

OAK HILL FIRST SCHOOL

WIREHILL DRIVE, LODGE PARK, REDDITCH

Why is mental health and wellbeing important in our school?

Good mental health and wellbeing is essential for our children. At Oak Hill there are a number of ways that we are supporting our children's mental health and wellbeing. We want our children to learn in a safe and supportive place where they feel comfortable talking about their mental health and how to support wellbeing.



We promote positive thinking and resilience by teaching strategies for positive mental health and wellbeing include the ability to ask for help as well as accept support from others.



One way that we do this is through our Well being ambassadors who are working hard to develop their role in school.

Our Ambassadors have the responsibility of promoting wellbeing throughout the school. They are currently:

- Promoting positive mental health
- Helping to support other pupils with wellbeing issues they maybe experiencing
- Supporting and organising specific events & celebrating mental health awareness days
- Leading a range of activities within the school that promote health & wellbeing e.g. assemblies, circle times etc
- Having regular contact with a designated member of staff responsible for overseeing their well-being

Children's Mental Health Week 5-11th February

This years' theme is My Voice Matters.

Our Well being Ambassadors are organising several activities over the week.



They are holding an assembly and have planned in class activities.



On Friday they have organised an Express Yourself Day for school. Where children and staff will be dressing to express themselves, to share something about themselves e.g. their hobby, things they love to do in their spare time, or as simple as their favourite colour.



| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 5th February | Year 2 Mosque Visit |
| 6th February | Audiology tests for Reception |
| 7th February | Year 2 Parental Engagement |
| 8th February | Year 3 Outdoor Learning Day |
| 9th February | Year 1 Outdoor Learning Day |
| 12th—16th | Half Term |
| 19th February | Return to school |
| 26th February | Year 1 Parental Engagement |

Please check ClassDojo for more information

Educational Visits



We value the educational experience that visits provide and help to bring our curriculum to life. Over the course of the year we aim to organise 3 visits.

Mindful of the expense we ensure that one of these is a local visit and has no cost. For the other 2 visits, Governors were able to allocate funds to pay half of the most expensive trip with full payment by parental contribution for the third of these visits. Given the national issues around school funding we are unable to commit to this being an ongoing support strategy. These are difficult times for many in our community and we would want you to know that should you be worried about any requests for payments then we are here to try and help. Please Dojo the member of staff that you would wish to share this with and we will work this out together.

Internet Safety Day

In the middle of next week it is also Internet Safety Day on 7th February. The theme for this is

‘Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online’.



Our Online Safety Ambassadors are leading on this in school with Miss Spike. They will be sharing information about staying safe on line with their class.

Please see this link for more information specifically for

February Assembly Themes, Festivals and Awareness Days

Throughout the school year at Oak Hill, we learn about a range of festivals and awareness days.

During February the whole school will have the opportunity to discuss:

Chinese New Year, Shrove Tuesday, Valentine’s Day



Classes with a green box attendance are matched to the current national averages. Classes in orange are very close to attaining the current national average. Classes in red are potentially a cause for concern and further analysis will take place. Mrs Aldridge (Office) is our Attendance Officer for Oak Hill and liaises with parents, teachers and senior leaders when dealing with all attendance matters.

| | Recent % attendance | Average attendance since Sept | Recent No. of lates | Total of lates since Sept |
|-----|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| RM | 92.22% | 95.57% | 3 | 34 |
| RS | 91.22% | 92.12% | 18 | 99 |
| RW | 94.78% | 96.06% | 5 | 31 |
| 1A | 97.87% | 96.02% | 5 | 39 |
| 1C | 95.47% | 95.63% | 15 | 96 |
| 1W | 95.77% | 94.06% | 20 | 61 |
| 2C | 95.47% | 94.61% | 4 | 49 |
| 2F | 90.93% | 91.73% | 17 | 111 |
| 2S | 89.58% | 93.11% | 16 | 74 |
| 3E | 92.05% | 95.82% | 14 | 86 |
| 3G | 90.95% | 93.89% | 33 | 125 |
| 3T | 93.33% | 93.40% | 14 | 114 |
| 4F | 95.70% | 95.29% | 13 | 40 |
| 4PW | 95.71% | 95.47% | 18 | 92 |
| 4R | 94.22% | 94.40% | 22 | 126 |

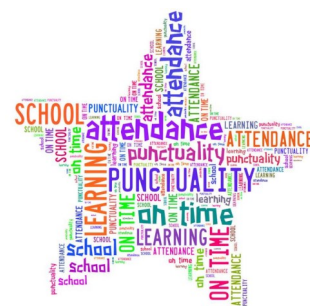
We have recently noticed an increase in the number of pupils who are arriving late to school. A reminder that school AND learning starts at 8.35am and the classroom doors will close when the second bell goes at 8.40am. Please ensure that you arrive on site before this time ready for when the doors open and the first bell goes. Being late can have many negative consequences on our children:

- It gets the day off to a bad start;
- Increases stress and upset for the child;
- Can lead to the child feeling embarrassed and singled out;
- Affects the child's overall confidence;
- Disrupts the learning of other class members;
- Creates bad habits which could lead to poor attendance;
- Confusion for your child as work or activities might have been started

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

- Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year.
- Arriving 15 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 2 weeks a year.
- Arriving 30 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 19 days a year.

So remember ... **DON'T BE LATE THROUGH THE GATES!**



Nursery

This half term in nursery, we have been looking at the past. Our own past as babies and how we have changed, traditional stories that have been told for many years and long ago when dinosaurs walked the Earth. Goldilocks and the Three Bears was a real favourite, we can almost retell the whole story now!



