

Monday 7th September 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to school and to a new academic year! All of the children have settled into the class well and are picking up the new routines brilliantly.

We have a busy term ahead, and I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the areas of the curriculum we will be covering, as well as some weekly events for you to be aware of.

Please find attached a copy of this term's learning overview, so that you are aware of the topics and areas of learning we will be covering in class this term. We hope this will give you a helpful insight into what your child will be learning and provide opportunities for you to talk about their learning at home.

In Owls Class, Monday to Thursday mornings are split between Maths, taught by Mrs Jones, and English, taught by Mrs Taylor. On Fridays, we remain together for Science and creative activities.

Homework

Homework in English and Mathematics will be set on a Wednesday and should be completed and handed in by the following Monday. We encourage parental involvement with homework, especially if your child is experiencing difficulties. However, if they need further support, please encourage them to come and see me, or Mrs Taylor for English. Alternatively, you can write a message for us via the parent feedback section on their homework sheet.

It is very important that your child completes their homework and hands it in on time, as this helps them to develop good routines for future life. It supports them in managing responsibility and organising their time, as well as providing valuable academic benefits.

Spellings

Weekly spellings, and the associated spelling rule, will be sent on Monday via Spelling Frame. Your child's Log in details can be found at the front of their reading record book. Spelling Frame using a range of interactive strategies to help your child learn their weekly spellings and their rules. On Thursday of the same week, there will be a spelling test based on their learned words. Those who make more than one mistake will have further support to help them and will be retested by the following Monday. It is very important that your child develops confidence in spelling a range of familiar and unfamiliar words as well as understanding the rules that need to be applied to spell such words. Therefore, your support in helping your child is very much appreciated.

Reading

Children should read at home (independently and to an adult) on a regular basis (daily, if possible, but at least 3 times a week). These should be recorded in your child's reading book. Their reading record book and reading book need to be in school every day so that adults in school can hear your child and record their comments. It is also important to discuss what your child has read to help develop their reading comprehension skills. Each month, the children will be expected to read at least one chapter book and to complete a short book review about one of the books read. The book review will be set as a piece of homework and instructions on how the review should be completed will be given at this time.

Maths

For Maths, there is a need for quick recall of all times-table facts up to 12×12 , alongside an expectation that children have a bank of key facts that they can recall instantly.

Each half term, we will have a different focus on a set of Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs), and a copy will be sent home. Please spend some time each week helping your child to learn these facts, as well as practising their times tables. These skills will be invaluable in supporting their progress and their ability to apply their maths skills.

Forest School

Your child will have Forest School on a Monday afternoon every third week. Please refer to the school app or newsletter to find out which dates your child will be involved in Forest School, so that you know what clothing they need to wear or bring with them.

P.E.

On Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, your child will have P.E. For these lessons, your child will need to come into school wearing their P.E. kit: a pair of navy, black or grey tracksuit/jogging trousers, shorts or a skort; a white T-shirt or polo shirt; and daps/trainers. Having the correct P.E. kit is important to ensure that your child can fully engage in planned physical activities. Please ensure that your child has the correct kit for lessons and that all items, including their school uniform, are clearly labelled. No jewellery is to be worn for P.E., and earrings must be removed or covered.

I am really looking forward to working together to ensure that your child is happy, enjoys their time in Owls Class and achieves their full potential. Should you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to me at the gate before or after school, or email me.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Jones

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OWL CLASS - what we'll be exploring at school

AUTUMN TERM LEARNING

ENGLISH
As readers, we will develop our ability to:

- read with fluency and accuracy
- develop and extend our knowledge of vocabulary
- read, listen, comprehend and discuss a range of texts, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

Books will include *Secrets of a Sun King* by Emma Carroll, *The Firework-Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman and various non-fiction books associated with ancient Egypt and rivers and mountains.

As writers, we will develop our ability to:

- apply knowledge learned, cross-curricular links and experiences felt to write a poem, description and settings, a story, a set of instructions and a recount.

As English terminologists, we will develop our ability to learn to recognise and use taught terminology through discussion and practice

As communicators, through various activities, including drama and discussions and debates, we will develop our ability to:

- listen carefully and understand
- speak with clarity and confidence

As individuals and part of society we will discuss how to manage friendships and peer influences. We will also discuss how to respond respectfully to a wide range of people: recognising prejudice and

As linguists we will develop our knowledge of French by extending our knowledge of our core vocabulary and phonetics, writing and speaking about ourselves.

As computer technicians we will develop our understand of how computers can be connected to form systems; recognise the role of computer systems in our lives; recognise how information is transferred over the internet; explain how sharing information online lets people in different places work together and contribute to a shared online project.

Theme: Europe

As geographers this term we will be developing our ability to:

- Identify the major cities of Europe
- Compare two European capital cities
- Find out about the human and physical features of a European country.

Theme: Ancient Egypt

As historians this term we will be developing our ability to:

- Locate ancient Egypt in time and place.
- Learn about the Egyptian landscape and find out how it impacted on people's lives in Ancient Egypt.
- Find out about Tutankhamen and how important artefacts are in teaching us about the past.
- Find out about the way of life in Ancient Egypt and the significance of Egyptian tombs, pyramids and burial sites

Theme: Animals including humans

As scientists in the first half term we will be developing our ability to:

- Identify different types of teeth and their function.
- Investigate tooth decay
- Develop understanding of food chains
- Develop our understanding of the human life cycle
- Develop our understanding of the changes that occur during puberty.

Theme: Electricity

As scientists in the second half term we will be developing our ability to:

- Identify circuits and their different components
- Explain the difference between amins and battery powered circuits.
- Recognise some common conductors and insulators and their uses and apply their knowledge to create switches within circuits.

This term our famous scientist is Michael Faraday.

As athletes we will be developing our skills in a range of striking and fielding games. We will also be improving our stroke technique in swimming during our two-week intensive swimming course.

As mathematicians this term we will be developing our ability to:

- Use and apply numbers with a secure knowledge of place value.
- Use formal written calculations for addition and subtraction.
- Solve problems involving addition and subtractions and develop our ability to explain mathematical concepts and justify ideas.
- Recall times table facts and apply them to solve problems.
- Tell the time to the nearest minute on twelve- and twenty-four-hour clocks and record appropriately.

Every day we will be practising and developing our mental maths skills which includes times tables, linking multiplication and division facts with quick recall.

As artists we will be exploring how animals have been a source of inspiration for artist for thousands of years. We will look at a range of animal inspired artwork and make links to Egyptian art. We will look at a range of animal art created by Megan Coyle and use her work to inspire our own animal collage work. We will also study Ros Bonheur's work to help us develop our skills in realistic animal drawing.

As design technologists we will be looking at Cooking and Nutrition: We will focus on creating our own vegetable soup, taking inspiration from existing products and thinking about nutrition. We will also be learning safe ways to use kitchen equipment.

As theologists we will be trying to answer the following questions:
How and why do people try to make the world a better place? What is the Trinity and why is it important for Christians?

As musicians we will be taught music by a specialist teacher. We will learn to play a variety of instruments and extend our knowledge of musical skills including rhythm, pulse, tempo, pitch and dynamics through singing, listening and playing music.