

Owls' Class Newsletter- Term 4

Welcome back!

We hope that you had a great break and that your children are ready for another term of fun learning opportunities. As the term goes on hopefully the weather will begin to improve and become more pleasant! Don't forget that the children have daily access to the outdoor classroom and should therefore always have an appropriate coat in school. Spare clothes, including socks, are also useful for if the children get muddy and wet!

If you have any questions or concerns, please come and talk to one of us.

Mrs Foxall, Mrs Whittaker and Mrs Wiffen

We will continue to develop the children's independence to help the children manage their own learning as well as get on with day-to-day tasks, develop confidence and friendships.

This term, we will be focussing on encouraging children to be able to do the following three things.

- **Hold and use scissors, pencils and pens correctly**
- **Find a carpet sitting place quickly and sensibly, ready to listen and learn.**
- **Get changed for P.E. independently.**

This term we will change reading books each Tuesday and Friday but please send the children's book and reading record in every day as we complete Guided Reading sessions daily. It is beneficial if you can read regularly with your child at home and ask them questions about the text

P.E. lessons will take place every week. Please ensure your child has a named P.E. kit, including suitable shoes, in school.

Your children should bring a named water bottle into class each day. Plain water bottles are available to buy from the school office. Children have access to drinking water throughout the day and are encouraged to drink water regularly.

If your child is now 5, they are no longer entitled to free school milk. If they still want to have a carton of milk at playtime, you need to pay for this via the Cool Milk website. You will receive an email following their birthday with a link to the website.

Why not share some of these activities with your child:

Topic

- Find out five facts about an animal of your choice.
- Design your own imaginary animal. You might like to combine two animals. For example, you could combine a donkey and a zebra to make a 'zonkey'!
- Draw a detailed picture of an animal of your choice. You might like to label the parts of your picture.

Literacy

- Have a go at writing your own animal story. Can you include a beginning, middle and end?
- Make a poster about an animal of your choice writing down the facts you found out about them.
- Play the high frequency words version of Dinosaur Eggs on www.ictgames.co.uk How many words can you read on sight?

Maths

- Make your own pattern using two or three repeating colours.
- Play 'Pay for It' on <http://www.ictgames.co.uk> counting coins to pay for the different items.
- Practise counting objects as high as 20 and writing two digit numbers correctly.

What are we learning this term?

*Animals & Pets- We will begin the term by thinking about our own pets or the animals we would like to own as a pet. We will draw pictures and write about our pet choices. When thinking about caring for animals we will think about how owners must ensure their pets stay healthy and we will discuss and list ways of doing this. Linked to this we will find out about the work of the RSPCA and consider the qualities someone would need in order to be a good pet owner. We will then find out about animals that live in a zoo, how they are cared for and how they would live in the wild. We will complete various art activities linked to animals as part of our topic.

In addition to topic sessions, we will also have regular Phonics, Literacy and Maths sessions. Our learning in these areas is outlined below.

*Phonics- We will recap the sounds we learnt last term in addition to learning new sounds. We will continue to practise how to segment and blend sounds in order to read simple words and sentences. We will also learn some tricky words which cannot be decoded using phonics and instead need to be recognised from memory.

The sounds, which we either recap or learn in phonics, are as follow:

- j, v, w, x, y, zz, z, qu, ch, sh, th, ng (recap)
- ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er

The Tricky Words we will learn are:

you, are, her, all, they, my, said

*Literacy- In literacy we will focus our lessons around a variety of stories about animals, some of which are listed below. We will apply the phonic sounds we know in order to write in a variety of contexts. We will continue to learn about writing sentences which feature finger spaces between each word, a capital letter and a full stop. When writing words and sentences we will apply the phonic sounds we know in order to spell regular words correctly and to make phonetically plausible attempts at more challenging words. We will also use what we know about writing a good sentence in order to write factual sentences to present our learning linked to animals.

Dear Zoo- Rod Campbell

What the Ladybird Heard- Julia Donaldson

*Maths- We will begin the term by counting, ordering and writing numbers to 10 and beyond. We will learn about the composition of different numbers and shapes. We will then do some work on addition and subtraction and develop methods we can use to find an answer to a calculation. We will learn to solve number calculations using either resources or a number line for support when doing so. We will then begin to learn number facts for pairs of numbers that make different totals to 10. Finally, we will begin to learn about doubling as well as odd and even numbers and how we can use this knowledge to answer questions. We will begin to learn these number facts for rapid recall.

Diary Dates

6th March – World Book Day and Sustainable Book Fair

9th – 13th March – Science Week

20th March – Comic Relief

23rd – 25th March – Parent Consultations

2nd April – Last day of Term 4

20th April – Start of Term 5