We had a real life baby visit us so we could talk about things we couldn't do then that we can do now.



Our fun experiences have included making porridge and going on a dinosaur hunt in forest school. We even had a 'dinosaur' visit our classroom! What a fun half term!

Reception

Reception have been on a journey! We travelled to 'Under the Sea' to find out about life in the oceans and the animals that live there. We learned about the effects of pollution on the oceans and different ways to prevent it such as recycling and cleaning up our rubbish. Then, we continued our journey to Africa where we found out about the different animals and landmarks that you might find there. We also found out about life in the Masai Mara and how tribal people live there, comparing it to life in Redditch. After, we travelled to the past to find out about how we have changed since being babies, comparing what we did then to what we can do now and thinking about what we would like to do when we are adults. We also found out about household objects in the past and how technology has changed in our family's lifetime.



Year 1

Since we have been back at school it has been very busy. The children have settled back into the rules and routines pretty well and they have been able to recall lots of the work that we did before Christmas. This week we have taken the



They have been shown how to use a peeler to create ribbons of vegetables and use the grater to grate both fruit and vegetables. There were times where we thought we might have some grated fingers, but I can assure you that no fingers were grated into the rainbow wraps.

The children really enjoyed this, and they were happy they were able to eat what they had made. There was a mix of like and dislike but they all agreed that they had fun making them!

Year 2

In year 2 our Art unit this half term has been Printmaking. We have been inspired by the work of William Morris who took his designs from nature and created repeated patterns that you may see used in wallpaper designs today.

We began the unit by using natural objects such as leaves, sticks and potatoes to create repeated patterns using water based ink.

We also used folding techniques to create symmetry in our designs. We then created our own collagraph (stamp) and used this to create our final piece.

There were some fantastic pieces of art produced!



Year 3



In year 3 we have been learning how to code in our computing lessons. We have learnt how to put blocks of code together to make an algorithm. An algorithm tells the computer programme what to do. We learnt how to use a repeat block to make the code more efficient. If we made a mistake in the code the programme does not function in the way you want so we had to debug it.

Year 4

The children in Year 4 have been really engaged in their Design Technology project this half term. They have learned about George De Mestral, the Swiss engineer, who invented the fastener Velcro.

This has led them to design a way of securing a tea towel to a hook. The children have spent time in their lessons developing their sewing skills by practicing both running stitch and over stitch. The children have used these skills in their second lesson to sew on buttons and create and stitch button holes.

Our final Design Technology lesson coincided with a Parental Engagement session which enabled the children to work with their parents and carers to use all of the skills they have learned over the unit to create a fastener which would stop a tea towel falling off a hook.



VIP Story Time.

As part of the reading three times at home, children have been achieving their rosettes and bookmarks. The next level of achievement is VIP Story Time.

This week, Mrs Harris shared big book story and refreshments with our superstar readers. Last week Mrs Cartwright shared her bag of exciting books and toy characters.

We look forward to seeing who's at our next VIP Story Time.



Competition time!!!

Creative Covers

- Design an alternative cover for a book you know well and enjoyed reading
- Inspire new readers to be so intrigued by the cover that they feel they must pick it up to read the blurb
- Submit an A4 design that can be scanned / copied (so no glitter, 3D etc.)
- A winner will be chosen in each of the following categories: Y1-3, Y4-6, Y7-9, Y10+



Brilliant blurbs

- Imagine the book that you wish had been written – now write the blurb!
- Hook the reader with the power of your words
- No more than 180 words long so make every word count
- Any cover design work won't be judged but can be included
- A winner will be chosen in each of the following categories: Y1-3, Y4-6, Y7-9, Y10+



February Picture News Assembly Themes

Each week, we will be discussing issues that are in the news in an age appropriate way. Your child may come home and want to discuss views on the question of the week. To support this, we will send a sheet via Class Dojos with questions that you can discuss with your child.



Questions discussed last month were:

Will self-driving vehicles change our lives?

Is an e-reader better than a book?

Are emojis an important part of communication?



This week we have been asking:

Is fashion important?

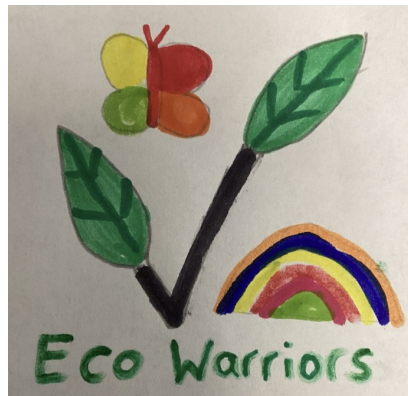


Eco Warriors

Eco warriors with Mrs Morris have designed their own logo and will be sporting it on a brand new badge. Remind your child to look out for the representatives in their class as if you/they have any ideas they will be there to support.

The Eco Warriors have already thought about ideas for our school to become more eco friendly and look forward to sharing these with you soon.

Our first order of business is turning off lights when no one is in the room. Help us in our mission to reduce electricity wastage both at school and at home.



School Council

The School Council have recently had a meeting. In their meeting the children have completed their badge designs and Mrs Ravenscroft has chosen the final design and is now developing it into a badge that the School Councillors will be able to wear.



The children also discussed nominating a charity for the rest of the year. Together they decided to support a local Redditch charity called Isaac's Food Bank, which is run by a local Redditch boy who lives in Greenlands.

More details of how we plan to support this great charity to follow soon.

