

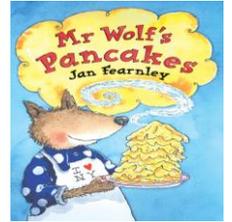


Oak and Willow News

26.2.19

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We can hardly believe that we are already half way through the school year and Easter is only around the corner! This half term will begin with using the story of 'Mr Wolf's Pancake's' to inspire our learning and help us know how to make pancakes on Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) next week. Following this we will be using the story of 'Where's My Teddy?' as our story during World Book Week which is also our school's 'Go Wild Week' when we will be spending lots more time learning outdoors and linking up with some of the older classes too. Details of new themes and our planned learning activities will be sent home as we start each theme.



Staffing News:

Mrs Bradshaw will be continuing to teach Willow class every Friday as Mrs Cottrill is now teaching one of our Year 1 classes Wednesday to Friday each week. She is enjoying her woodland sessions each week very much and is delighted to be able to continue teaching Willow. We are very pleased to be able to have her as part of our team too.



Trip to The Hive - Monday 4th March:

We are really hoping to be able to go on our trip to The Hive next Monday, however we have received very few payments towards this trip. If we do not have enough payments received by Friday 1st March the trip will have to be cancelled which would very much like to avoid.

Reading books:



Well done to all the children who received a special 'Home Learning' certificate from Mrs Higgins at the end of last half term for reading very regularly at home. Please make time for your child to read at home with you for ten minutes every day if you can and to write in the reading record books; remember that 'star' books are as important to share as the scheme books. Please keep practising those tricky words and phonic cards too!

Look and Learn Sessions:

Thank you for all your support of our 'Look and Learn' sessions. They will continue this half term from Thursday 7th March, which will be a special World Book Day reading focus, followed by sessions every other Thursday 8.45 - 9.15 a.m.



Important Dates:



Woodland Work will continue on Friday this week. Please make sure that your child has warm and waterproof clothes to wear each week and wellies in school at all times, we will go outside in all weathers. Your child also needs a pair of wellies that fit to keep at school.

Using Technology at Home questionnaires:



Thank you for all the completed questionnaires you have returned. We are really pleased that the children have told you about some of the Apps and programmes we use regularly, especially Zen Den and Hairy Letters. We working on putting together a list of the useful Apps and programmes that we use in school to share with you and will send it home once complete.

Many of you asked for advice about how to set limits on the amount of time your child spends on technology or how to get them to stop using it when you ask. Setting and sticking to consistent boundaries and expectations at home are all key aspects of parenting that are not without their challenges! If you would like any advice or just to chat about useful strategies to use with your child we have several parenting workshops running this half term, starting on Wednesday morning this week and run by our lovely Family Support Worker, Cheryl McLoughlin, full details are on the posters in Oak and Willow's windows if you are interested.

Spring Term Parents Appointments:



We are looking forward to seeing you at parents' appointments this week. If for any reason you are unable to make your appointment time please let us know, the school office will be open throughout parents' evenings so please ring and leave a message if you need to. It is really important for you to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress at school and ways in which you can best support them at home so we do hope to see all of you this week.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about anything please do just ask one of us; thank you for your continued support.

The Early Years Team