



Ox Close Federation Newsletter Friday 12th January 2024 – Volume 14

Welcome to the Spring Term

The children are now settled back into routine following the Christmas break and I have been really impressed when I have visited classrooms. I have also spoken to all of the staff about the progress which children are making and plans for this term - everyone is working very hard. 2024 is an exciting and busy year for us with the move to Springmoor Grange and all of the staff are committed to ensuring that the children enjoy their final two terms, make lots of progress and have the amazing learning experiences.

Uniform Update

We have noticed that a few of our children have returned from the Christmas break and have items of clothing, jewellery and beauty that are not acceptable in school. Please can you ensure children are following the guidelines below:

Jewellery - children can wear one stud in each ear but this must be removed for PE lessons. Children can also wear a watch; however, this must not be an electronic device.

Hair Styles - Children must have an appropriate hair style. Long hair is allowed but we have the right to ask for this to be tied up. Examples of inappropriate and unsuitable styles include use of tramlines, patterns shaved into the hair and brightly coloured hair.

Nails - must be kept hygienic, a safe length and not have nail polish on or acrylic nail extensions. This is for health and safety reasons. If children are not following this, parents will be informed and they will not be allowed to complete activities that are deemed unsafe such as PE until the nails have been removed.

Make Up - should not be worn by the children.

Nursery is going Out of This World!

We have a busy time coming up this term and we have lots more friends to share our fun. We welcomed our new friends into Nursery last week and it has been great to have had so much fun already. This term, we are going to be thinking about the world we live in - how Earth changes in Winter, what it looks like from Outer Space and how night and day happens. We will be reading amazing stories like The Smeds and the Smoos, Night Monkey Day Monkey and How to Catch a Star. As the mornings get brighter, and the evening gets longer towards the end of the term, we will be talking about the changes in the weather again ... Spring will be on its way! In February, we will be celebrating the very special festival of Chinese New Year (this year is the year of the Dragon!) and we will be welcoming our friend Lip Lee into Nursery again - he even brings his Chinese dragon with him! Our Butterflies room has also welcomed lots of new friends, they are busy finding out about new routines and taking part in lots of interesting activities.



Going on a Journey in Reception

In Reception this term our theme is Explorers. We will be exploring different parts of the world through some exciting new stories. We will journey to the polar regions of the Earth, learning about different places, people and animals along the way. Children will develop their understanding of the world by observing seasonal changes and learning about different cultures through Chinese New Year. In PE, we will be doing Gymnastics and learning how to make different shapes with our bodies.

Exploring Explorers in Years 1 and 2

This half term in Years and 1 and 2, we will be finding out about different explorers. Our History topic focusses on Captain James Cook and we will be finding out about his life and the places he explored. We will also be finding out about some polar explorers linked to our science topic of polar places. We have an investigation to find out how polar animals' blubber helps to keep them warm in the freezing temperatures. We are finding out about belonging and the Christian ceremony of baptism in RE lessons. Our classes will also begin our outdoor learning sessions in the garden



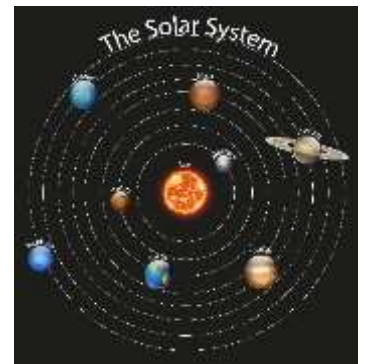
Years 3 and 4

In 3/4 this half term we are learning lots of new exciting things. In Art, we are learning about an artist called Paul Cezanne and how he was a French impressionist painter who focus on still life. By the end of the term, the children will have created their own still life images through photography and drawing. RE is all about what Christians believe about Jesus. We are going to explore how Christians know certain information about Jesus and how there is no official images. Artists impressions is all we have. In PE this half term, we will be developing our football and dance skills. We have already got off to a flying start and we have started putting together a sequence of moves to create a dance with the theme of machines. We are also very lucky to have the support of a dance coach. Please keep a look out on see saw to see how we are getting on. Light is our new topic in science this half term and we have been looking at different light sources. We were fascinated to find out that the moon reflects the light from the sun. Over the next half term, we will develop our investigative skills where we will look at shadows. In history this half term we are learning about the ancient Greeks. We are considering what the Greeks have contributed to modern society through historical sources. We will also be exploring the differences between Athens and Sparta in ancient times.



Busy Busy Busy in Years 5 and 6

In Year 5 Maths, the children will be looking at the formal methods for multiplication and division. In English, the children will be looking at a 'Losing Tale', spotting the features of this and writing their own. In Maths, Year 6 are looking at ratios and being able to use those ratios to draw scaled objects, solve problems and use scale factors. It is a tricky topic but we know they will show great perseverance. In English, Year 6 are currently focusing on a Wishing Tale - we have already answered questions about our model text and are about to find the key features of the text. In Science, the Year 5 children will be exploring Space and the Year 6 children will be looking at Evolution and Inheritance. Our History topic covers Ancient Benin and we have a fantastic workshop organised for the children to take part in! Next week, we will launch our new DT topic - have a think this weekend about we might use different fabrics to store our school items!



Multiply - Maths Homework Support Sessions

Would you like support to help your child with their Maths homework? Following the parent/carer survey, we have arranged for workshops to be ran to support you with using the correct language, supporting with calculation methods used in school and advice on how to help with common errors.

