



Oyster Park Primary Academy

Newsletter

Spring 1: February 2024

Issue 3

Safer Internet Day

Across the school this week the children have been celebrating Safer Internet Day which took place on the 6th February. This year's theme is inspiring change!

Safer Internet Day 2024

Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online. Safer Internet Day is held every February all around the world. Last year over 17 different countries celebrated

the day! Safer Internet Day is a chance to think about any worries we might have about using technology and the internet, but it's also about celebrating all the fantastic things technology can help us with.

New Years Resolutions

Our first Social Skills theme of the year focused on our school rules and values of ambition, bravery and respect.

We thought about what our classroom rules and expectations are and how following these helps everyone to learn and succeed. Pupils then discussed how at the start of a new year; it is traditional to decide upon a new year's resolution. This is something that you would like to do or achieve throughout the year. We each decided what our new years resolution would be and thought about how we could achieve our goal.



Children's Mental Health Week

In support of Children's Mental Health Week, we once again took part in 'Dress to Express!' Children and staff were invited to dress

up in non-school uniform, in an outfit of their choice that expresses them and how they feel. Children's Mental Health Week is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on



the importance of children and young people's mental health. Dress to Express is an opportunity for self-expression and celebrating a diverse range of emotions. The day also provides a great opportunity to be open about mental health and start conversations within your community.

Key Dates

School Opens for the Spring Term 2

Monday 19th February 2024

Nursery Ian's Farm Workshop

Monday 19th February 2024

Year 1 Elvington Air Museum

Thursday 29th February 2024

Bringing Books to Life Workshop

Monday 4th February 2024

Tuesday 5th February 2024

World Book Day

Thursday 7th February 2024

RE on Demand Judaism Workshop

Thursday 7th February 2024

Friday 8th March 2024

UFS Dinosaur Dig Enrichment Day

Monday 11th March 2024

Parent Drop-In Session WISENDSS

Monday 14th March 2024 9:15am

School Closes for Easter Holidays

Friday 22nd March 2024

More Than Club

The More Than Club is continuing this Spring and any pupil with attendance of 97% or above will be celebrated at the

end of the Spring Term with a Pizza Party and a More Than Club Certificate. The purpose of the More Than Club is to ensure

the importance of good attendance is promoted to the whole school community. The focus of the initiative is to promote the benefits of attending school regularly rather than the consequences of non-attendance. Our ethos is 'We are more than just a school.'



Reading & Enrichment

This half term, there has been a range of exciting enrichment opportunities to bring learning to life and to make lasting childhood memories for our pupils.

Author Visit

Paul Cookson Poet & Performer

This half term our school was visited by author Paul Cookson. Paul began the day with an assembly in which he put on a performance for the whole school. The assembly was filled with lots of audience participation, laughter and fun as well as introducing a wide variety of poetic styles, moods and subjects.

The assembly was followed by class-based performance poetry sessions from Reception to Year 6. Within these sessions, pupils had the opportunity to ask questions as well as undertake a poetry-based exercise. These exercises included a written poem, a group poem or a performance poem. Our pupils also had the opportunity to purchase some of Paul's Poetry books to take home and enjoy.



Reading at home

At Oyster Park we are driven to inspire a pleasure for reading within all our children. One of the great ways to achieve this is to read with family members at home. Reading can be done anywhere; whether it be listening whilst travelling in the car, during meal-times, whilst relaxing on the sofa or even at before bed-time.



All reading done at home can be recorded in the pupils reading records to allow teachers to see how much the children have been reading outside of school. As a school we recommend every child reads at home at least 4 times a week.

Book Trunk

Each week a pupil from each class in Year 1 to Year 4 is specially selected to take home the class Book Trunk for the weekend! The book trunk is an exciting bag of goodies to create the perfect reading experience at home. The Book Trunk included a lovely story selected by the class, some hot chocolate to enjoy whilst reading, our cuddly book trunk mascot to read to and a reading journal for parents and pupils to write in about their weekend book trunk adventure.



Parent & Children's Book Swap

In the school office you will find the Oyster Park Primary Academy Children and Parent Book Swap initiatives. We have had some kind donations from staff and the school community and would like to invite you to swap any of your preloved books with one within our Book Swap Boxes. These can be found in the main school office. We look forward to seeing which titles and authors are swapped amongst our school reading community.



Workshops & Enrichment



This half term, there has been a range of exciting enrichment opportunities provided by excellent educational specialists to bring learning to life and to make lasting childhood memories for our pupils.

