



Spring NEWSLETTER



Oakhill Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy half-term, we are delighted to share the latest updates and highlights from Oakhill Primary School. It has been a fantastic spring term filled with learning, creativity, and exciting opportunities for our amazing pupils.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and enthusiasm that everyone has shown this half term and are so excited to share some of our wonderful achievements and successes with you.

Thank you to our pupils, staff and parents/carers for an amazing half term. Have a wonderful, restful Easter break and we look forward to continuing this positive momentum in the summer term!

Together, we make Oakhill Primary a wonderful place to learn and grow!



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Spring fun!

This term has been filled with exciting learning experiences and memorable events! We celebrated World Book Day with fantastic costumes and a love for reading, while our iPad "Watch Me Learn" lessons gave parents a glimpse into how technology supports learning at Oakhill. Our Reading Breakfasts continue to bring families together to share stories and foster a love for books. We have also enjoyed a variety of school trips, sporting achievements and proud Oakhill moments that have taken learning beyond the classroom. It's been a busy and rewarding term for everyone! We would like to say thank you and farewell to Miss Kelly, and a very warm welcome back to Miss Warner following her maternity leave—you have been greatly missed!

Upcoming Events

- ☀ Back to School Monday 13th April
- ☀ Sycamore Reading Breakfast 15th April
- ☀ Silver Birch Reading Breakfast 22nd April
- ☀ Nursery Reading Breakfast 29th April
- ☀ May Day Bank Holiday 4th May
- ☀ Y6 SATS W/C 11th May

We have our Oakhill Careers Fair in Summer Term (date TBC). If you would like to be involved, please contact the office with your details for the attention of Mrs Obada.

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Nursery News!

It has been a fun and busy spring term in Nursery, full of exciting experiences and outdoor learning! We celebrated Pancake Day with Mr Wolf's Pancakes and enjoyed taking part in pancake races. Our Welly Wednesdays have been a highlight, with the children embracing the wet spring weather and exploring the outdoors. We were excited to welcome a visit from the Halle Orchestra, took part in a Dear Zoo animal hunt, and enjoyed learning about Lunar New Year through a range of activities. The children have also been busy planting wildflowers, learning about how things grow, and exploring natural materials by making prints using dough and tree bark.



Reception Round-up!

It has been a lively and engaging spring term in Reception, with lots of hands-on learning and exploration! The children enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year through a range of activities, learning about traditions and culture. They had great fun taking part in a police-themed "cops and robbers" jewel heist, even designing and making their own police badges. In maths, the children have been developing their understanding of repeating patterns, ten frames and number stories. Our work on Handa's Surprise included fruit tasting and an exciting outdoor hide-and-seek activity to find the animals from the story. The children also loved getting outside for a mini beast hunt, exploring and discovering the natural world around them.



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Year 1 News!

It has been a busy and creative spring term in Year 1, with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum! In D&T, the children designed and made puppets based on *Where the Wild Things Are*, and also designed, created and evaluated their own storybooks. In computing, they enjoyed programming Beebots, learning to give simple instructions to move them forwards and backwards. In maths, the children have been developing their understanding of number bonds using Numicon to support their learning. In English, they made their own 'Bog Baby' and wrote descriptive pieces using adjectives. A highlight of the term was a fantastic BeeActive PE morning, where the children had great fun taking part in combat dodgeball with inflatables.



Year 2 News!

Year 2 have had a fun and productive spring term, with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum! In English, the children wrote non-chronological reports about tigers and have been learning to use adverbs to add more detail to their writing. In maths and computing, they explored tally charts, including collecting and presenting data such as the class's favourite colours. In science, the children investigated how plants grow in different conditions, making careful observations over time. During Mental Health Awareness Week, they created their own worry monsters to help talk about feelings. The children have also enjoyed lots of musical fun learning to play the recorder, and in art they studied Banksy, experimenting with sketching and carbon paper to create their own pieces.



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Year 3 News!

It has been a creative and engaging spring term in Year 3, with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum! In art, the children explored painting techniques inspired by Henri Rousseau and developed their drawing skills by creating portraits in the style of Leonardo da Vinci. In D&T, they worked with Microbits and also developed their sewing skills, learning a range of stitches to create cushions with appliqué designs. In history, the children learned about Stonehenge and life in the Stone Age. In English, they enjoyed studying *The Twits*, while in science they explored animals including humans and investigated reflective materials. This half term, the children have also begun developing their cricket skills, focusing on catching and bowling.



