

Oxley Primary School

Celebrating Learning Summer 1 2024



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

Friday 24th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The summer term is in full swing (although the weather may not paint that picture) and what a half term it has been!



Firstly, I would like to say how proud we are of our Year 6 pupils who sat their KS2 SATs assessments last week. They showed great determination, resilience and the Oxley "**I can**" attitude that we value so much here. As always, we encourage children to do their best and, by doing that, they can be proud in the knowledge they have done just that. Well done Year 6!

On Monday evening, we were thrilled to host families of children starting with us in August 2024. We can't wait to welcome our new pupils and see them embark on the school journey. A big thanks to four of our Y6 pupils who came back to serve refreshments. A special thanks to Emma Maine who attended and distributed lots of preloved uniforms - it is fantastic to see our Oxley community embracing a more sustainable approach to school uniform.



I would also like to remind everyone about our newly launched Instagram page. Thank you to those that are already following and engaging without posts - we really do feel that we are reaching more of our parents and carers on this platform. If you don't follow us already, please do and check out all the amazing things that are happening in school day to day.

You will also see from this newsletter, that this half-term has been full of exciting learning opportunities. We are very much looking forward to the next and final half-term of this academic year – hard to believe!

I would like to wish you an enjoyable half-term – hopefully, the sun shines! A reminder that school will re-open on Monday 3rd June. Thank you for your continued support.



Warmest Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "D Caldwell".

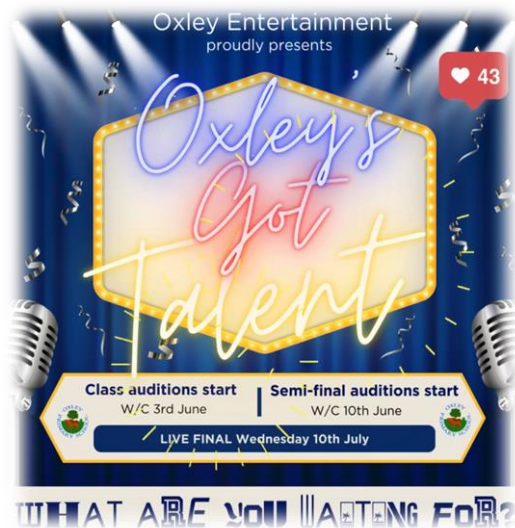
Mr Caldwell
Headteacher

To keep up-to-date with all of your children's fantastic learning, please follow us on Instagram.



Oxley's Got Talent is back!

Does your child have a hidden talent they would like to share? Here we go! The official countdown to the first stage of our auditions has begun! This ever-popular event is now a firm favourite for celebrating the incredible talent we have at our school. Class auditions will commence immediately after half-term and semi-finalists will be announced during the first Friday celebration assembly. Then, following two weeks of second-round auditions, this year's 10 finalists will be announced on **Friday 21st June**. As with previous years, parents and carers of the finalists will be invited to our Live Final on **Wednesday 10th July**.



Sporting achievements

A special thank you goes to our #Quadkids participants from Years 3&4 and 5&6 who demonstrated all of our Oxley Values during the last week of term. They showcased their competitive talents and spirit with Miss Milner roaring her support from the sidelines. With the increasing cost of coaches, schools are relying more than ever on parents supporting these events by transporting their children to and from events so we would like to say a big thank you for your continuous support in events like this.



Charity fund-raising events

You may remember that at the end of the last half-term, #teamfire and #teamwater collaborated on a non-uniform day to raise just over £100 for their respective charities. At the start of this half term, all house captains joined forces to sell sweets to support #teamair in raising nearly £200 for Dog's Trust! We are so proud of our children and how they are always willing to help each other! Finally, it will be #teamearth so watch this space as more details will be sent very soon.



YEAR 6

ENTERPRISE PROJECT

Today saw our Year 6 children showcase their entrepreneurial skills in the world of business. Behind the scenes, the children had been busily turning their ideas into a multitude of stalls selling everything from pre-loved items to bracelets, milkshakes and treats. Some children also decided to create games including guessing the teddy's name, nerf battles and the always-popular 'Pie in the face'. Below are a handful of pictures of the fantastic morning they got to share with their families and the rest of the school. Year 6 would like to thank each child and parent who visited so that Year 6 could raise money for their end-of-year celebrations. Final amounts (after refunding floats and receipts) would have hopefully been announced before the end of today! Well done Lions and Foxes!





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.



Penguins

It has been another busy half-term for the Penguins! Our topic has been 'What is a pirate?'. We have enjoyed learning all about the fearsome pirate Blackbeard – we learnt about why he was so scary and we looked in atlases to find where he was born and where he sailed to. We enjoyed our novel study book 'We're Going on a Treasure Hunt' and we did some amazing writing about the rabbit's journey in the story. We have been learning all about numbers up to 20 in Maths and thinking carefully about the value of each digit. In art, we used different types of paper to create sea-themed art and put them all together to create an ocean. Well done to the Penguins!



Koalas

Wow! What a fantastic half-term we have had. We have enjoyed learning all about pirates! In art, we explored watercolours and created a range of wonderful sea portraits using learnt techniques. In science, we have been busy exploring the spring season and also observing plants and trees around our school grounds. In Geography, we have enjoyed learning about the United Kingdom and its surrounding oceans. We particularly enjoyed our map work about London!



