



Year group: Kindergarten

Date: Friday 30th November 2018



Topic – Christmas

It is a wonderful time of year! Christmas has arrived at Oakfields. On Monday the children were very excited to see the school had been decorated. We took the children on a walk around the school to see all of the Christmas trees. It was a great opportunity for the children to visit the main school building. The children have been very busy practising our Christmas songs for our nativity and we are very excited to see you all there. This week we have had lots of exciting Christmas activities for the children to explore. They have especially enjoyed filling their Christmas stockings with pictures from magazines and catalogues.



Communication and Language

We always want to encourage the children to talk and share their ideas with their class. This week the teachers have talked to the children about Christmas and who we spend our Christmas day with. We have enjoyed listening to the children talk about Christmas day in their homes. Some of the children have drawn beautiful pictures of their families. We are delighted to see some of the children who were apprehensive to talk in a group gaining more confidence when sharing their ideas. Please share pictures on tapestry of your Christmas decorations and traditions that you have in your family. Next week we will be encouraging the children to draw pictures to send to Father Christmas, at home you could encourage the children to write or trace over their name to continue to build their confidence. It would be wonderful if the children could sign off their own Christmas picture letter to Father Christmas.



Physical Development

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We are continuing to build the children's independent skills. The children must learn to be responsible for their own belongings. Please help the children to do this by making sure all of the winter uniform is labelled. In school we support the children to pack their own bags. It would be wonderful if the children started to practise this at home. During the festive period there will be some changes to the children's routine. As part of their early learning goals the children must learn to adapt to changes in their routine. We will continue to talk to the children about the exciting upcoming events. It would be very helpful if you could do the same at home.

Suggestions of ways you can support your Kindergarten child with the EYFS curriculum:

- Practise putting on winter coats.
- Packing their own bags with their hats, gloves and scarf.
- Recognising their names so they can recognise their label in their belongings.

Extra information: Thank you to everyone who attended stay and play this half term. We really appreciate you coming in to spend time with the children and they absolutely loved having you in class.

7th Dec – Kindergarten 2 Reports go home

11th Dec – Winter Wonderland

12th Dec – Kindergarten Nativity 2pm

13th – Christmas Dinner Day

14th – Last day of Term – Kindergarten Christmas Party and Christmas jumper day.

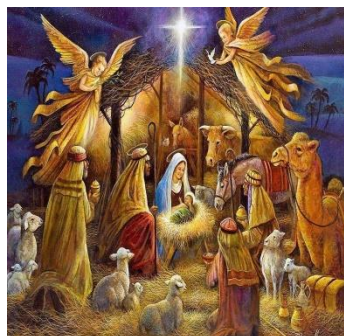


Year group: Reception

Date: Friday 30th November 2018

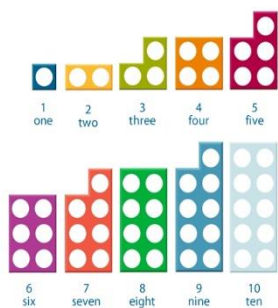


Literacy and Communication and Language



Our Nativity performance rehearsals are well under way and the children are getting better at remembering their mime actions and their stage positions in readiness for the Oakfields carol concert. We have therefore focused on the story of The Nativity, discussing the meaning of Christmas and why we celebrate. We remembered the events in our performance and then sequenced the story pictures with some of us adding sentences and captions. Our phonics lessons continue, consolidating all of the sounds we have learnt, reading and spelling the 'tricky words' and some of us continue to refine our sentence writing skills, remembering a capital letter at the start, finger spaces and a full stop at the end. Next week we will be reading 'The Jolly Christmas Postman' and writing messages in our special greetings cards.

Maths



In our Maths lessons we explored Numicon, a very useful maths resource to help us consolidate our number skills, practise more and less and make, record and answer simple addition number sentences. We made pictures with our numicon, recognising the number tiles and then we joined two pieces together to find how many we have 'altogether' the total number. We also put the different sized number tiles in order and it helped us to see that the numbers get 'bigger'. We continue to practise writing our numbers and most of us are remembering to write them the right way round, good work Reception! Next week, we will think about 1 less and move on to subtraction as we 'take away' and deliver those presents from a very special sleigh!

Suggestions of ways you can support your reception child with the EYFS curriculum:

Continue to practise the sounds and 'tricky words' that have previously been sent home for homework and carry on reading and blending sounds together. As your child becomes more confident with the sounds, blending skills improve and the reading fluency will also improve, keep reading Reception! Encourage your children to write independently: make signs or badges for their toys, write lists (Christmas wish list!) shopping lists, write the names of their toys and take the 'toy register'. Discuss Christmas and how you celebrate as a family and ask your children to recall the Nativity story, they may even give you a sneak preview of their performance! Your child will have song words as homework and these are the songs that Reception will be singing at the cathedral. Fill your house with beautiful singing voices!

