

OVERSTONE NEWSLETTER

July 2023

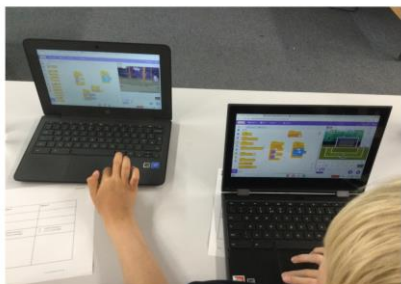


Welcome to our July newsletter, the last newsletter of the academic year. It has been a pleasure sharing with you some of the learning and experiences that the children have enjoyed this year. It has been wonderful to see all they have achieved throughout the year and we are proud of them all.

This is what we have been up to this month.....

Oak Class

This has been an amazing year with an amazing class. This month we have focused on our final pieces of writing and challenging ourselves with our final maths units. The class have worked very hard this year and have achieved amazing results in the Year Four Multiplication Check. In addition to finishing our learning for the year, in Computing, we have been learning to create games using different algorithms including 'forever loops'. It has been a fantastic year.



Acorn Class

Pre-School have really enjoyed their P.E lessons this half term, balancing, crawling, jumping, weaving and running into a safe space. We have also enjoyed making obstacle courses in the garden.

We have had great fun using our new bug garden and potion station, making mud pies. Some of us had our first "fire" in Forest School and made popcorn. We enjoyed watching our buddies in their play and said goodbye and good luck to them during a shared break. Some children who are graduating up to Reception enjoyed meeting Mr. Bradman and had a look round their new classroom. We wish all those children all the best for their future learning journey.



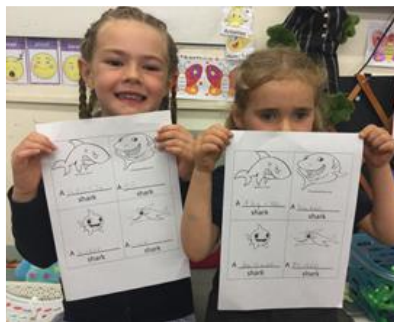
Fir Class

In science this term children have all been learning about light and shadows. Children were set a task to come up with their own shadow puppet show in groups and perform it for the class. The children made some great puppets and told some excellent stories, here you can see one of the performances.



Ash Class

This month we have been thinking about the seaside and different countries which have been visited by the class. We have also been learning to say hello in the different languages of some of these countries. In English, we have been exploring rhyming words for some poetry work and, in maths, we have been sharing to make fair totals. We have also been talking about transitioning into Year One and have visited our new classroom and had visits from Mrs Dallas.



PTA Family Breakfast

We would like to thank the PTA for organising the family breakfast last Friday. It was really well attended with over 170 tickets sold, which was fabulous. The rain held off most of the time so the croissants were not too soggy and a good time was had by all.



Forest School

This month in forest school we have been cooking over the fire, practicing our fire safety rules. We have cooked marshmallows, bread, hotdogs and pita pocket pizzas.



Beech Class

Year 1 has had another busy month, learning to group data in Computing, looking for fantastic minibeasts in Science and making rockets in History.



The children had a wonderful time visiting the synagogue in Milton Keynes to enhance their understanding of Jewish faith and special places of worship. They had a chance to see the Torah scrolls and ornaments, Shabbat candles and other ritual objects and they have learnt that Saturday is the Jewish day of rest and worship called Shabbat.



Elm Class

In Elm Class we have been building on previous learning about the Jewish Faith. The children recalled with enthusiasm and detail, their memories from visiting the synagogue in Year 1 which lead into our learning about Shabbat. We began by thinking about and drawing pictures about what we like to do at the weekend – lots of different ways to spend the time were shared. The children were interested to discover that there are quite a few restrictions for families when they celebrate Shabbat, however the time is used by the families to spend time together talking, eating special foods and playing games together.



Willow Class

We can't quite believe that this will be the last entry for Willow Class 2022/23, what a year we have had. This month we have been busy working with Mrs Nicholls, from The Cottesloe School, putting together a legacy art display in the front entrance. We all had the chance of going to Forest School with Mrs May and enjoy cooking and drinking by the camp fire and to top our year off we put on the most amazing end of year production of 'I'm an 11 Year Old Get me Out of Here'. As our last few days at Overstone come to an end, we will be reflecting on many a happy memory of our time here. We will be sharing some of these memories in our end of year assembly at the Church on our penultimate day. Willow Class would like to wish everyone at Overstone all the very best and send you big hugs for your future.



Year 5 residential camp night – Friday 30th June 2023

The day had finally arrived, it was time for the Year 5's to have their one-night-only camp night at school! The school day couldn't go quick enough for the children, they were so keen to start their adventure.

The first part of our experience was to put up their tents. The children listened to instructions from our camp instructor, Paul, on how to get ready for the night. There was lots of laughter and fun putting up the tents and once completed, they couldn't wait to sit inside and chat with their friends!



Then it was time for the first activity – archery. The competition was on to see who could score the maximum points!



After this, it was fire time – Paul explained the safety aspects of fire and showed the children how to use flint, though most of them already knew thanks to Forest School! They also had the opportunity to roast some chocolate brioche... Yum!



After that, we (the adults) had fun getting the children soaked during a survival game; the children needed to work out answers to quiz questions around the field while being chased by us naughty teachers! Some strangely enjoyed being soaked and came back again and again for more!

Time for our BBQ. Everyone was famished, including the adults. By now the rain had arrived and we were in the hall. However, this didn't stop the enthusiasm of all, as it was their time to get their presentations ready for our talent show. We all got a tasty s'more afterwards too!



Our final activity was the one we had been looking forwards to the most, hide and seek... IN THE DARK! The children got into their pyjamas and then found a partner. They took it in turns to hide somewhere on the playground or field while their friend tried to find them using just a torch and the stars. Even though it was a bit wet from the rain, we all absolutely loved it



Finally, it was time for bed. We weren't sure how easy it would be to get 28, 9 and 10-year-olds to go to sleep after such an exciting evening, but unsurprisingly they were all exhausted!

Next morning, we broke down all of our tents and then took part in our very last activity of the residential. A Bush tucker Trial! Some of us were brave (or crazy!) enough to try and eat bugs like crickets and mealworms, but luckily got to wash it down with a tasty breakfast afterwards. Then we all thanked Paul for an amazing experience before playing a few last games with our friends and returning home.



Thanks so much to everyone who attended, we won't forget this anytime soon!

Thank you

We would like to thank Tring Garden Centre for their very kind donation of house plants. These will be located in the Year 6 area next year and will enhance the natural feel to the school environment. The garden centre is local to many of us and is well worth a visit. Please use the link below to have an online browse to see what they offer.

<https://britishgardencentres.com/tring-garden-centre/>

Year 6 Leavers

Our Year 6 children have left the building! They have enjoyed various activities and events over the last few weeks including their performance, receiving their yearbooks, sharing their leaver's assembly with the school and their families and the final event last night, the leaver's party. The children have worked hard through the year to raise money for this celebration and they had an amazing time. They played on the inflatable obstacle course, chased each other in zorbs, enjoyed mocktails, pizza and McDonalds and then danced the night away at the disco. Thank you to the committee of parents who organised the event and then helped during the evening. Thank you also to Mrs Clarke and Mrs Dye for your contribution too. We wish all of our Year 6 pupils every success as they move onto their next schools, we know you'll be fabulous!



And Finally.....

**We wish all of our families a happy and health summer break
and look forward to seeing you all in September.**

