

Oxley Primary School

**Celebrating Learning**

**Spring Term 2 2022**



Be Kind.  
Be Brilliant.  
Have an **I can** attitude.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome to our Spring newsletter. This term has been a busy one and there has been lots of fantastic learning and new experiences for 2022 - especially as we have reintroduced lots of things that we have not been able to do in what feels like a very long time! The children have continued to embrace the Oxley 'I can attitude' and have shown enthusiasm and energy for their learning every day. The staff and I are incredibly proud of each and every one of our pupils.

You will have seen from my COVID update letter, on 4th April, that guidance has changed once again. For children who test positive for COVID-19, the advice will be to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least **3 days** – after this point children can return to school if they feel well and no longer have a temperature. Staff and adults with a positive COVID-19 test result will continue to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days. I would like to thank you for your continued support in relation to COVID.

### EASTER READING CHALLENGE

Today, all children will be bringing home an Easter Reading Challenge. Mrs Palmer has put together a series of 10 reading challenges for children to complete and it would be great to see as many children as possible completing all 10 challenges! Please return completed challenges entry sheets to school by Wednesday 27th April - all children that complete all 10 challenges will receive a token prize. Reading is such an important skill and we hope this challenge will help encourage children to continue reading over the Easter break.

I wish you all a very happy holidays; we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 25th April.



The School Council have been busy this term, organising how to bring back houses. After discussing with their classes, they came together and voted on naming our houses based on.... The Four Elements! They then soon launched a whole-school competition for a chance to design the house symbols and after much debate, finally agreed on the winners! Winners were announced during assembly this week and they will now begin to work with our resident Year 6 artist, Elizabeth, so they are all unified in appearance. After Easter, your child will know their allocated house so the competitions may begin!

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

On Wednesday, we celebrated the following children who have been recognised for their special achievements, consistently showing our Oxley core values. We are so unbelievably proud of you all.

○Jessica, Alfie ○Hugo, Lydia ○Dexter, Emily  
○Sofia, Finley ○Courtney, Korbin ○Emily, Oscar  
○Kitty, Oliver ○William, Ila ○Jessie, Cameron  
○Jasmine and Max.



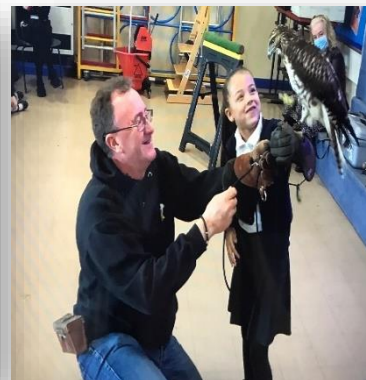
## Weduc

A huge thank you to all who have downloaded the Weduc App – currently, 94% of our parents and carers have downloaded! We understand there have been a few issues – which we fully anticipated – however, please be assured we are in constant contact with Weduc to ensure they bring us the very best service. Club bookings (including afterschool and breakfast club), ordering meals and all messages, letters and notifications will now be made using Weduc. Class Dojo and School Money will be deactivated over Easter.

**If you have not downloaded the App, please do so immediately. Enrolment codes have been sent via text messages and emails. Please contact the school office or Mrs Woolcock if there are any problems.**

## Science week: Growth

This half term, Mrs Reeve organised our 'Growth' science week where all of our children were treated to a falconry experience and Sheffield Hallam University involved us with live 'chat to a scientist' sessions; Gorillas were treated to an Augmented Reality workshop from Nottingham Trent University where they got to see the inside of the human body with a particular focus on looking at the heart; and Year 6 were fortunate to receive a visit from Dr Juliet Ojiako (STEM Engagement Specialist, Loughborough University) to do a coding workshop. We also launched our mystery seed competition where every child was given a mysterious package to take home, plant and watch grow.







## Help for Ukraine

A huge thank you to our wonderful #Oxley community who have shown incredible kindness and generosity after a Year 5 boy expressed concern towards what is happening in Ukraine. The school council soon sprang into action and decided upon holding a wear Yellow and Blue day as well as creating a Just Giving page online.

**Together, we have raised an unbelievable £1,158!!**



**weduc**  
**How to download & register your app**  
♥ Step 1. Download the Weduc app  
  
  
♥ Step 2. Enrol using the enrolment code sent to you via email/letter  
♥ Step 3. Confirm your email address & phone number on the app  
♥ Step 4. Enter the pin sent to you via email/text  
♥ Step 5. Create a password  
♥ Step 6. Start using your app, now!  
If you require any additional support, please contact Weduc Parent Support on 01509 221 349 or support@weduc.co.uk



## Red Nose Day

In March, we also saw our children take part in the annual Red Nose Day. We dressed up in red and discussed how the money everyone raises goes to help vulnerable children and families in the UK, provide a supportive coffee morning for families in the UK to share advice on caring for their child's mental health and how money raised also provides reading books for children in community learning centres in Northern Uganda. **We raised a brilliant amount of £111** which we cannot thank our #Oxley community enough for – particularly with it being so close to our Ukraine fund raising event.