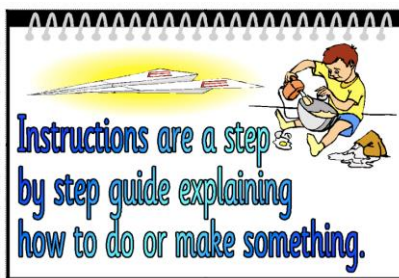
Extra information:

Please note that on Thursday afternoons, both Reception classes combine for our P.E lesson with Miss Peacham. All children should now have an **Oakfields winter coat** and these need to be left at school to ensure they are ready for outdoor play. (Some children are taking them home at the end of the day and not returning with them and it is essential they are wearing a warm coat at play times. Winter gloves, hats and scarves **must be labelled** as every child has the same and it is difficult to match belongings to children if items are not clearly labelled. We hope you have requested your Oakfields carol concert tickets and we look forward to seeing you at the cathedral on the 6th December to support our wonderful Reception children. Have a restful weekend and thank you for your continued support.



Year group: Year 1

Date: Friday 30th November 2018



English

Throughout this week, we have completed the following writing activities:

- Demarcating instructions with capital letters, full stops and exclamation marks.
- Planning instructions on how to capture a creature of their choice.
- Beginning to link some simple appropriate vocabulary (imperative verbs) to the context.
- Writing instructions on how to capture a creature of their choice.

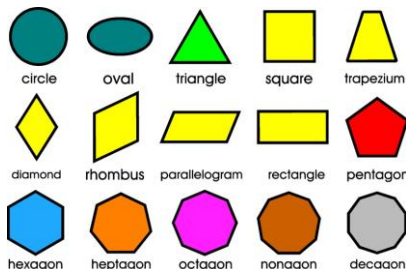
Next week, we will be completing activities with a reading focus. Over the course of the week, we will be covering the following skills:

- Considering the particular characteristics of non-fiction/information texts.
- Giving well-structured descriptions and explanations of different toys from non-fiction/information texts.
- Showing an understanding of word meanings from non-fiction/information texts about toys.
- Using the non-fiction/information texts provided to find information in response to direct questions about toys.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

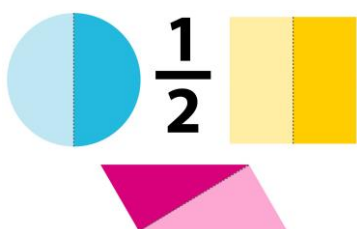
Remind your child that a dictionary is a book or electronic resource that lists words in alphabetical order and gives their meaning. If possible, model how to use a dictionary and work with your child to find the meaning of different words.

Maths



This week, we have developed our knowledge and understanding of 2D shapes and fractions. We covered the following learning objectives this week:

- Recognising and naming 2D shapes.
- Describing the properties of 2D shapes.
- Recognising, finding and naming a half as one of two equal parts of a shape.



Next week, we will be focusing on number and place value. Over the course of the week, we will be covering the following skills:

- Counting to and across 50, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or from any given number.
- Ordering numbers up to 50 and saying one more and one less.
- Using the language one more and one less in practical situations.
- Identifying and representing numbers as pictures.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

Discuss the meaning of the terms 'one more' and 'one less' with your child. Remind them that the number that is one more is the number that comes after the given number and the number that is one less is the number that comes before it. Encourage your child to say the number that is one more and then one less than a variety of numbers up to 50.

Extra information: (This could include: trips, notices to parents, school initiatives, class events)

As you're aware, recently the weather has turned a lot colder. With this in mind, please could you ensure your child has their school coat brought in with them during the winter months.

As a reminder:

The Christmas Carol Concert is Thursday 6th December 2018 at 6pm in the Brentwood Cathedral.



Year group: Year 2

Date: Friday 30th November 2018



English

This week, Year 2 continued to look at non-fiction. The main theme was about 'Bears', linking to our work on Goldilocks and the Three Bears in Spanish.

Our objectives covered were:

- Recognising the structure of non-fiction books
- Using the present tense correctly
- Using sentence with different forms

Over the next week, we will be continuing our topic of non-fiction, focussing on reading. Over the course of the week, we will be covering the following skills:

- Recognising the structure of non-fiction books
- Identifying sequences of events
- Making predictions

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

Reading is a very important skill in year 2. Try to read a variety of text types – particularly non-fiction books. Ask them questions about their reading.

Please ensure all children read regularly at home – thank you.



Maths

This week, we looked at time. We covered the following learning objectives this week:

- Can I read the time?
 - Children looked at clock faces and read the time shown
- Can I draw the hands on a clock?
 - Children drew the hands on a clock face from a given time
- Can I solve problems involving time?
 - Children investigated how long different activities took to complete.

Next week, we will be looking at shape and patterns. We will look at 2 and 3D shapes and how patterns can be found in maths.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

Children should practise their times tables, 2, 5 and 10x particularly. They should also practise doubling and halving up to 20 and number bonds to 10 and 20.

Extra information: (This could include: trips, notices to parents, school initiatives, class events)

Please could you ensure your child has a jumper, cardigan, fleece or coat with them in school as they still go outside to play and the weather is getting colder?

