



Oak and Chestnut Class Newsletter – Spring Term 2024

Teachers: Mrs Stephenson & Mrs Constable (Chestnut), Mrs Madagan (Oak), Mrs Hutchin/Mrs Vallins (teaching cover),
Teaching Assistants: Mrs Sorrell, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Harwood, Miss Mansell, Miss O'Hare



Welcome back to a new term at Emscote. This mini newsletter gives you an overview of the learning for this term and a few reminders and routines. Thank you so much for the generous and thoughtful Christmas goodies that you gave the staff. We were all very touched by your kindness.

Literacy and Topic

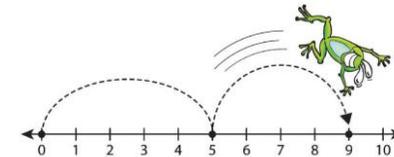
We will be having quite a big focus on storytelling and writing, developing a plot and ensuring our stories have a clear beginning, middle and ending. We will also cover different styles of writing such as instructions and labelling. Recording in science will also be a focus.

Our weekly grammar (SPaG), guided reading and phonics sessions will continue as usual. Our topic (Let's Explore), will be geography and history based, looking at our local environment, physical and manmade features, The Great Fire of Warwick and William Shakespeare.



Maths

Our maths sessions will continue with work on numbers, including subtraction and addition to 20, place value within 50, and measurements (weight and volume). Please continue to encourage your child to work on 'Mathletics'. The username and password can be found on the inside cover of their homework book.



PE (Tuesday & Wednesday)

This term, Year 1 have Mr Thorne from Warwick School for gymnastics on **Tuesday** afternoons and teamwork and sharing skills on **Wednesday** afternoons with Mrs Vallins. Please ensure children come to school in appropriate PE kit. They can wear their school jumper if it's cold, or bring in a separate sweatshirt.



Science

This term we will continue to look at weather and seasons. We will be looking at labelling different parts of plants and trees. We will look at identifying & classifying a variety of common plants and trees.

We will continue to carry investigations to learn about fair testing. Later in Spring we will hopefully have some baby chicks in school again!



Other Subject Areas

A lot of our curriculum is creative and we link other subject areas such as music, science, art, geography and history in to our topic work. Alongside this, we have a whole-school singing assembly most weeks and a peripatetic singing teacher fortnightly from Singing Town.

In RE we cover different religions and beliefs; our topic for this term will be on sharing special and sacred times and Easter. We will also have our annual Chinese New Year assembly for the whole school, along with exciting workshops for Year 1.



Reading

Your child will have now received their new 'Spring Term Reading Diary'. We would like reading books and diaries to be in school daily. We aim to do group or guided reading once a week along with at least one individual read.

If reading books need changing, your child can put their reading packets in the tray inside the classroom. Please encourage them to do this first thing in the morning. It gives us the opportunity to change the book and update their reading record - thank you. We will continue to visit the library as regularly as we can. Please ensure library books are in book bags.



If you have any questions or concerns, please come in and see us. We have more time at the end of the day. Please let us know if anyone different is collecting your child so that we can inform the relevant staff members.

Clothing for Colder Weather

Please ensure your child comes in with a named, warm coat every day, along with a hat and gloves (also named!). If possible, could each child have some spare clothing in their bags in case of accidents or falling in the wet weather.



Toast – toast is paid for online. Fruit is also available as an alternative to toast.

Children are welcome to decide their choice half termly. Speak to your child's class teacher if they wish to have fruit.

If there are any parents who have any available time we are always looking for helpers to prepare resources for displays or lessons. We are also keen to have volunteer readers – grandparents or parents alike. Just let your teacher know if you are able to do this. Thank you!

Homework and Spellings

We send homework out on a Thursday. It would be helpful to see homework books returned by the following Tuesday, so they can be marked in time.

Spellings were sent home before Christmas. These are practised in class and tested on Friday. At the end of each half term children are tested on all of the spellings. We value your support in helping your child learn to read, write and spell these. To extend their learning, encourage your child to use the words to create and write different sentences.

We're really pleased with the amount of children getting certificates for their work on mathletics – going forwards, children will receive their first Gold certificate in class and the first in each achievement level certificate from Platinum upwards in assembly. We have taken this decision following the changes in the Mathletics system from September. We want all children to strive to gain their certificates and these can also be accessed by parents online. If log-in details have been mislaid, please let us know.

Mathletics (www.mathletics.co.uk)

Water Bottles

Please make sure your child has a named water bottle at school so that they can have a drink during the day (water only, please). They will be sent home each afternoon and are to be brought in filled the following morning.