Sublime Science Whole School Workshops

This week we had a real-life scientist visit school to demonstrate to us lots of exciting investigations and activities in Science. We learnt how to stay safe when doing investigations and learnt all about potential hazards when using scientific equipment. The children watched in amazement as they saw how flammable



aerosols can be, learnt about how acids can corrode materials and watched how different gases are lighter than others. The scientist also

created snow and demonstrated air resistance using different balls being blown around in the air. It was a fantastic experience for the children who were blown away by these real-life science demonstrations.



Weekly Singing Assembly

This academic year we have introduced our weekly singing assembly hosted by the lovely music teacher Mr Pitchforth. Every Thursday morning after registration, our pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 come together in the hall to sing a range of upbeat songs that are often linked to the themes the pupils discuss in social skills such as anti-bullying and tolerance. These assemblies fill the hall with laughter, singing and joy and all the pupils and staff sing their hearts out and groove along to the rhythm.



Curriculum Showcase

This half term, our pupils have been undertaking some exciting topics as part of the spring curriculum. Take a look at some of the amazing work our pupils have been producing.



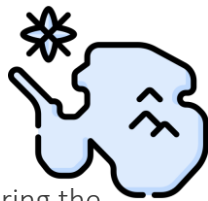
Nursery

Chinese New Year

The children have celebrated Chinese New Year this week. They learnt about how families get ready to celebrate including why they clean the house, get new clothes and decorate their house. They tried

Chinese food including spring rolls and prawn crackers. We learnt the story about Chinese New Year and made our own dancing dragons before dancing to music.

Upper Foundation Topic - Antarctica

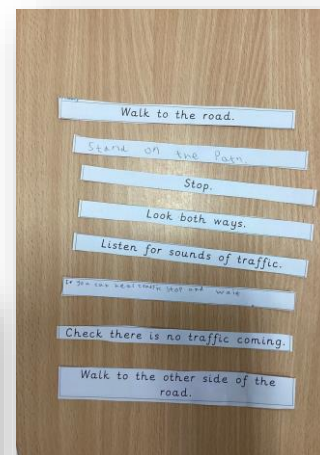
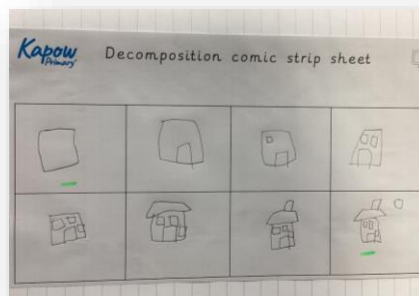
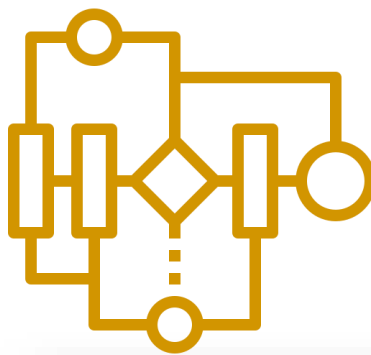


The children have enjoyed exploring the features of Antarctica during their curriculum lessons. They used maps and the globe to locate where Antarctica is in relation to where we live. The children then used photographs to identify some features of the landscape including snow, ice, mountains and icebergs and discussed what they thought the weather might be like. After looking at the landscape, the children then identified some of the animals that live in Antarctica. Within provision the children used the resources to create their own Antarctic landscapes, sorted animals into those that live in Antarctica and those that do not and drew pictures of animals that live in Antarctica.



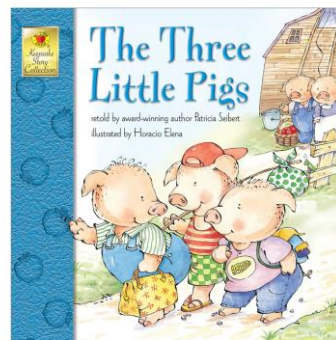
Year 1 Computing Algorithms Unplugged

In Computing, the children have learnt what an algorithm is. They then created their own algorithms for their peers to follow. They also discovered that sometimes order does not always matter, and sometimes algorithms can go wrong. We looked at ways we can debug an algorithm that isn't working. Lastly, we used 2D shapes to decompose a design into steps.



Year 2 Science Experiment- Three Little Pigs

In Year 2, the children wanted to investigate which is the most suitable material to make a home for The 3 Little Pigs.

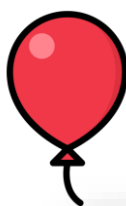


They tested plastic, wood, fabric and paper to find out which material was strong, sturdy and.

