

Oak Class Term 3 Newsletter

Class Teachers: Mr Cottrell/ Mrs Fitzsimmons

Class TA: Mrs Hale

What have we been doing in class this term so far?

English

This term in English, we have been reading *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. Confidence in reading aloud keeps on growing!

There has been a big focus on practising and learning punctuation and grammar that's important for years four and five. Children have been learning and developing our use of pronouns/nouns, relative clauses, apostrophes for possession, modal verbs, standard verb inflections (did vs done & was vs were) and parentheses.

With Mrs Fitzsimmons, the children have been learning about the origins of Lego, and the fascinating story behind how it came to be the product we see today. They have just written fantastic reports on this.

Maths

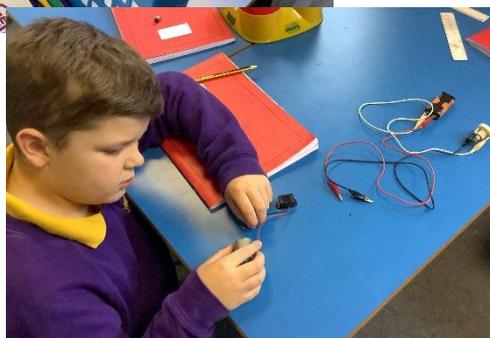
Both year four and five have been developing their multiplication skills: consolidating existing, as well as learning new methods. Year fours have been focusing on short multiplication, while year fives have been introduced to long multiplication. We'll keep practicing these in fluency sessions to get better and better! We have just started to focus on methods for division, too.

Both year groups have also been exploring area, as well as perimeter.

Please keep practicing those times tables at home. Rapid recall of times tables is so helpful to children as they come to exploring further methods for multiplication and division. We are about to start on fractions, too – these are made so much easier with solid times table knowledge!

Science

We have just finished a large topic exploring *electricity*. Since Christmas, this has involved lots of practical work, making plenty of circuits with motors, bulbs and buzzers. Children have worked on developing enquiry and investigation skills, testing how voltage has an impact on components and also seeing if wire length will affect how well components perform.



History

The Indus Valley civilisation has been the focus for the past few weeks. Children have enjoyed discovering about this ancient group of people, who lived in what is now south-east Afghanistan, Pakistan and north-west India during 3300BC – 1500BC. They have learned about how the civilisation lived, as well as archaeologists, artefacts and also fashion of the civilisation.

Other Subjects

In RE, we are exploring Judaism with the question: How important is it for Jewish people to do what God asks them to do?

In PSHE, pupils are learning to be good digital citizens in a *digital wellbeing* topic. This ties in with Safer Internet Day on the 8th February.

We are still working on our DT projects 1:1, too. They are very almost all finished!

In PE, football skills are developing nicely in sessions with Mr Phillips on a Monday. The second session of the week is yoga from our new PE scheme (some pictures here!)



Celebration!

Well done to Bailey, who achieved a certificate for swimming.

Well done to William, who achieved a trophy in rugby.

Please keep those out of school achievements coming in for celebration!

Homework

Homework consists of EdShed assignments; 3 adult signed reads recorded in the reading record; and practising times tables (target Space Mission Maths times tables).

There's a week to complete homework activities so that pupils can talk to their teacher if they are struggling.

If pupils are struggling to access online homework for any reason, please let us know. We can arrange alternative provision if necessary.

