



## Owls Class Newsletter - Term 2

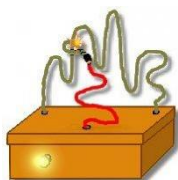
Wow! Well that week went far too quickly! The clocks have gone back and the Halloween decorations are up so we are definitely into Autumn now. Hope you all had a lovely week off and are ready for a long, busy term 2 with a visit from the owls, Children in Need, a trip to the cinema and Christmas activities to enjoy, as well as all our learning.

### Our Curriculum



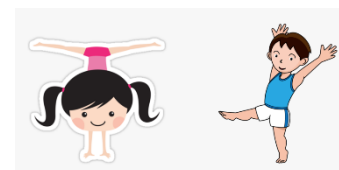
During this term, we will be continuing with our 'Explorers' topic and finishing off our studies of the rainforest looking at how climate change and human action threatens its future before moving on to look at the country of Mexico. We will be finding out about the physical and human geography of the country and then going back in time to look at different aspects of the ancient Mayan civilisation.

In Science, we have a couple more weeks of looking at different aspects of light before beginning to look at electricity. In this unit of work, the class will construct simple series circuits, to help answer questions about what happens when they try different components, for example, switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors. They will learn how to represent a simple circuit in a diagram using recognised symbols. We will link this knowledge of building circuits to our design technology work to make a 'steady hand' game.



Our DT project this term will link to our science work and the children will be using their knowledge of building circuits to make a 'Steady Hand' game towards the end of the term.

PE will continue to take place on **TUESDAY** afternoons. This term, our topic is 'Gymnastics'. Please ensure children come into school on this day with the correct PE kit. Girls must have their hair tied back and if wearing earrings on that day, they need to be able to remove them for this lesson (a small box to keep them safe in is advisable). Bare feet will be required for these sessions.



Long term homework is not set formally but if your child is interested in researching something related to our humanities or science topics, they are more than welcome to do so and share their findings with the class. This could be a PowerPoint, poster, pictures, facts or model, for example.

### TT Rockstars / Spelling Shed / Accelerated Reader

Quick and confident recall of times tables supports success across the maths curriculum—from fractions and division to problem-solving and reasoning. Keeping these skills sharp not only boosts confidence but also helps children tackle more complex concepts with ease. Pupils should continue to use TT Rockstars weekly to complete their set tasks. Look out for a 'Band Battle' coming in the next couple of weeks for everyone to take part in!





## Spelling Shed

Spelling Shed has been going well and I have been pleased with the test scores each Monday, with most pupils scoring well. We have been exploring a different spelling pattern each week in class and completing a range of activities based on this. Just a reminder that new spellings are issued every Tuesday in the form of a worksheet with the list of words to learn and some suggested activities to complete at home to help them consolidate their learning. The sheet is purely for use at home and does not have to come back into school each week. If this sheet does not make it home, you can also find the whole of the term's spellings listed on the Owls class page of the school website. The children will be tested on their words the following Monday. All pupils have a Spelling Shed account (log in details can be found at the front of their yellow reading record) which they log into at school each week however they should be logging in at home as well as it gives them access to online games that can also support them in learning their words each week.



All pupils read for at least 15 minutes each day and have the opportunity to take their quiz and change books when needed. It is hugely important that pupils develop a 'love of reading' and work to improve their reading stamina, vocabulary and comprehension both at school and at home. The aim is to score 100% in a quiz (this earns them 5 house points). If pupils are consistently scoring under 60%, they may be asked to select books at a lower range to ensure that they are understanding what they are reading, rather than just ploughing through books.

They are aiming to keep their average above 85% across the term and merits are awarded for achieving this. Only around 50% of the class managed this last term, so please encourage your child to read more regularly at home, talk to them about what they are reading and even share some of the reading with them.

## Dates for the diary

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> Oct - Individual photographs with Kittle

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> / Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov - Parents evenings (please book your appointment on Bromcom)

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Nov - Flu vaccinations

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov - Nite Owls visit / PTA non-uniform day

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Nov - Y6 height and weight checks

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov - Children in Need (more detail to follow)

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> Nov - Y5/6 Cinema trip (see separate letter for further details)

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov - Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas church service and Christmas lunch

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas class parties

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to make contact via the school office.

Mrs Driscoll & Mrs Turner