Hedgehogs

Over this last half-term we visited Twycross Zoo as part of our new Geography unit, 'Why do penguins not need to fly?' Here we met zoo ranger Meg, who told us all about penguins before we met them ourselves!

We have also been busy finding out about habitats in Science, writing our own Esio Trot stories and learning how to play the handbells in music! Incredible work Hedgehogs!



Owls

What a half-term the Owls have had! To start our summer term, we enjoyed our trip to Twycross Zoo. Despite the day being slightly wet, nothing could dampen our spirits and the Owls were smiling all day. Following this, we performed our class



assembly for families and the whole school. Everyone was impressed with our learning across the curriculum including: setting descriptions, debates in history, showcasing wonderful impressionist artwork and a fantastic musical number using the handbells. In English, we have thoroughly enjoyed our work on Esio Trot where we had great fun designing our own balconies making sure we included a “riot of colour” just like Mr Hoppy. We also wrote as different characters and applied our reading skills to help us predict.

Leopards

What a fantastic first half to the summer term the Leopards have had! In English, the children are really enjoying reading the story ‘How to Train Your Dragon,’ where they have been learning how to write using subordinate clauses, formal and informal language and even written and performed their own news flashes! The children are really enjoying the unit, ‘Why are jungles so wet and deserts so dry?’ and, following on from their school visit to the Botanical Gardens in Leicester, have combined their Geography work with Science and Computing to create their own animal classification keys using the Chromebooks. The lucky Leopards were also the first class to enjoy getting their paws



dirty with Mr Bill Burton who has resumed delivery of his polytunnel workshops again this year. Harvesting potatoes, planting parsley and dill and picking (and tasting!) the strawberries was simply grrr-eat!

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Elephants

We've had another fantastic half-term in the Elephants with one of the highlights being our trip to Leicester Botanical Gardens - which we all really enjoyed. The class were fabulous and showed our Oxley values beautifully by engaging in the activities and asking thoughtful questions. The trip



complimented our work in science and geography where we've been learning about different habitats and plant adaptations both locally in Shepshed and further afar in places like the Amazon. We have really embraced the nature theme this term and have created our own natural art by collecting materials around the school to create paint and using sunlight to create our own cyanotype photos. As well as this, we were lucky enough to have a visit from the River and Canals Trust where we learnt about the importance of managing rivers to keep our homes safe. All of this alongside some brilliant decimal, fraction and measures work in maths and a wealth of writing linked to our book: How to Train Your Dragon in English. Great work Elephants!

Tigers

Wow, what an amazing half-term the Tigers have had! We had an amazing time on our trip to the Botanical Gardens in Leicester and thoroughly enjoyed learning about different habitats and plant adaptations. Our bus driver was superb as well and played some excellent tunes on the journey to distract us from the traffic jam! This trip tied in so well with our Geography work on deserts and rainforests as well as our science work on habitats. We built on this work within art too by creating incredible cyanotype printing using different natural materials from our school grounds. Within music, we have really enjoyed creating our own pieces using Garageband and have been loving experimenting with the different audio effects we could create. All of the class have been showing our 'being kind' school value by listening to others' work and giving such positive feedback. Super work Tigers!

Lemurs

What a jam-packed, exciting half-term! We started our new book called Holes. We are really enjoying the novel so far and have particularly enjoyed putting ourselves in someone else's shoes and writing in character. We also had a very exciting science unit, looking into the circulatory system, we explored the function of the circulatory system, made our own blood and even dissected a real heart! This half-term we also had our school trip, where we visited the Leicester Central Mosque. We learned about their way of life and were mesmerised by the detail and decoration inside. We also explored the Leicester Museum and Art Gallery, where we particularly enjoyed the exhibits on dinosaurs and the Ancient Egyptians. Additionally, we had an incredibly busy day baking. We made: hot cross buns, cookies, Victoria sponge cakes and brownies. They smelt delicious! Finally, we were very lucky to have the sun shining for our Beskilled sports event. We were sent on a mission to use science to find out who stole the Chromebooks. We used chromatography, tested pH scales, identified fingerprints and looked at the evidence through microscopes to conclude before enjoying an afternoon of sports.



Foxes and Lions

Well, what a term! Our Year 6 have been working extremely hard looking at the circulatory system in science which finished with dissecting pig hearts on Wednesday. The children loved this experience and were able to show their growing knowledge of scientific vocabulary by identifying features such as atria, ventricles and aortic valves. This half-term we have also combined art, design and history by learning about the Maya civilisation and using this knowledge to understand how people dressed according to their status. We have begun to complete our designs linked to jewellery and head attire and will venture into making this next term. With six weeks to go, we will turn our focus to making sure the children are ready to transition to High School and embark on the next step of their educational journey.

Naturally, we have spent much of the beginning of the term consolidating our knowledge in the areas that we knew we would be tested on during SATs Week. Mr Burton, Miss Milner and Mrs Woolcock would like to say how proud we are of our amazing children for having the Oxley 'I can' attitude and being so supportive of one another throughout. With only six weeks to go after the half term, we have a lot to 'pack in' including spending our enterprise money on celebratory treats, finishing our writing modules and focusing on transitioning to high school.

