

Oak Hill Church of England Primary School



Newsletter Friday 10th September 2021

Welcome Back

It was absolutely lovely to welcome everyone back to school on Monday. It is always astonishing how much they grow in those six weeks!!! The teachers have really enjoyed getting to know their new classes and the children have all settled in so well. I have been really impressed with our new Reception children; it's like they have been here for weeks. They have settled in so well.

We are delighted with how our new curriculum has started and I know that each unit starts with a 'memorable experience or activity' to entice the children into the learning.

Maple Class; We went on a tour of the school, meeting all the staff and finding out where everything is. We later used the iPads to take photos of the teachers to put on display in our classroom.

Willow Class: We investigated childhood items from the past and tried to work out what they could have been used for and if we think we still use them now. There was a lot of interesting discussion about what each artefact was and the differences/similarities compared to our current childhood items.

Hawthorn Class: The children were completing a research booklet about our through the ages topic. They went around different stations in the classroom carefully thinking about what each picture from different eras could mean.

Juniper Class: We are staging a play linked to our topic, the play is called; The Yellow Emperor and the Xia Dynasty.



A Message from Mrs Kettle

An Enormous Thank You from Mrs Kettle

Thank you to all the Children, Staff, Parents and Governors (past and present) of Oak Hill Primary School for all the presents, cards, letters and kind words I received on my retirement. I was truly overwhelmed by your generosity and lost for words. I have enjoyed being a member of Oak Hill community and take away with me some very special memories. It has been an honour to have played a small part in all the children's lives that have passed through Oak Hill in the last 31 years, and just to be there and help.

I will miss you all. Remember everyone to always reach for the stars and you will find some amazing things along the way.

Stay happy, healthy, safe and successful in whatever you decide to do or be.

I wish Oak Hill every success in the future.

House captains for 2021-2022

This year with a class of 8 children the job of selecting house and vice house captains was a little bit easier. We are thrilled with how they have already risen to the challenge, helping lead worship and organising the different house groups during lunchtime. Diamond house was the first house to be selected for clean-up duty at lunch and they have set a very high standard for the other three houses to follow! We are all looking forward to seeing the children lead their houses throughout the year in the various house events we hope to have.



Clearout and IT Donation

Over the Summer, we have had a massive clearout at both bases and filled three skips with bits and pieces that are no longer needed. Mrs Kettle organised the donation of our old IT equipment to a charity that refurbishes it and it is then sent to Africa to support schools over there. Thank you to Mrs Kettle for organising.



The Thrive Approach

We have started to organise and set up our new THRIVE hub. There are a few bits and pieces that we would love to have to make the room a welcoming and special environment for the children to work in. If anyone has any of the follow which they would like to donate we would gratefully appreciate it, ideally in pastel and neutral colours:

Small storage boxes

Wicker baskets and containers

Cushions

Rug (ideally low pile)

Blankets or throws

Photo frames

Small indoor plants

Finally, we would really love a small 2 seater sofa!

Covid

Thank you to everyone for continuing to respect the changes school has made and continuing to be aware of the threat of Covid. We have updated our risk assessments and the Covid Management Plan. Copies of which can be found on the school website.

Winchcombe Visitor.

On Monday 20th September at 5:30pm we welcome Mr Templeton, one of the deputy headteachers from Winchcombe, to talk to our current Year 5 and 6 parents. This is an opportunity to ask questions and find out more information about the school.

School Residential

The Year 5/6 school residential is due to take place the first week back after half term, 1st-5th November. This does present a staffing challenge for a small school, especially for one that has two sites. The plan is that, for that week, the whole school will be based at the Alderton base. I will confirm this shortly with you all. I know that this approach has taken place in previous years.

11+ exams

Good luck to all our children who are sitting the 11+ examinations this weekend. Do your best; no one can ever ask you for more.

Ipads

The ipads are operational and deployed at both sites, I know that Juniper Class have already been using them to do some research on their topic.



Clubs

You should have received a clubs' letter regarding several after school clubs that will be starting in the week commencing 20th September. Please be aware that club provision may be reviewed in light of any changes to the Covid situation.

School Permissions

We are only sending photo permission forms to the new children in school this year. We will presume that all current children are staying with the same permissions. If you wish to alter your permissions, or can't remember what permissions you have given, then please contact the office.

Success for Oak Hill Pupils

We are really proud of Cameron and Corin who have had a fantastic summer of tennis achievement. Corin has won 5 tournaments over the summer and has retained his County title and is Gloucestershire Number 1 for his age group. Together, Corin and Cameron won the County Doubles title as well. An amazing achievement boys!!





Half Termly Christian Value

FRIENDSHIP AND RESPECT

Friend- a person you know well and like
Respect- admiration for a person's or thing's good qualities; politeness or consideration
(Oxford School Dictionary)




A FRIEND IS ONE OF THE NICEST THINGS YOU CAN HAVE
 & ONE OF THE BEST THINGS YOU CAN BE

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you
 Matthew 7:12

Respect is one of the greatest expressions of love.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"
 PHILIPPIANS 4:13

Church Service in Alderton

Our Services this week are:

9.00am Wormington
 10.30am Alderton

Sir Thomas Rich's School Open Days: 23 and 24 September 2021

Sir Thomas Rich's School in Longlevens, Gloucester, is running face-to-face open days on 23 and 24 September for boys considering joining Sir Thomas Rich's in Year 7.

