



# Owl Class

## Curriculum Letter



February 2021

Dear Parents,

What a start to the New Year!

We hope that you and your families are all safe and well, despite the current lockdown. We also hope that you are enjoying the online classroom and live sessions. We have been hugely impressed with the participation from all class members during these sessions and are continuously grateful for all your support.

We have lots of exciting things planned for the remainder of the term and look forward to sharing them with all the children.

### A few reminders for this term:

- It is important that children are reading every day. Reading Eggs has many excellent reading activities and there are many other online resources that we can recommend. Please try to read with your child for 15 minutes per day.

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

- Water and Fresh Air breaks are incredibly important for the children as they are now spending a great deal of time in front of the screen. Please try and encourage your children to sit with a water bottle during live sessions and to take regular screen breaks.
- 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 9.15am and 9.30am. We would like to encourage as many of the children as possible to take part in these activities using paper and pencil or whiteboards and pens.
- It would also be extremely helpful if you could encourage your child to watch the youtube live phonics lessons each day. This will enhance their phonics knowledge.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLr4TXq58jw> – phonics Letters and Sounds link

### English

Our first topic this half term focussed on poetry and rhyme. We investigated the book 'Rumble in the Jungle' written by [Giles Andreae](#), focusing on rhyme and repetition. Children were able to research and act out some of the poems, before planning and writing their own version about an animal.

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

After that, we looked at stories that repeat. Our particular focus was 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. We linked the ideas and style to our Rainforest topic and wrote a repetitive story about a creature we would find in the rainforest.

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

The children will continue to revise and extend their knowledge of spellings and sounds. We would like to encourage you to practice the reading and writing of the **tricky words**. These can be found at the back of your homework books.

Grammar will focus on suffixes, prefixes, and past tense.

### 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
- Time
- Measure
- Multiplication and division by 2, 5 and 10
- 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.



### Topic

Topic encompasses geography, history, art and design technology. This term our topic is 'Take a Picture'. We looked at 'Surprise' by Henry Rousseau and then investigated where these animals came from and what their natural habitat was like. Children have enjoyed researching the layers of the rainforest and the benefits of the rainforest. We enjoyed making some lovely smoothies from fruits found in the rainforest.

In the second half term we shall move our focus to India. We shall 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. In our current situation, perhaps you could send a photograph of these items or create a video with your child, which we could then share with the class. Both topics will allow children to use a variety of maps and begin to learn about compass direction.



Yanomami settlement

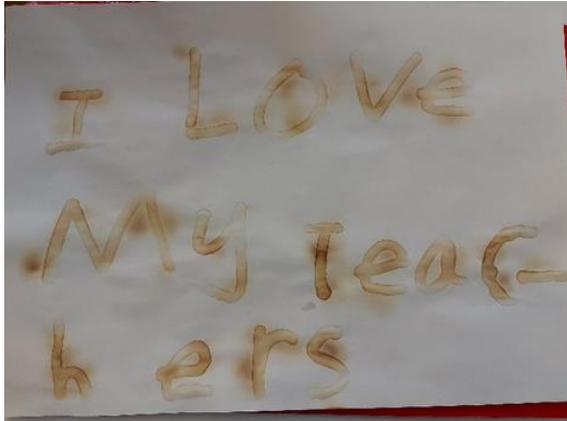


Diorama

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

## Science

This term's topic is a fun and practical unit. It links closely with British Science week which runs from 5-14<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 '**Innovating for the Future**'. With this theme in mind, we shall be conducting a series of experiments involving inventing and sustainable power. We shall also look at how electricity travels and working circuits. Finally, we will be looking at the journey plastic makes once it has been discarded.



Experiments creating invisible ink

## 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. 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 have already studied the works of Henry Rousseau and the painting techniques he used. The children will then have the opportunity to sketch and paint Indian rainforest creatures.

## 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. As in all PE sessions we will discuss and understand the concepts of winning and losing and the need for rules.



## Other Information:

As home-schooling continues, we will adapt the above lessons to suit the situation.

Kind regards

*Emma Downie*

Mrs Downie

*Stockdale*

Mrs Stockdale

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

friendship, thankfulness, honesty, forgiveness, compassion and trust