



# Owl Class

## Curriculum Letter



23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents

Welcome to Owl Class!

We hope that you all had a restful summer and that you are looking forward to the exciting year ahead. We have been very impressed with how well all the children have settled into the new routines and to school life.

### English

Our first topic this half term will focus on stories with a familiar setting. We will be investigating the stories written by Shirley Hughes, with particular focus on 'Dogger'. Children will research and act out the story before planning their own version.

After that, we will begin to look at non-fiction writing. We will be writing job adverts and newspaper reports linked to our topic: Iceberg Straight Ahead!

The class will be spending 20mins each day looking at letter shape, formation in our Earlybird handwriting session. The Earlybird session begins at 8.45am, so the earlier you child can be in school the better. During our 30 minute daily phonics session we will be revisiting previous sounds learnt before moving onto new ones.

Grammar will focus on nouns, verbs and adjectives and the importance of a full stop.

### Maths

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

- Place value and counting on and back
- Addition and subtraction
- Counting in 2's, 5's and 10's
- Addition and Subtraction with money

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.

**friendship, thankfulness, honesty, forgiveness, compassion and trust**

## Topic

Topic encompasses geography, history, art and design technology. This term our topic is "Iceberg ahead!" We will be investigating the story of the Titanic, looking at how the ship was built, who would have worked on the ship and the journey it took as it crossed to America.

In the second half term we will continue with the arctic theme and investigate our Frozen Planet. Both topics will allow children to use a variety of maps and begin to learn about compass direction. We will also look at the story of Christmas and be practising our eagerly awaited Nativity.

## Science

This term we are looking at our own amazing bodies and how they work. We will begin by identifying the main parts of our body before looking at the inside of bodies. Children will learn about bones, how they work with muscles to make us move. We will also explore the main organs within our body and why it is important to keep healthy and eat a balanced diet.

## RE

In this half term we shall be investigating the big question: Who should we follow? Within this unit we shall read and discuss the bible story of Joshua. Children will think about who leads them and what attributes these leaders have. The children will also learn about the importance of giving thanks at Harvest time and will be involved in delivering gifts to the local community. After half term, the focus will be on the true meaning of Christmas and the Nativity story. It is always a very exciting time!

## Computing

What is an algorithm? This term we are putting on our technology hats and beginning to think about this big question. We will begin by looking at the meaning of this technical term, before diving into creating our own algorithms for a program. The children will have lots of fun programming our Beebot robots and our Probots to draw shapes.

## Art

In Art, our work will reflect our Titanic topic, leading to making and studying a variety of images of the Titanic and exploring the medium of charcoal and paint.

## PE/Games

PE will now take place on a **Wednesday**. Please make sure that your child comes to school in their full PE kit on this day. They will remain in their PE kit all day. We are lucky enough to have a PE specialist teacher, Mrs Duggan, who will take our PE lessons every other week, to allow the two of us time to meet for our planning and preparation time.

## Homework

### Reading and phonics will be our focus in homework this half term

We encourage all families to continue to read regularly with their children, 10 to 20 minutes a day would be wonderful. We will resume sending books home from the school reading scheme. 3 books will come home with the children on **Monday and must be returned by Friday**. Books will then be changed over the weekend and sent home again on a Monday. Please continue to record in child's yellow book every time you read with them.

## Forest School and Yoga

Forest school and yoga will continue to be on a Friday afternoon and will resume soon, we will let you know well in advance.

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**Curriculum Meeting**

We would like to invite you to a curriculum meeting at 9.00am Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September, where we will explain a little more about what the children are learning.

**Other Information**

Mrs. Colvin will be teaching on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Mrs. Stockdale will be teaching on Thursdays and Fridays.

**Things to remember**

Please could you ensure that your child comes to school with the following items everyday

- A **named** warm, waterproof coat
- A water bottle

**Please do ensure that all items coming into school are named. We have an increasing number of items going missing and without a label, and with everyone wearing the same it is impossible to know who it belongs to without a name.**

**Useful Dates**

- **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 9.00am** curriculum meeting

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to meeting you next week.

Kind regards

Mrs Colvin & Mrs Stockdale

Owl Class Teachers

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