Year 4 News!

Year 4 have had a fantastic spring term, full of creativity and new experiences across the curriculum! The children used iPads to create fact files about Hindu deities, while in art they developed their skills in clay sculpture, focusing on shape and form. In French, they enjoyed a delicious chocolate tasting experience, bringing their language learning to life. In D&T, the children designed and made model reading pavilions, and in maths they have been working hard to develop their understanding of fractions. In geography, they explored North America, as well as learning about 8-point compass directions and grid references. The children were also lucky to receive a special visit from Mrs Brailsford, who shared the history of Stoke-on-Trent. In PE, they have been creating dance sequences, focusing on shape and transitions to form words.



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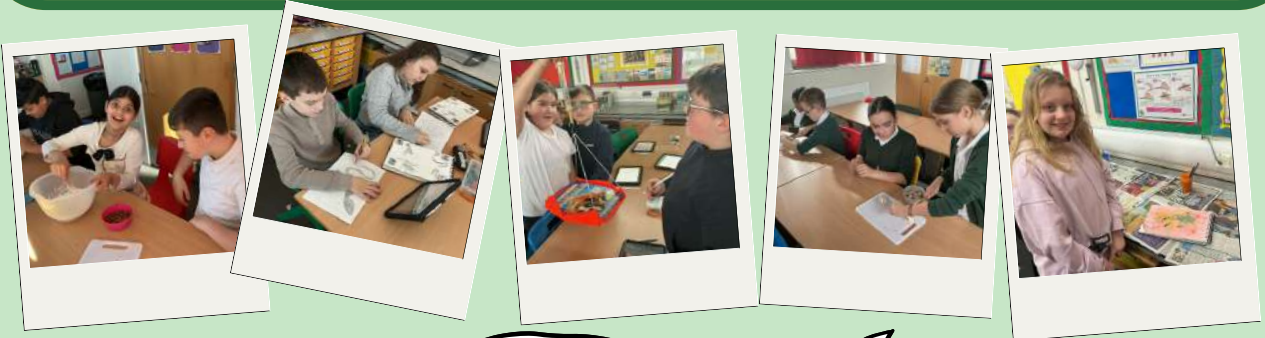


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Year 5 News!

Year 5 have had an exciting and hands-on spring term, with lots of creative and practical learning! In English and drama, the children explored the book *Little Freak*, focusing on emotions and the feelings of characters. In D&T, they designed and built bridges, as well as developing their food technology skills by making their own delicious pasties from scratch. In art, the children experimented with Brusho to create vibrant graffiti-style space art, and studied Alberto Giacometti, creating elongated sculptures inspired by Egyptian animals. In maths, they have been learning about mass and weight, while in science they investigated air resistance by launching parachutes from the top of the school onto the playground—an exciting and memorable experiment!



Year 6 News!

Year 6 have had a stimulating and memorable spring term, with lots of opportunities to deepen their learning! In science, they continued exploring evolution using Keynote on their iPads, combining different animals to understand inheritance and genes. In English, they studied *Kensuke's Kingdom*, comparing the characters of Michael and Kensuke while exploring the narrative—Mrs Dodd's favourite book! In geography, the children developed their map skills using ordnance survey maps. In art, they created their own manga comics, and in computing they worked in the ICT suite using spreadsheets. A real highlight of the term was in D&T, where the children planned and prepared a delicious three-course meal, including soup, fajitas and cheesecake.



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Snow Day!!



At the start of the spring term, we were treated to some snowy weather, which brought lots of excitement across the school! Children from all year groups enjoyed spending time outdoors with their friends, playing in the snow, building, exploring and making the most of the wintry conditions. It was a lovely opportunity for everyone to have fun together and create special memories.



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iPad Watch Me Learns!

This spring term, we were delighted to welcome parents and carers into school for our iPad “Watch Me Learn” sessions across Years 2–6. These sessions gave families a valuable opportunity to see first-hand how iPads are supporting and enhancing learning across a range of subjects, including art, English, science and geography. Parents were able to observe lessons in action, explore the children’s work and see how technology is being used to develop creativity, independence and engagement across the curriculum. It was wonderful to share these experiences together. Thank you to everyone who attended—it was fantastic to see such an amazing turnout and strong support for the children’s learning. We would also like to extend a big thank you to our staff for facilitating these sessions and for showcasing just how far we have come in using iPads to enhance and enrich the curriculum.