## World Book Day – Did you see us in the Coalville Times?

March was an extremely busy month but one of our particular highlights has been World Book Day which saw our children come dressed as a word. With the fantastic organisational skills of Mrs Palmer, the whole school came together to take part in a morning parade, a very special 'Masked Reader' competition, an opportunity to create a class dictionary based on our fancy-dress outfits and exciting drop and read sessions which Mr Caldwell particularly enjoyed as he got to be the school's bell ringer! If this wasn't enough, the children continued to work on their writing skills by drafting, editing and publishing their own stories. An afternoon celebration assembly saw winners from across the school receiving certificates and getting to choose books to take home and keep! Phew, what a day!



## RE Day

This week, we held our first RE day with the theme of *Celebrations*. There were workshops on Christianity, Hinduism and even an Indian dance session! The children had lots of opportunities to ask questions, look at real artefacts, have discussions and learn about some of the celebrations which are special to key faiths. A big thank you to Miss Shelton, Mrs May and Mrs Adcock for organising such a great day!



Don't forget you can keep up-to-date with all our #Oxley news by following @Oxley\_Primary



## Reading raffle winners

Today, we drew our Spring 2 raffle winners who have all shown our Oxley 'I can' attitude with reading as much as they can! As we continue to push reading across all aspects of the curriculum, it is wonderful to see so many more children reading for pleasure and recommending books to one another. Congratulations to all of our winners this term!

#Oxleylovesreading

## Family Learning Session for Bears and Koloas

It was so lovely to be able to invite parents in for our family learning session this half term. Miss Shelton and Miss Wright led a short phonics lesson and an echo reading activity. The parents, children and staff had fun accessing all of the activities in the room. Some of the tasks included painting polar animals, fishing for sounds to make words, and making letters in sand and water. Great fun had by all.



## Tesco Grant

You may remember a little while ago, we applied for funding through the Tesco Community Grant to help turn an unused area of our playground into a wonderfully creative and fun-filled nature area for us all to enjoy. We can finally reveal we have been awarded £500! Mike Harrison visited our school in early March and awarded us the biggest-sized cheque we've ever seen! Watch this space for more exciting updates...



## Rock Steady Visit

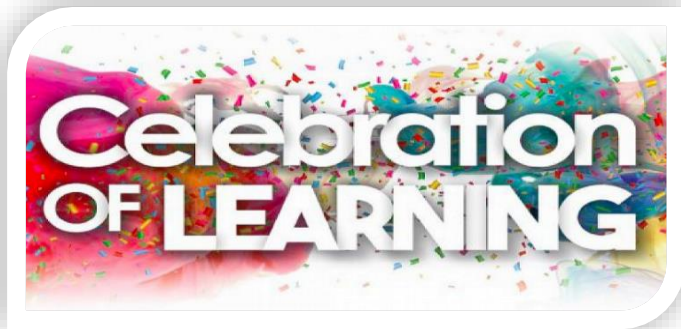
A special thank you to Miss Curzon for organising two fantastic music assemblies by inviting Rock Steady back into Oxley. The children had fun creating their own band and singing as loudly as possible!

Kindest Regards,

Mr Caldwell  
Headteacher







As part of our half termly newsletter, we celebrate the learning that has been taking place across the school. All classes are working especially hard; we are extremely proud of them.

### Bears

This term, we have studied two books - as part of our work on *The Tiny Seed*, we have been planting seeds and writing instructions and have been writing sentences about *The Smartest Giant* which has been great fun! In our phonic sessions, we continue to learn sounds. We have learnt the 'oa' digraph by writing words and sticking them on a coat! In our number lessons, we have been doubling and sharing amounts as well as having great fun finding different representations for numbers to 10. Our work on Polar places has included sorting clothes to wear in a cold place and looking at animals that live in the Arctic and Antarctic. The Bears loved World Book Day and were all able to talk about their word. Bears were also keen to raise money to help the people in Ukraine. Bears you are really blossoming!



### Koalas

Wow! What an amazing half term we have had in the Koalas! The children have loved learning about polar regions. Our favourite part of the learning was about the different animals that live in these regions. In English we have been studying the story "The Smartest Giant in Town". We came into the classroom to find giant footprints. The children have loved acting out the story and hot seating the giant! In maths we have continued to develop our number work. Finally, one of our highlights this half term was World Book Day. The Koalas love reading!