The children discovered that plastic was the most suitable material to build a house because it was strong, sturdy and waterproof.

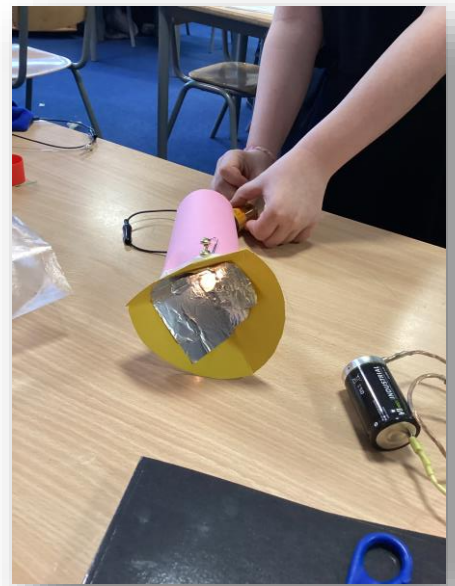
Year 3 DT Designing Pneumatic Toy Creatures

The children in Year 3 have been fabulous designers as they have made their own toys with a pneumatic system. They can speak like experts as they know that a pneumatic system is a system that works on compressed air. The children designed their toys using a design criteria and used thumb nail sketches and exploded diagrams to help design their toys. They enjoyed decorating their toys with lots of different media to make them look bright and attractive. They found the pneumatic system tricky and fiddly to create but tried really hard to make it work and didn't give up! We are designers!



Year 4 DT Engineering a functioning Torch

In year 4 design and technology, the children were tasked with designing and making a functioning torch. They had to use circuit components and investigate and how to make a simple working circuit. They also had to make their own switches that could be used to power the circuit on and off.



Year 5 Science - Earth and Space

Year 5 have been learning about Earth and Space as part of their Science unit. This week, we used Oreo biscuits to help us learn the different moon phases by carving the frosting to create the different shapes that the moon appears to look from Earth over the 28-day cycle.

Year 6 Design & Technology A Steady Game



The children have enjoyed designing and making a steady hand game in DT, using their Science knowledge to create a working circuit. When they finished making the game, they tested them out.



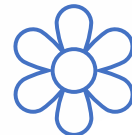
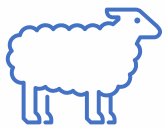
Science

The children have enjoyed working scientifically to investigate if yeast is a living organism while they were studying microorganisms. They completed an experiment to demonstrate that the yeast consumes sugar and gives off carbon dioxide.





Spring Enrichment Dates



Events	Dates
Spring Term 2	
Nursery Ian's Farm Workshop	Monday 19 th February 2024
International Mother Language Day	Wednesday 21 st February 2024
Year 1 Elvington Air Museum	Thursday 29 th February 2024
Bringing Books to Life Workshop	Monday 4 th & Tuesday 5 th March 2024
World Book Day	Thursday 7 th March 2024
RE on Demand Judaism Workshop	Thursday 7 th & Friday 8 th March 2024
Upper Foundation Dinosaur Dig Enrichment Day	Monday 11 th March 2024

Celebrating Pupil Achievement

Ambition • Bravery • Respect

Class	Attendance National average is 96%	Star of the Week	Writer of the Week	Hall of Fame
Morning Nursery Miss Swan & Mrs Marringotn	84%	Travis	Leon	Leon
Afternoon Nursery Miss Swan & Mrs Marrington	82%	AJ	Billy	Elliot
RT Miss Tonks	74%	Larry	Mollie	Hallie
1R Miss Ramzan	95%	All 1R	All 1R	All 1R
1C Mrs Coomber	88%	All 1C	All 1C	All 1C
2M Miss Middleton	99%	All 2M	All 2M	All 2M
2A Miss Ambler	85%	All 2A	All 2A	All 2A
3J Mr Jones	91%	All 3J	All 3J	All 3J
3P Mrs Palmer	84%	Sienna-Leigh	Elizabeth	Jake
4E Mr Eccles	85%	Jasmine	Jacob	Kian & Kadie
4G Miss Golding	96%	All 4G	All 4G	All 4G
5S Mrs Smithson	90%	Pippa	Thea	Joshua
5F Mr Foresyth	87%	Lilly	Arabella	Evie
6AF Mr Adams	87%	Shakira	Deacon	Jake
6K Miss King	93%	Isabella & Georgiana	Jakub & Isabelle	Phoebe

Ambition • Bravery • Respect