The open days are primarily aimed at current Year 5 and 6 boys and their parents

or carers, however boys from any year group are very welcome to attend.

The booking form is live from Thursday 9 September on the home page of the school website: www.strschool.co.uk.

Sessions take place at 9am, 10am and 11.30am each day, with a welcome talk from the Headmaster in the school hall and the opportunity ask questions, meet current students and to tour the school and see lessons in action.

When all sessions are fully booked there will an option to join the waiting list, as we may be able to offer additional sessions subject to demand. There will also be an opportunity for Year 6 boys to visit the school after the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools Admissions Test results have been released in October (dates tbc).

We very much look forward to meeting some of the pupils from your school at our open days.

Maple Class

What a fantastic start our lovely new receptions have had to Oak Hill! They have been very happy coming in and have quickly made friends with each other and have been enjoying exploring their new environment both inside and in our outdoor classroom. We have been on a tour of the school, using the new iPads to take photos of the staff and have started our new topic 'Me and My Community'. We have been playing together really nicely, taking turns and sharing. The children have found all of the junk modelling resources and already love making creations, including rockets and houses! We have started to develop our listening skills in phonics by exploring all the different sounds we hear in our environment, and have been practising counting in Maths using lots of different equipment. I am so proud of how well the children have settled into school and am very much enjoying getting to know them.



Willow Class

What a fantastic first week back! Willow Class have settled back into school life so well and have all been amazing at looking after the new reception children. On Monday, we started our week with some team building activities and the children had a great time with spaghetti and marshmallows trying to build the tallest tower. This allowed us to get to know our new classmates and to chat about our summer holidays which then led into our first piece of writing all about our holiday adventures. We have also written letters this week to the new reception children to tell them all about life at Dumbleton and what they have to look forward to.

On Wednesday, we took part in our memorable experience to kick start our new topic 'Childhood'. We looked at toys from the past and tried to work out how we would have played with them and whether we still have any of those toys now. This led into our writing lesson and we wrote our own autobiography, describing exciting events that have happened in our lives so far. There was lots of lovely writing about holidays, parties and days out!

We began our Maths unit on place value this week and Year 1 have been busy sorting and counting objects. Year 2 has been recapping their understanding of number and representing numbers using



tens and ones.



Hawthorn Class

What a fantastic start to the first term! I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching Year 3 and 4 this week and I am really excited to take them on this year's learning journey. This week we spent Monday getting to know one another and the children settled into the classroom. They were excited to see the new layout of the classroom and the 'Bookflix' book corner has been a huge hit! The children also found out that we have a class mascot who will go home with the child with the most dojo points every Friday and will be brought back on Monday.

We looked at some Van Gough style art this week where the children focused on sketching sunflowers. We have begun our main topic, Through the Ages, with a memorable experience in school. The children went around the classroom and looked at a series of pictures from different eras. We then came together as a class and discussed our answers.

We have had two very fun PE lessons this week where the children have been working on their football and basketball skills. Weather permitting, we hope to go to the field for football next week.

I have been so pleased with how the children have settled back into school this week where they have all returned to school excited and ready to learn. It's like they've never been away!

Juniper Class

What a wonderful start to the new school year we have had in Juniper Class. The children have really hit the ground running, taking on the new expectations for presentations of both their work and themselves! We have started our first topic Dynamic Dynasties; a history topic based on Ancient China. We will be taking on the memorable experience on Monday which will see the children taking on different roles and putting on a play.

In English, we have started by exploring different poetry. The book 'Poems From a Green and Blue Planet' is our stimulus. The children will be focusing on the language used, the composition of different poems and will be writing their own too.

In Maths, as always we start with place value and number working with increasingly large numbers. The children will use this as an opportunity to develop their problem-solving answers to help prove what they know.

In Science, we collected all the knowledge of earth and space and that will allow me to

plan exciting lessons to fill the gaps and answer the questions the children wanted to know. In R.E we investigated the 5 pillars of Islam using the Ipads. The first use of the new iPads.

In P.E, we will have started both the gymnastics and netball units of work, Starting with the basics in netball to ensure the children can pass and catch the ball over varying distances accurately.



Stars of the Week

Maple Class:

Stars of the Week: All of the Reception children for such a brilliant start to their time at Oak Hill.

Willow Class:

Star of the week – Amber, for trying so hard with her writing this week

Value of the Week – Reuben, for showing kindness to his Year 1 friends when they need help around the classroom

Hawthorn Class:

Value of the Week: – Betsy for always being a fantastic friend and helping others

Star of the Week – Jake for having a super start to year 3. Always coming to school with a smile and a positive attitude.

Juniper Class:

Value of the Week: Freddie- having a great start to year 5, participating in class and confidently sharing ideas.

Star of the Week – Ariche- taking the time to present his work neatly in English and Maths.

Diary Dates

Please be aware that these may be subject to change.

September

20th Year 5/6 meeting with Winchcombe teachers (parents)
5:30pm

KS2 clubs start

28th I Sing Pop

29th I Sing Pop

30th I Sing Pop

October

8th I Sing Pop Performances

19th Parents Evening

20th Parents Evening

22nd Break Up

November

1st Back to School

Yr5/6 Residential Departs

5th Yr5/6 Residential returns