### Hedgehogs

Over the last few weeks in the Happy Hedgehogs class, we have been learning about instructions and how they help us to do or make things. We have looked at lots of different types of instructions including 'How to Plant Sunflower Seeds,' 'How to Make Your (Pirate) Shipmate Walk the Plank,' and followed the instructions on a recipe teaching us 'How to Bake Star Biscuits'. This week, we have started to write our own sets of instructions, including the key features of time adverbials and imperative 'bossy' verbs. Who knew that lovely little hedgehogs could be so bossy? ☺



### Owls

This term, the Owls have been working incredibly hard. In our Maths work, we have been looking at fractions and the children have really impressed Miss Evans and Miss Slawson with their use of key vocabulary and reasoning skills. A particular favourite lesson of ours was exploring equal parts with chocolate! In English, our novel study has been Hansel and Gretel and we enjoyed acting out scenes in the story to explore vocabulary and character. We were excited to reach the end of the book but then found some mysterious clues around the playground that suggested all was not as resolved as it had first seemed! We then moved onto looking at non-fiction texts and focused on recognising, sequencing and writing instructions. We also made our own gingerbread biscuits. Yummy!



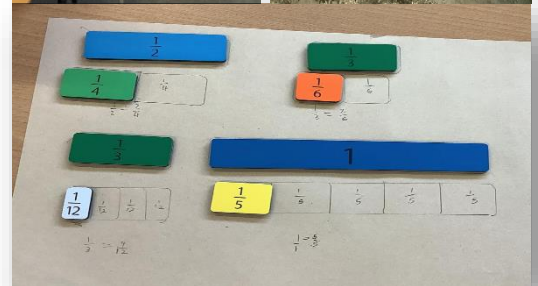
### Meerkats

Earlier this term, in the Meerkats, we were learning about plants in our science lessons. To help us learn the parts of the inside of a flower, we acted out how insects would move the pollen from flower to flower using ourselves as the parts and the insects, and small balls as the pollen. We also dissected flowers to look at them in detail. As part of our work on writing non-chronological reports, Mrs Grainger very kindly brought in her pet tortoises to meet us! We were able to hold them, ask her lots of questions about how she looks after them and see one having a bath! Finally, during topic work, we have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians. We have looked at artefacts, learnt about mummification and have created maps of the landmarks in Egypt. What a busy term! Well done Meerkats!!



## Elephants

In the Elephants class this half term we started *The BFG*, and the children enjoyed following the clues to a secret location. Once at the secret location, we discovered an old, leather suitcase and inside, we found a lot of mysterious objects: a nightdress, a pair of glasses, some glass jars, a net and a trumpet - how strange! In Maths, we started looking at area before moving on to fractions. We have been understanding what a fraction is, counting in fractions, adding and subtracting fractions as well as finding equivalent fractions. During our science topics, we have thoroughly enjoyed learning about space and the children have shown their inquisitive natures to research some questions on the internet. In history, we have continued to learn about the Romans and the invasion on England - specifically looking into historical figures, historical structures and Roman Gods.



## Gorillas

This half term in the Gorillas, we have continued learning about the Victorians in both English and history. In history, we experienced what it would be like inside a Victorian classroom. We completed lessons such as drill, handwriting and drawing. We discussed the different forms of punishment children would face if they had dirty fingernails or dared to speak out of turn. On World Book Day, we dressed up, created our own class dictionary of new words and wrote (and published) our own stories! During British Science Week, we were fortunate enough to be joined by a student from NTU who brought in an AR headset and we were able to look at a beating human heart in front of us.





## Tigers

This half term we have been continuing to learn about the Victorians in both history and English and the children have really enjoyed the opportunities to use their growing knowledge within their writing. In maths, we have been concentrating on fractions and the complexity of being able to subtract, add, multiply and find amounts fluently. In the afternoons, we have been doing lots of science experiments and had been concentrating on materials and their properties before moving on to states of matter. If this wasn't enough, we have been strengthening our knowledge of colours during French lessons and learning how to make our introductions by asking someone's name and how they are. Finally, in RE, we have been using our art skills to create a stain glass window – what a busy term!



## Lions and Wolves

This term, Lions and Wolves have been incredibly engaged with their cross-curricular English and history topic. The children have learnt all about: how Adolf Hitler came to power; how he ignited widespread admiration for his beliefs and ideology which led to further persecution of Jewish people; and how all of these events intertwined caused the extreme devastation of WW2. As part of the topic, we were extremely lucky to receive online guidance from The Holocaust Memorial Centre, Nottingham, where we learnt about life as a Jewish child in 1938. We also found ourselves with the unique opportunity to listen to Trude Silman: a holocaust survivor – who, thanks to her parents, was able to flee what is now known as the Czech Republic to come to Britain for safety. In other areas, we have finished our electricity topic and moved on to learning about the circulatory system in science and are currently revising our mathematical knowledge in preparation for our Year 6 SATs that will commence W/C 9<sup>th</sup> May. During this week, we will hold a breakfast club again – more details to follow after Easter.