The sessions will run at Ox Close Primary School on the following Tuesday afternoons from 1pm to 3:15pm:

23rd January
30th January
6th February
13th February

The final session will include your child/children joining and completing some exciting Maths activities with you. You can sign up for a place via Arbor or by contacting the Office staff who would be happy to help you book in.



Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers

Reception	Delaney D	Year 4	Martha G
Year 1	Stanley K	Year 5	Jack J
Year 2	Brodie W	Year 6	Scarlett W
Year 3	Riley G		

Attendance

Overall attendance for the week is 95.9% and the Year Group with the highest attendance is Year 1 with 98.4%. The overall school attendance for the academic year is 95.6%.

Punctuality

The Primary starts at 8:45am, with the gates opening from 8:40am. Please ensure that your child is at school on time so that they do not miss out on any learning.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 15 th January	9am - SENDIASS Coffee Morning – Main Hall
Thursday 1 st February	5pm - Year 6 Parent/Carer SATs Meeting
Wednesday 14 th February	2:15pm - Reception - Cuddle up with a Book
Thursday 15 th February 2024	AM and PM - Nursery - Butterflies Stay and Play
Friday 16 th February	3:15pm – Close for February Half Term
Monday 26 th February	8:40am – Children return to Nursery and School
Monday 4 th March	2pm - Reception - Mother's Day Crafts
Monday 18 th , Tuesday 19 th , Wednesday 20 th and Thursday 21 st March	Primary – Parent/Carer Consultations
Tuesday 19 th March	Year 4 Visit to Whitworth Park Academy
Monday 25 th March	2pm - Reception - Egg Decorating
Thursday 28 th March	2pm - Nursery Easter Bonnet Parade
Thursday 28 th March	3:15pm – Close for Easter Break
Monday 15 th April	8:40am – Children return to Nursery and School

Safeguarding Update

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children. Should they feel it is needed, this guide focuses on one area of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalsafesafety.com for further guides, tips and top for advice.

How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS Android Phone

On Android phones, restricting access to particular apps usually requires going onto Google Play. From there, it's fairly easy to navigate your way through the settings to manage the parental controls and authentications relating to any apps on the device. These features can prevent your child from downloading or buying anything unsuitable for their age. Updated versions of apps or games that your child has already installed may occasionally contain something inappropriate, so we've explained how to stop those, too.

How to Block App Downloads (This Also Disables In-app Purchases):

- 1 Open Google Play Store
- 2 Tap the profile icon in the top right
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Scroll down to the Family section and tap Parental controls
- 5 Toggle 'Parental controls are off to 'Parental controls are on'
- 6 Create a PIN and tap OK
- 7 Confirm your PIN and tap OK again
- 8 Tap Apps & Games
- 9 Set the age limit you wish to set
- 10 Tap Save to apply your changes

How to Stop Auto-updates

- 1 Open Google Play Store
- 2 Tap the profile icon in the top right
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Tap Auto-Update Apps
- 5 Select 'Don't auto-update apps' and then tap Done

Restricting Apps Through Google Family Link

- 1 Open Google Play Family Link for parents
- 2 Tap the three horizontal lines in the top left
- 3 Select your child's account
- 4 Tap Manage
- 5 Tap Controls on Google Play
- 6 Tap Apps & Games
- 7 Select the age limit you wish to set

NOS National Online Safety
www.nationalsafesafety.com

www.nationalsafesafety.com @natornsafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 22.09.2022

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children. Should they feel it is needed, this guide focuses on one area of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalsafesafety.com for further guides, tips and top for advice.

How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS iPhone

Apple devices come with built-in apps already available: Mail, FaceTime and Safari. For example, however, you can choose which apps and features appear on your child's device and which ones don't. You can also manipulate the features in Game Centre to enhance your child's safety and privacy when playing games as well as blocking iTunes or App Store purchases if you wish.

How to Restrict Built-in Apps/Features

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Allowed Apps (you may need to toggle this in 'on' at the top)
- 5 Enable or disable the apps you wish to appear (or disappear) on your child's device

How to Restrict Game Centre

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions (you may need to switch the toggle at the top to the 'on' position)
- 5 Scroll down to Game Centre
- 6 Choose between Allow, Don't Allow, or Allow with Friends Only in the settings for each feature

How to Restrict iTunes & App Store Purchases

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap iTunes & App Store Purchases
- 5 Select Allow or Don't Allow for each feature (you can also lock these settings with a password)

NOS National Online Safety
www.nationalsafesafety.com

www.nationalsafesafety.com @natornsafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 22.09.2022

5/6C

The lively energy and excitement of 5/6C in our first full week back following the holiday break has set the tone for an exciting and successful term ahead. Their learning has been driven by enthusiasm and dedication, encompassing both interactive discussions and practical exercises. First up for the week was English. Year 5, who were tasked with creating a set of guidelines for capturing ogres, bears, and other characters from their games. Year 6 were beginning their wishing tales and finding the features needed to create their own in the coming weeks. With engaging group projects and solo tasks, 5/6C demonstrated a remarkable spirit of cooperation and tenacity. Every day was full of opportunities for development and success, whether it was exploring the depths of space, or getting to grips with evolution in science, or learning how to solve fractions or ratios in maths, to expressing creativity via computing. It is evident from the wide range of tasks completed in just one week that 5/6C is prepared for an engaging and fruitful learning journey in the upcoming months.



Year 5 enjoying making a model of the solar system in science.

Honing our programming skills using Scratch. Why not download it at home and have a go at making him move.



In PSHE Year 5 were recalling all their skills they have learnt since starting school.



Year 6 freeze frame of the wishing tale they are studying.