



# Owl Class

## Curriculum Letter



Spring 2023

Dear Parents,



Happy 2023 and welcome back to school for another exciting term. The children have settled back in well and seem refreshed, healthy and ready to learn again.

### A few reminders for this term:

- It is important that children are reading every day. Please try to read with your child for 15 minutes per day. If you would like to try anything different, Reading Eggs (see link below) has many excellent reading activities and there are many other online resources that we can recommend. Just let us know if you would like some suggestions.

[Reading Eggs | Where Children Learn to Read Online](#)

- The early bird morning tasks are a wonderful way for children to consolidate learning, discuss issues that they may have had in a previous lesson and begin their day with a positive routine. They run, during our registration session, between 8.45am and 9.00am. So, please do continue to arrive at school on time.

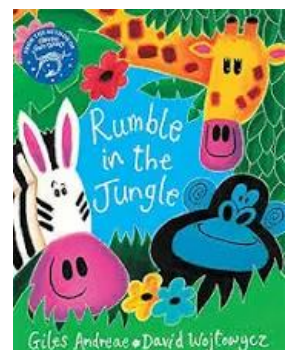
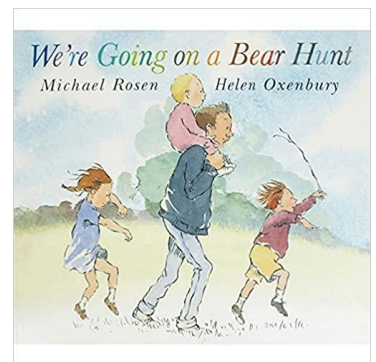
### English

This half term is looking at stories that repeat. Our particular focus is 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. We will also link the ideas and style to our Rainforest topic and write a repetitive story about a creature we would find in the rainforest.

After that, we will focus on poetry and rhyme. We will investigate the book 'Rumble in the Jungle' written by Giles Andreae, focusing on rhyme and repetition. Children will be able to research and act out some of the poems, before planning and writing their own version about an animal.

After half term we will be looking at persuasive writing. We will work towards writing our own persuasive letters focusing on deforestation.

We continue with our daily phonics lessons and have noticed a great improvement in the children's reading and writing skills.

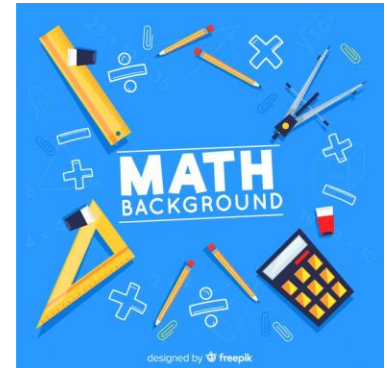


Grammar will focus on suffixes, prefixes, and past tense, along with the basic capital letters, full stops and other punctuation within sentences.

## **Maths**

In maths, we are learning to extend our knowledge in the areas of:

- Place value and counting on and back with numbers up to 100
- Measure- length and height
- Multiplication and division by 2,5 and 10
- Tally charts
- Fractions- halves, quarters and thirds
- Shape- 2D, 3D and symmetry



An important aspect of mathematics is to apply this knowledge to problem solving and investigations. This means that a component of mathematics taught must be to reason, question, reflect and discuss strategies in order to answer questions. We therefore focus on this during each lesson as well.

## **Topic**

Topic encompasses geography, history, art and design technology. This term our main topic is “Rainforests” within this we will focus on ‘Take a Picture’ this half term. We will look at the ‘Surprise’ by Henri Rousseau and then investigate where these animals come from and what their natural habitat is like. Children will research the layers of the rainforest and the benefits of the rainforest. We will enjoy making some lovely smoothies from fruits found in the rainforest.

In the second half term we shall move our focus to India. We will be comparing and contrasting the country of India with our own country. Any resources or artefacts that you may have at home would be greatly appreciated, we will ensure that they are looked after as they should be. Both topics will allow children to use a variety of maps and begin to learn about compass direction.

## **Science**

This terms topic is a fun and practical unit. It links closely with British Science week which runs from 11<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March. The idea behind the program is to raise awareness, spark enthusiasm and celebrate science, engineering, technology and maths with all children. This year’s theme is ‘**Connections**’.



With this theme in mind, we shall be conducting a series of experiments involving connections. We shall also look at how electricity travels, with the children having the opportunity to build their own working circuits.

## **R.E.**

In this half term we shall be investigating the big question: Is it important to celebrate New Year?

Children will investigate the idea of New Year, discussing how and why New Year is celebrated. They shall begin to investigate how New Year is celebrated in the Jewish community. This will include looking at the Jewish festival of Rosh Hashannah. There will be particular focus on the foods eaten and family traditions.

## **Computing**

This term's computing links to our exciting topic 'Take a Picture'. The children will be introduced to power point for the first time. They will learn how to use the basic features including: inserting pictures, text boxes and slide transition. We are looking forward to the interesting presentations they create about the Rainforest.



## **Art**

In Art, our work will reflect our 'Take a Picture' topic. We will study the works of Henri Rousseau and the painting techniques he used. The children will then have the opportunity to choose a rainforest creature to sketch and draw. We shall then explore the technique of printing.

## **PE/Games**

During our PE and games lessons, we will explore basic gymnastics movements. We will look at dance and being able to replicate a simple dance routine. We will explore multi-skills activities including throwing and catching, kicking and moving fluidly whilst being able to change direction when necessary. As in all PE sessions we will discuss and understand the concepts of winning and losing and the need for rules.

## **Music**

As an extension of our music lessons we will be partaking in the Little Missenden Festival again this year. We have 4 sessions booked with a team of professional musicians and composers over the course of the next month. This will end with a completed song composed and sung by the children at the final performance at St Peter and St Paul's church in Great Missenden on the afternoon of the 9 February. This a wonderful program and the children find real enjoyment and develop new skills through these sessions.



## Forest School and Yoga

Forest school and yoga will resume on Friday 13 January. This half term it will be Year 1 doing Forest School and Year 2 doing yoga.

Please ensure Forest School children come to school wearing appropriate clothing for Forest School.

- Arms and legs should be covered
- Waterproof trousers
- Coats, hats, gloves
- Wellies

Please bring a bag to keep extra kit in and to take muddy gear home in.



## Other Information:

- Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school every day.
- Please ensure ALL clothing is named.



Finally, thank you for your continued support in educating your child, we know that a holistic approach creates a confident, rounded person and are grateful for your help along this exciting journey.

Please do remember that you can speak to us before or after school each day or arrange a meeting at another time that best suits you.

Here's to another busy, exciting and fun term.

Best wishes

Mrs Stockdale and Mrs Colvin