We look forward to welcoming you back to see some more of our learning in action!

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Terrific Trips!

We have had some fantastic trips and experiences across the school this spring term! Year 2 enjoyed a visit to the Gladstone Pottery Museum, where they explored the bottle kilns and even created their own clay pots. Year 3 and Year 4 had a wonderful opportunity to visit the Victoria Hall to watch the amazing Hallé Orchestra perform. Reception had a brilliant day out at the Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum, enjoying lots of hands-on science activities. In addition, some lucky children visited Trentham High School to take part in an exciting science masterclass, where they explored chemical reactions.

We have also welcomed some wonderful visitors into school this term. The Hallé Orchestra visited and performed for children in Years 1-6, providing a fantastic live music experience. Our younger pupils also enjoyed a visit from the library van, giving them the opportunity to explore a range of books and develop their love of reading.



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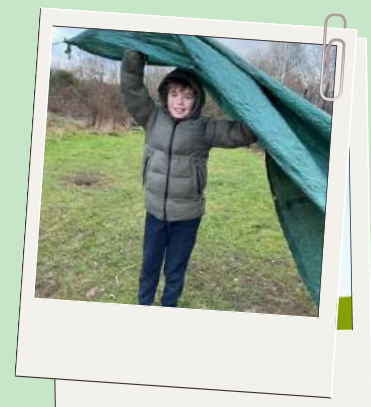
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Forest Schools!



Our Forest School sessions have been full of exploration, discovery and outdoor learning this spring term. The children have used technology to help identify different plants, searched for fungi, and looked closely at moss and the early signs of spring. They have also spent time bird watching and investigating animal bones, trying to identify which creatures they belonged to. A key part of their learning has been fire safety, where they learned how to safely prepare and light the fire pit. The children also planted wildflowers, helping to care for their environment. Of course, no Forest School session would be complete without enjoying hot chocolate and biscuits together!



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Sports Shoutouts!

We are incredibly proud of our sporting achievements this term! Our pupils have taken part in multiple cross country events, showing great determination, resilience and teamwork, with many achieving their personal best times. It has been fantastic to see their confidence and perseverance grow with each event. We also had the exciting opportunity for children to perform in a dance show at the Victoria Hall, where they confidently performed in front of an audience of over 1,000 people. We are so proud of all the children for their commitment, enthusiasm and the way they have represented our school.



Reading breakfasts and parent events!

It has been wonderful to welcome parents and carers into school this term for our reading breakfasts, where families enjoyed sharing books together alongside a light breakfast. These sessions provided a lovely opportunity to promote a love of reading and spend quality time together. We also held a phonics workshop for our Reception parents and carers, helping to support reading at home and build confidence with early phonics. In Nursery, families joined us for a special Easter "Learn With Me" session, taking part in a range of fun and engaging Easter activities.



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World Book Day!!



We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day across the school! Children came dressed as their favourite book characters if they wished, and there were some truly amazing costumes on display. Each class created a life-size book character, and the competition was fierce—every entry was brilliant! These are now proudly displayed in our art corridor for everyone to admire.

The day was filled with exciting reading activities, including making mini books, writing alternative chapters, creating book reviews, taking part in literacy quizzes and designing bookmarks. Some children even enjoyed sharing stories around the fire pit, making the experience extra special.

We love promoting a passion for reading at Oakhill—thank you for all your support in making the day such a success!



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Easter Fun!

We have had lots of exciting Easter celebrations across the school! The children loved taking part in our special walk to school with the Easter Bunny, which brought plenty of smiles and excitement. Our Easter discos were a big hit, filled with bunny ears, dancing and, of course, chocolate treats! We also enjoyed Easter bingo, adding even more fun and laughter to the celebrations. It has been a joyful way to end the spring term together. We also held an Easter raffle, where children won wonderful hampers full of Easter treats to enjoy over the Easter holidays!



Beat the Bell!

Our 'Beat the Bell' week was a huge success and a fantastic way to encourage punctuality across the school! The children showed great enthusiasm and determination to be in class before the bell each morning, and it was wonderful to see so many rising to the challenge. As a reward, we gave out lots of Easter eggs to those who managed to beat the bell every day—well done to everyone who took part! Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in making this such a success. We are excited to run a similar initiative again in the summer term, as the children enjoyed it so much!

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