



Owls Class Newsletter

I cannot believe that we are already at the beginning of term 4! The year feels as though it is flying past, but the children continue to amaze me with all of their fantastic progress each term. I look forward to seeing what they all 'WOW' me with next. Thank you for the lovely homework books. You all went to a lot of effort for the children and we will be sharing their half term stories over the next week. Thank you also for the children's WOW moments cards. It is great to see that the children are amazing you at home. Please keep sending these in this term as they are lovely to read.

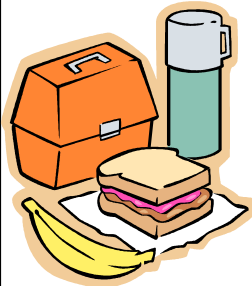
Donations

Once again, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who made donations last term towards our daily snack time. The children love being able to have the choice of different snacks. As you are also probably aware, a nicely satisfied appetite leads to more productive learning! We would therefore continue to be grateful for any donations this term including any dried fruit, biscuits, bread sticks and crackers. The children really enjoyed having rice cakes and honey last term so a special thank you to those parents who provided us with those delicious treats.



Theme for Term Four

Our topic this term is 'Fabulous Food'. We will be reading the children many 'food' orientated stories and providing them with opportunities to taste a variety of different foods, cook with different ingredients, create art work in the style of Giuseppe Arcimboldo and learn how to write lists, recipes, instructions and posters. As you can see, the children are going to be very busy!



We are organising a 'Healthy Eating' week on 24th March 2014. During that week, we are hoping to visit Macknades Farm Shop, where the children will be able to buy their own piece of fruit. We are then going to make a large fruit salad and encourage the children to look at, feel and taste new and exciting fruits. We are also going to discuss healthy and unhealthy foods and we will design our own healthy eating lunchboxes. We would like to finish the week with a healthy eating Teddy Bears picnic on Friday 28th March. Please could all the children have a healthy packed lunch box and teddy bear on that day so that we can all enjoy our lunch together in the classroom.



PE will continue once a week on a **Thursday** afternoon. Please could you just check that your child's clothes are still all named, as we know that names do have a habit of fading in the wash.

Adults in Reception

Ellie Frampton-Fell
Teresa Branton
Elaine Hulks
Andrea Coles

What will we be learning?

Maths- To recite numbers in order to 20 and beyond, recognise numerals to 20 and beyond, to add and subtract numbers and record a number sentence, to double numbers to 20, to order items by weight, size and length and to learn how to read the time o'clock.

Literacy- To use sounds to write lists, instructions, posters, cards and recipes. To continue to use sounds to read simple and more complex words and to learn additional tricky words by sight (all and are).

Other areas of the curriculum will take place through literacy and maths and during the sequence of the day and is supported through the learning environment.



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Keep the date!

- **Thursday 6th March** — Trip to Pizza Express.
- **Thursday 6th March**—World Book Day
- **Tuesday 25th March**—Trip to Macknades.
- **Friday 4th April**—Easter Assembly

Any other dates or information can be found on the weekly school newsletter or on the Owls School Blog. Please go and visit the Owls website page and school blog on the school website for all of the latest information about the children's activities and recent school pictures.



Ellie's Absence

I have unfortunately been summoned to do Jury Service from the 10th March 2014 for up to two weeks. I am hoping to return to the children as soon as possible, but in my absence Andrea Coles will be teaching the children alongside Elaine and Teresa. As you know, the children all really enjoy Andrea being in the classroom on a Monday and Tuesday and alongside an exciting two weeks all about different foods, I am sure they won't even notice I am not there! If you do have any questions about this however, please just come and ask me at any time.

Active Learning

We are hoping to get back outside a little bit more this term, so keep your fingers crossed that the wet weather has finally started to pass. We are going to plant vegetables in the garden area this term. If you therefore have any unopened seeds that are cluttering your houses, we would love to offer the children the opportunity to see how vegetables grow and change over time.



Home Learning

Phonic Books — We will continue to send home the phonic books for you to help support and further your children's learning at home. We will shortly be coming to the last new sound for a while, whilst we encourage the children to successfully apply them to their reading and writing. Thank you for continuing to use these at home. The children really do benefit from all your additional support.

High Frequency Word Books—The children will receive a new book this term. Within this book I will begin putting high frequency or common words for the children to begin learning by sight. By learning these more common words by sight, the fluency of the children's reading and writing will significantly improve. I will send home 5-10 words a week and will check these books during your child's guided reading session. At the end of the term I will assess each child to see how they are getting on.

Homework Books — This term I am really focussing on the children's letter formation using the school's cursive handwriting. The homework will therefore be a simple handwriting task each week just to reinforce the learning that is taking place in the classroom.