

OVERSTONE NEWSLETTER

October 2025



Welcome to our October newsletter. The weather has cooled but the learning in school has been on fire!

What we have been up to in October.....

Elm Class



Year 2 have been exploring the beautifully illustrated story A River, which follows a magical journey along a winding river. The children were amazed when a mysterious message in a bottle arrived in the classroom floating along a 'river' – sent by the child in the story! Inspired by this surprise, they have been learning about the structure and language features of letters to write thoughtful replies to warn about the hidden dangers that the child may face on their journey.



Beech Class

In Year 1, we have been busy learning as usual. In History, we have created a time capsule, including a few class photos, some coins, base ten, counting animals and other small toys. In PSHE, we have learned that friendships can have problems and how to overcome them. Brown Bear, has been very helpful. He was upset on the playground and hid behind a hut. The children came with lots of ideas on how to help Brown Bear.



During our computing sessions the children loved to use Sketchpad software on Chrome books to create digital artwork. In Art, the children have showcased their skills in creating portraits in the style of the artist Paul Klee.

Oak Class

In Science, Year 4 have been learning about teeth, digestion and food. The children have worked hard to remember the different types of teeth and use this knowledge to help them work out what this means for different animals and the food they eat.



Fir Class

Fir Class have continued to approach their learning with great energy, enthusiasm and curiosity, which has been evident across all subjects. Recently, they were thrilled to take part in the Waddesdon Christmas Art Project. This year's theme, '*Songs of the Season*,' inspired the children to collaborate on a beautiful forest scene, crafted from a variety of materials. Their artwork will soon be proudly displayed in the Coach House. It was a wonderful creative experience for everyone, and the children thoroughly enjoyed bringing their imaginative ideas to life.



Redwood Class



Year 5 have been enjoying learning about Tudor Monarchs in their History lessons. Recently, the children had a bit of fun turning themselves into a Tudor Monarch. Well done to Ben and Mary for an excellent effort.



Ash Class



During October we were thinking about the differences and similarities between ourselves and our friends, how we can be kind to others and how different families can be. We were also visited by Animal Ark Farm and learnt about what animals need to be looked after well. In Maths we have explored weighing, capacity and patterns, in literacy we have started to draw our ideas when planning a story. For us, October has also been a colourful month with lots of colour mixing, mark making and printing.



Willow Class

Our visit to Bletchley Park was a fascinating and memorable experience. We had great fun learning about coding and even got hands-on with a real Enigma machine, discovering how messages were encrypted and decoded during World War II.

In the AI Centre, we learned all about life in wartime Britain, especially for the people who worked in secret at Bletchley Park. The children were thoroughly engaged throughout the day, taking part in a practical coding challenge and racing to crack the code before the other groups.

The children really listened well and learnt new facts and information about this important work that was done through the war.



It was an educational and inspiring visit for our Year 6s that brought history and computing to life.

Pre-School

We have been very busy in Pre-School We have talked about our emotions and how we can feel, happy, sad, angry or surprised at different times.

We have celebrated Diwali by making diva pots, doing mehndi designs on our hands and making Rangoli patterns with the rice.

The children also really enjoyed the animals coming to visit, where we stroked, touched and brushed them. We learnt how many legs they have and the differences between their feet, what the animals eat and where they live.



Forest School

It's been a busy month at Forest School. Each year group has been diving into hands-on outdoor learning and seasonal exploration. Year 4 have been learning about fire safety and craftsmanship by melting wax over the fire to make their very own candles. Year 3 have also been focusing on fire safety, practicing how to safely use a flint and steel to create sparks. This is an important skill for confidence around fire. Year 2 have been developing their map-reading skills. They explored the Forest School area, identified key landmarks and created their own 3D maps to show what they discovered. Year 1 have been embracing all things Autumn. Collecting and identifying leaves using identification sheets and getting creative by making their own leaf people. Reception have continued to learn how to stay safe in forest school while exploring seasonal changes through leaf rubbings. The Pre-School children have been learning about birds, listening carefully to hear them in the trees and making bird feeders to help look after them as we move into Autumn.



Attendance for September



Please help us by making sure your child is in school every day and they are here by 8.45am.

Ash Class = 90.5%

Beech Class = 92.7%

Elm Class = 90.0%

Fir Class = 95.9%

Oak Class = 88.4%

Redwood Class = 91.8%

Willow Class = 93.9%

What is coming up in November.....

- **27th October to 31st October** – Half term
- **3rd November** – Start of term
- **6th November** – PTFA – AGM – 7.00pm
- **11th November** – Pre-School & Reception Nursery Rhyme session with parents – 2.30pm
- **12th November** – Reception & Year 6 – Height and weight screening
- **13th November** – Year 4 – Living Rainforest trip

- **14th November** – Children in Need
- **20th November** – Year 3 – Celtic Harmony trip
- **21st November** – Coffee morning with Anxiety presentation – more information to follow
- **25th November** – Headteacher Half Hour – Focus will be Events– Virtual – 10.30am

And finally....

