



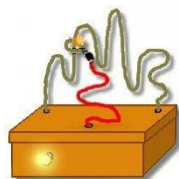
Owls Class Newsletter - Term 3

Welcome back everyone. I hope that all of you enjoyed the Christmas break, that you managed to avoid all the coughs and colds that were circulating wildly and are refreshed and ready for Term 3. Mrs Turner and I would like to say a very big thank you for all the cards and gifts we received at the end of last term - it was extremely kind and very much appreciated.

Our Curriculum



Over this term and next, the class will build upon their knowledge of British history through an in-depth study of the Victorian era, with a particular focus on Higham, the local area and its most famous resident - Charles Dickens. They will look at how the area has changed over time and what our school would have been like when it was first built. They will research the ways of life for different classes of society from the Royal family to life in the workhouses and look at how Britain has changed throughout Queen Victoria's reign. There will also be a change to find out about some of the key inventions of the Victorian era and how they are still significant today.



Time ran away with us at the end of last term and we need to complete our DT project linked to our science work where the children will be using their knowledge of building simple circuits to make a 'Steady Hand' game which they have begun to design.

We will then start our topic of living things and their habitats. In this unit of work, the children will be introduced to the idea that groups such as plants, animals and microorganisms can be subdivided. They will classify animals into commonly found invertebrates (e.g. insects, spiders, worms) and vertebrates (e.g. fish, reptiles, birds), discussing reasons why they belong in a particular group. They will also identify how some plants and animals adapt to suit their environment.



In computing this term, the children will develop their knowledge and understanding of using a computer to produce 3D models. Using 'Tinkercad' they will initially familiarise themselves with working in a 3D space, moving, resizing, and duplicating objects. They will then create hollow objects using placeholders and combine multiple objects to create a model of a desk tidy. Finally, they will go on to plan, develop, and evaluate their own 3D model of a building.

PE will continue take place on **TUESDAY** afternoons. This term, we will be learning to play the fast paced, invasion game of Handball. 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).



Information regarding homework to support the KS2 SAT's will be coming out soon.



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 the next 'Band Battle' coming soon.



Spelling Shed

Spelling Shed continues to work 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 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. 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. 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 reading SAT's paper is challenging with three texts to read and answer questions on in one hour!

Dates for the diary

Thursday 8th January - COPPERFIELD to wear own clothes (winners from last term)

Monday 12th - Friday 16th January - Y6 assessments (in class)

Monday 2nd February - Y5/6 Cheer Festival

Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day

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

Mrs Driscoll & Mrs Turner