

OVERSTONE NEWSLETTER



October 2024

Welcome to our October newsletter. This month has been really busy as, across the various classes, the children have enjoyed trips, an author visit and swimming. We even had some animals visit the school to meet our children in Early Years!

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

Beech Class

In Year 1, October has been a very busy month. The children have learned how to use new software to create stories and self-portraits in Computing, as well as learning how to use a mouse.



In Music, the children have enjoyed learning about pulse and rhythm, using drums to express show the rhythm and marching to show the pulse.



Elm Class

Year 2 enjoyed a fabulous trip to College Lake to learn all about habitats as part of their Science learning for this term. They went pond dipping and discovered all kinds of creatures living in the water. They also became nature detectives as they explored the woods. The children found footprints and bones, along with other clues to help in their discoveries of the animals living in the woods. To end the day, the whole class worked in groups to build microhabitats for the elves living in the forest. They also built mini dens and houses for the elves to enjoy! It was a great day out.



Fir Class

In our school celebration assembly this half term, five of our Year 3 children stood up in front of everyone to talk about our PSHE lessons this term. We have been focusing on how our families and friends are all different. We understand that families can offer each other support but sometimes they can experience problems themselves. Problems can also occur in friendships and that violence is never right. Within Year 3 we have designed a poster to spell out the word TEAM. The children were fantastic, well done to: Thomas, Olivia, Harrison, Theo and Hazel.



Pre-School

This month we have had good fun discussing who is in our families. We have also been talking about our senses and enjoyed taking the smell pot test! We played a senses feely bag game where there were spiky, hard, soft, noisy, flashing and smelly things inside. We really enjoyed "The Ark Farm" visit as we loved touching the animals gently. Some of the children's favourites were the tortoise called Shelby, the giant rabbit, Olive, and the guinea pigs, Curly Wurly, Oreo and Kinder. The children have really loved lots of stories, The Gingerbread Man being their favourite. Chanting "run, run as fast as you can, you can't catch me I'm the gingerbread man!" has caused great excitement.



Redwood Class



Year 5 have had - quote - 'the best week ever' this half term! Our Art unit was 'Interactive Installations' and we gave it 100%. Starting off by making mini art galleries that made it feel like you were standing inside when you got close, we slowly built up to interactive pieces and large-scale installations that we proudly displayed in an Art Gallery held after school! Thank you to everyone who could attend, we're so grateful!



Oak Class

Year 4 are about half way through their swimming lessons this year. They have worked really hard to develop their skill and stamina in the pool. Some have almost mastered the backstroke!



Ash Class



During October, we were visited by the animals from Animal Ark and used this visit to talk about how we can care for animals. We have been practising our marvellous mark making, creating pirate maps, learning about Floella Benjamin, for Black History Month, and creating our own colour repeating patterns. We have also started our journey as authors by planning our own stories about a lost toy.



Yew Class

For science, in Year 6, we have been classifying and grouping animals. We looked closely at the group of animals called invertebrates. After studying which animals can be classified as invertebrates, we made clay models of our favourite one. Here are Loki's models, can you guess what he has made?



PTA



Attendance

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

Ash Class = 91.7%

Oak Class = 93.1%

Beech Class = 93.1%

Redwood Class = 96.3%

Elm Class = 94.3%

Yew Class = 92.8%

Fir Class = 94.7%



Forest School

Autumn is a favourite time to be in Forest School, so many beautiful colours and you never quite know what kind of weather you will get. Reception and Pre-school have settled in nicely, jumping in puddles and making delicious food in the mud kitchen. Year 1 have been identifying autumn leaves, creating leaf people and learning about the red squirrel. Year 2 have been learning about micro habitats and had a go at using the palm drill to make conker creatures. They also helped to put the allotment to bed as well as having a go at land art. Year 3 have been using tools safely this month. They have been making conker necklaces using the palm drill as well as whittling different wood including hazel, elder and willow. Year 4 have been working together building dens, making woodland pinecone crates and have made their pinch pots ready to make into candles. It has been a busy time in Forest School this month.



What is coming up in November.....

- **4th November** – School starts for all children
- **6th November** – Year 5 Bushcraft meeting – 5.00pm
- **6th November** – PTA – AGM – 7.00pm at school – please come to the front door
- **14th November** – Pre-School and Reception Nursery Rhyme celebration – 9.00am
- **15th November** – Children in Need
- **19th November** – Headteacher Half Hour – 8.45

And finally....

We hope you all have a very happy half term