On the same note, the children need PE thermals or a tracksuit so that they can be warm when doing outdoor PE. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Just a reminder that snacks at break time should be healthy: fruit, vegetables, yogurts, healthy cereal bars. (No nuts, please, due to allergies!)

Please could you send in an Art apron or old shirt so that the children can take part in painting and other messy activities? Please note that they will be unable to participate without this.



Year group: Year 3

Date: Friday 30th November 2018



English

Next week the children will be looking at different types of Christmas poetry and writing some examples of their own.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

Please continue to read every day with your child and talk about what has been read. I know how busy the run up to Christmas can be but it is so, so important.



Maths

Maths next week will be using number lines bridging 10, adding and subtraction of near doubles and column addition and subtraction.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

Please continue practising multiplication and division. Any quick fire questions involving number bonds to 20 and 100 are also really useful.

Extra Information:

Just a reminder that the Oakfields Carol Service is next Thursday.



Year group: Year 4

Date: Friday 30th November 2018



English

This week we became detectives as we began our study on Eye-Witness Account. We interviewed each other and wrote our own accounts of what we had seen and heard.

Next week we will be continuing this theme but will be looking closely at Roald Dahl's text *The BFG* and identify the writing skills he uses to allow the audience to imagine they are really seeing the action taking place. We will compare our recall of events to each other. We will be identifying how short statements are useful when reporting whilst ensuring our detail is still available for the audience.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

We are looking closely in Year 4 throughout our writing to ensure we vary the way our sentences start. When reading with your child please take time to highlight how the order of words within a sentence can easily be moved around without affecting the meaning of the sentence. It will allow them to avoid starting sentences with 'The (noun)' once they become more aware of the way authors choose to start their sentences.



Maths

This week we have been looking at fractions and decimals. We have been rounding numbers with one decimal place to the nearest whole number and numbers with two decimal places to the nearest tenth. We have also used decimals in relation to money.

Next week we will be looking at statistics. The children will be solving two-step questions using information presented in scaled bar charts and pictograms and tables.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

The children have enjoyed looking at decimals this week, when you are out shopping or buying things online please ask the children to look at the prices and identify the decimals in each amount.

Extra information:

The children have been working hard learning all of the songs for the Christmas Carol concert next Thursday 6th December. We look forward to seeing you all there at Brentwood Cathedral for a prompt 18:00 start.



Year group: Year 5

Date: Friday 30th November



English

This week we studied narrative and we were looking at short stories written by Paul Jennings.

- Can I follow a syllable pattern recalling happier times in a story?
- Can I describe a character's thoughts and feelings?
- Can I infer a character's thoughts and feelings?
- Can I describe a character through their actions?
- Can I write a character description?

Next week, we will be continuing to look at Narrative and we will be exploring different alternatives that could have occurred in texts and we will be using this to help us write an alternative ending for a story.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

This week, we have been learning poems and performing them to our classmates. The children have struggled with varying their tone of voice when performing so it would be great for them to practise this at home.



Maths

This week, we have been learning about percentages. We have been learning to:

- Can I apply all four operations to decimal numbers?
 - Can I read divisions for measure with whole numbers?
 - Can I read divisions for measure with decimal numbers?
 - Can I use scaling with appropriate numbers?
- Can I use all four operations to solve problems involving measures?

Next week, we will be moving on to exploring Statistics and we will be handling data. We will be:

- Solving comparison, sum and difference problems using information presented in bar charts, pictograms, tables and other graphs.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

Learners should now know their times tables and related division facts up to 12 x12. Can you continue to ensure your child can recall these quickly and correctly? The learners are working hard on this and we have seen some great progress so far!

Extra information: (This could include: trips, notices to parents, school initiatives, class events)

Please encourage the children to continue rehearsing the songs for the Christmas Concert. We cannot wait to share all of our wonderful songs with you next week!



Year group: Year 6

Date: Friday 30th November 2018



A story of



greed, ambition and power.

English

This week: The class have been exploring suspense writing in novels. They have identified the features including the use of ellipsis, short sentences and similes and metaphors.

Next week:
Suspense writing week.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

Reading is still a very important skill in year 6. Please ensure all children read regularly at home – thank you. Partner reading is recommended.

Maths



This week, the class successfully solved problems using line graphs and constructed line graphs to show changes over time.

Next week Y6 will be: calculating the area of parallelograms and triangles using formulae.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

Counting on and back in 25s from a given number can be a fun way of passing time on a car journey and recognising Roman numerals on old buildings.

Extra information: (This could include: trips, notices to parents, school initiatives, class events)

Congratulations to the children who competed in the sports hall athletics this week. A commendable 7th place out of 36 teams was achieved with some quality individual performances. Whilst the sports stars were competing the remaining children used a PSHE session to create a lesson on friendship. After rehearsing in class, the seven children delivered the lesson to Oakfields Year 3 class. The children included in the lesson - a presentation, role play, circle time, questioning and a game.

Just a reminder that snacks at break time should be healthy: fruit, vegetables, yogurts, healthy cereal bars.