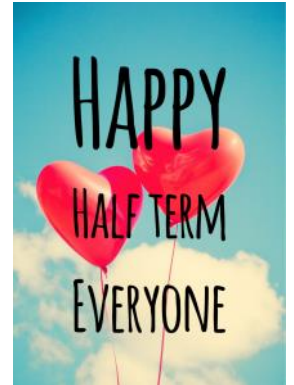




Ox Close Federation Newsletter Friday 16th February 2024 – Volume 19

Amazing Half Term

What a great start to 2024! The children have worked very hard and made great progress across the half term. Well done to each and every one of you. Keep it up next half term! There have been lots of exciting lessons taking place across the Federation and it has been great to see the children enthralled in these. We have also held special events such as Online Safety Week and our Share the Love of Reading event. Thank you to the staff for your continued efforts to create the best possible learning experiences for the children. Thank you to parents/carers for your support too - it is very much appreciated. Included below are some of our events planned for the next half term to give you as much notice as possible. We hope you all have a fabulous half term break and look forward to seeing you on Monday 26th February.



World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

WORLD BOOK DAY 2024

Our celebrations for World Book Day are always a highlight of our school calendar, and this year aims to be no exception!

This year's theme at Ox Close will be 'Fairy Tales', those traditional stories that many of us learn when we are very young and remain with us into adulthood for us to pass on to the next generation. Tales of Red Riding Hood, the Three Little Pigs, Cinderella and the Gingerbread Man form a large part of our early reading experiences both at school and at home.

We invite all children to come to school dressed as a fairy-tale character of their choice. Please do not feel the need to go out and buy anything new for this event, we always love to see the children in their creative costumes from home!

During the day, we will have a range of World Book Day activities taking place and each child will receive a book token to use towards a new book from stores such as Waterstones.

World Book Day will be held on Thursday 7th March and we look forward to celebrating with you all!

WORLD BOOK DAY

Marie Curie Day - Thursday 21st March

As you know, Marie Curie is one of our House namesakes at Ox Close, helping us to develop our understanding of the value of Empathy. We would like to invite you all to take part in Go Yellow Day on Thursday 21st March to raise money for the Marie Curie charity which provides expert hospice care for those in need. We would like the children to come to school in non-school uniform wearing something yellow - this could be simply a yellow stripe on a t-shirt or yellow from head to toe! (If yellow is not your colour, another bright colour would be great too!)



If you would like to donate to the Marie Curie charity for this event, please follow the link below:

<https://donate.mariecurie.org.uk/>

Nursery Easter Bonnet Parade – Thursday 28th March

Details about the Easter Bonnet Parade have been sent out through Arbor today. Please be aware that we have now allocated two time slots for this event, 11am and 2pm. Please remember to book the time slot that you would like to attend so that we can ensure we are able to accommodate all parents. Thank you.

Parking

We have had some concerns raised by local residents about inconsiderate parking, particularly in the Wood Vue area. We fully realise how busy surrounding areas become at drop off and pick up times but we would appreciate it if people could be considerate of the residents when parking.

Uniform Update

We continue to notice that a few of our children have items of clothing, jewellery and beauty that are not acceptable in school. Please can you ensure children are following the guidelines below:

Shoes – these should be black. We have had lots of brightly coloured shoes appear in recent weeks.

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.

Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers

Reception	George T	Year 4	Toby S
Year 1	Sienna R	Year 5	Charlie A
Year 2	Brooklyn B	Year 6	Alba J
Year 3	Harry P		

Attendance

Overall attendance for the week is 93.4% and the Year Group with the highest attendance is Year 5 with 95.5%. The overall school attendance for the academic year is 95%.

Punctuality

The Primary starts at 8:45am, with the gates opening from the new time of **8:35am**. Please ensure that your child is at school on time so that they do not miss out on any learning. This week, we have had 586 late minutes – this is a huge amount of lost learning time and we are really hoping to reduce this with the extended gate opening time.



Safeguarding Update – Apps – Age Ratings

Social Media is one of the most popular aspects of the internet, and with the amount of apps available for download increasing constantly, keeping young people safe online has never been more important. We thought it would be useful to share with you the age ratings for popular apps:



Dates for the Diary

Friday 16 th February	3:15pm – Close for February Half Term
Monday 26 th February	8:40am – Children return to Nursery and School
Tuesday 27 th February	5pm – Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Parent Session
Monday 4 th March	9:05am – 10:05am – 3/4D Reading Workshop
Monday 4 th March	2pm - Reception - Mother's Day Crafts
Tuesday 5 th March	9:05am – 10:05am – 3/4P Reading Workshop
Wednesday 6 th March	9:05am – 10:05am – Y5 and Y6 Reading Workshop
Thursday 7 th March	9:05am – 10:05am – 3/4W Reading Workshop
Thursday 14 th March	9:00am – 10:00am – Y1 and Y2 Reading Workshop
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	11am and 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

Class 5/6T Newsletter

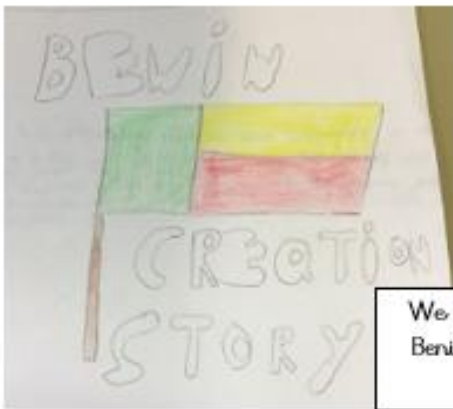
We have had yet another busy week in 5/6T. Here are some of the things we have been up to:



The 5/6T Football Cup was a massive success! Congratulations to Team 1, who were unbeaten. Well done to the players who won special awards for their sportsmanship.



The Year 5s have been experimenting making craters in Science. We loved using the goggles!



We have all produced a beautiful booklet outlining the Benin Creation Story. More examples can be found on SeeSaw.



As part of Internet Safety Week, we have been looking at ways to stay safe online. Here are some examples of our work.



Customer surveys in DT for our pen holders.