUNITY.

Reading at home

Please never underestimate the enormous difference you can make to your child's education and self-esteem by reading with them every day.

Every half term children who have read with an adult at home 4 times a week or more, receive a certificate. We would always love to see more certificates handed out, celebrating this achievement!

Parking

Once again we have to remind parents, carers and the wider community about parking during drop off and pick up. We have had several instances recently where the parking has been dangerous and affects the safety of our children crossing the road. It can often occur when parents are picking up and not leaving once they have collected their children, meaning there are less safe spaces to park. Our junior road safety officers have been out monitoring the situation. We have had several photographs emailed in of poor parking.

Absence

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life. Students who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do less well in exams. Research suggests that students who attend school regularly could also be at less risk of getting involved in antisocial behaviour or crime.

Just 17 days absent from school a year could mean a drop in a GCSE grade in all subjects.

Attendance & Lates from 01/09/23 – 14/2/24

Ash	97.1%
Oak	97.4%
Chestnut	96.3%
Birch	95.5%
Ash	33 lates
Oak	39 lates
Chestnut	10 lates
Birch	51 lates

Remember, the DFE expects all children to attend unless they are too ill to do so.

**BACK TO
SCHOOL
MONDAY
FEBRUARY
26TH**