

Reminders ...

Reading - Children are expected to read regularly at home, preferably every day but at least three times a week. We ask the children to change their reading books on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It is important that school books taken home come back each day; if there are any issues with the book selected please feel free to contact us. The children now have a book that they should be reading to you, practising the skills that they have been taught in our phonic sessions to decode words and begin to read some words by sight. Please initial alongside the book to let us know that you have listened to your child read.

Tapestry- Thank you to the parents that have been able to upload photos onto Tapestry. It's so wonderful to see what the children get up to and are interested in with you. (It helps us to choose topics that we cover in school too!) Over the next few weeks I will be sending suggestions, through Class Dojo, of things that you can do with your child and then add to Tapestry. It is so important that we have a parent's voice in your child's Learning Journey and we really appreciate the time you take to post photographs.

PE Lessons - PE will take place on Thursday and Friday, but please ensure that your child has a full kit in school every day. PE kit will be sent home for a wash at the end of each half term.

Labelling Property - Please ensure that coats, PE kit, uniform, water bottles, book bags, etc. are clearly named. If we can read the name there is a very good chance that lost items will find their way back to you.

Helping in school - If any parent has spare time and is available to help in class, especially to hear readers, or to do administrative jobs such as photocopying, please let me know, as I would be extremely grateful for your assistance.

Finally, should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. If your query will require more than a few moments, at the start/end of school, please telephone the school office to arrange an appointment so that I can make sure we are able to have a quality discussion.

Orchard Primary School

Foundation Stage Overview



Spring Term 2019

Classroom News ...

The children are now fully aware of the expectations in the classroom and are working well during adult led and child initiated activities. The children are using the classroom (inside and out) to its full advantage and I'm sure you can see the progress they have made in their Personal and Social skills and also in their independence.

Class Dojo - We will continue to use Class Dojo to share important school updates, post photos of special classroom activities, and to respond to messages sent by parents, so don't forget to log in.

Communication - School Information will normally be sent to you via e-mail; flyers or letters with slips to return may go home via the book bag however, so please do check and empty bags regularly.

Rewards - We set high standards in all aspects of school life. Your child will be expected and encouraged to work to the best of their ability. All effort is praised and rewarded with house points, certificates and stickers. We also have a class bouncy ball jar that we have to work together to earn and fill up. Once the jar is full the children will choose a class treat and we will post a photo on Class Dojo to let you know how it was!

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 5th February - Safer Internet Day

Monday 11th February - Parents' Evening 3.30-6.30pm

Wednesday 13th February - Parents' Evening 5.00-7.00pm

Monday 18th February - Friday 22nd February HALF TERM

Wednesday 27th February - Theatre Visit: The Jungle Book

Week beginning 4th March - Literacy Week

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day (Dressing Up)

Wednesday 13th March & Thursday 14th March - Y3 Residential

Friday 15th March - Comic Relief fundraiser

Thursday 21st March - World Poetry Day

Monday 15th - Friday 26th FASTER BREAK

We are very much looking forward to the term ahead and to all the exciting activities we have planned.

For this term's topic we will begin with Winter activities. We will be going for walks around our school grounds searching for signs of and collecting things. We will be looking at ice and snow and carrying out experiments based on the children's knowledge and ideas. We will then look at developing skills in Maths, Literacy and Investigation through a Fairy Tale/ Castles topic.

During this half term we will be focusing on the Specific Areas of the EYFS Curriculum. This includes:

Literacy:

The children will continue their daily phonics sessions; their ability to distinguish sounds; using and applying 'sound talk' to read and write and phoneme/ grapheme recognition.

We have a shared reading session everyday where the children are encouraged to look at the author, illustrator, title, characters, settings, retelling stories, asking questions about and talking about the meaning of words. We will also have weekly writing sessions to develop these skills specifically as well as lots of opportunities to read and write in the continuous provision that the children access during their 'choosing time'.

Maths

In Maths we are looking at naming and describing 2D and 3D shapes; adding numbers to find the total; understanding subtraction; counting, recognising and ordering numbers and ensuring that the children know the number that is one more or one less than a given number.

Understanding of the World:

The children will identify similarities, patterns, differences and changes through the topics that we cover. They will be encouraged to share what they already know and to ask questions in order to understand new ideas or to find out something new.

Expressive Art and Design

This half term the children will be looking at printing techniques to make snowflakes.