

Oakwood Primary Academy Learning Journey for this term and how you can support your child

Autumn	Year Group	Theme
Term 1 and 2- 2018	5 and 6	A Child's War

Dear Parent and Carers,

Please find attached the programme of learning your child will be doing this term. There are many ways in which you can help your child at school but the most effective way is to show an interest and to encourage your son or daughter to talk to you about what he or she is learning in school.

English



Year 5 and 6 will start the term focusing on Fiction from Literacy Heritage, studying Nina Bawden's novel 'Carrie's War'. The children will be immersed in the story by exploring the key themes and characters in the novel and exploring reading for meaning through comprehension activities. Following our fiction unit we will be working on journalistic writing linked to our theme. There is also a focus on the children's writing and homework activities will be related to this.

Reading will be a strong focus with the expectation that children read every night. Please ensure you sign their reading diary daily. Daily reading comprehension sessions will focus on grammar skills, comprehension and inference. There is also a focus on the children's writing and homework activities will be related to this.

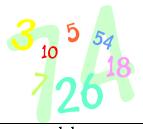
The children will continue to follow the REN Reading Scheme. They will be tested on their understanding of each book they read and will gain rewards related to their success. Children will also be learning a number of spelling patterns in line with the National Curriculum expectations for year 5 and 6 and will be tested weekly.

How you can help



Reading is one of the most important aspects of your child's learning and provides them with the skills and confidence to fully access their learning across the whole curriculum. Please encourage your child to read for a minimum of 15 minutes and record your comments and /or sign their reading diary. **We do expect children to read every night.** Explaining and discussing new vocabulary and asking questions is especially helpful, this encourages your child to think about word meanings and deepen comprehension skills. Encourage your child to read a range of texts as well as their school reading books e.g. papers, magazines, comic etc.

Mathematics



Our priority this term is to consolidate prior learning of place value and the four operations. We will embed these skills by using fluency, reasoning and problem solving activities. Manipulatives and pictorial representations that link to the National Curriculum objectives will be used to ensure their understanding and mastery skills are being demonstrated. Following on from this, the children will also work on understanding fractions and then moving onto our Geometry unit focusing on position and direction. Children will continue to take weekly arithmetic tests.

Times Table Rock Stars will also be used to consolidate the learning of their times tables.

How you can help



We cannot emphasise enough the importance of your child learning their times tables. Please practise these at home. If possible, encourage the children to use Times Tables Rockstars;

www.ttrockstars.com/login. Children can play a variety of times table games. In the Garage game children can play using times tables set by their teacher whereas, the Studio section will go up to 12x12. Children can earn certificates by playing in the Studio section these achievements are shared at our Celebration Assembly. Where possible please discuss time with children showing them digital and analogue clocks. Additionally, please encourage your child to add and subtract numbers both mentally and using columnar methods (the method most adults would have learnt at school). Please keep an eye on newsletters and on the website for maths updates and links.

In science this term, the children will be studying "Light" and Evolution. The children will have the Science opportunity to investigate different light sources, how light travels, how shadows are formed and investigate the eye and how we see. They will record results using tables and graphs. During our Evolution topic we will look at famous scientists including Charles Darwin and Mary Anning, investigating how their discoveries shape our understanding of the world. We will be using our outdoor classroom whenever possible. Encourage your child to find out information using non-fiction books and the internet. How you can help Talk about the topic and look at some websites with your children - www.sciencenet.org.uk or www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/schools are really informative. From time to time we will ask children to collect information from home or fill in data sheets. Please support your child with this wherever possible. Topic Work Including This term we will be learning about 'A Child's War' which is a local area study with a focus on World War 11. The children will be taught about a significant turning point in British history - the outbreak History/Geography of war and how this lead to a change in life for many children through evacuation. In Geography we will explore maps of Plymouth and the changes the city went through during the Blitz. We will be incorporating Art, Music and Design Technology into a 'D-Day Celebration Afternoon to Art, Music and Design allow the children to become fully immersed in the World War II topic. This will include singing Technology authentic World War II songs from the era as well as contemporary songs about the war, making gas mask boxes and comparing war time diet to the food we eat today. A hairstylist will be recreating 1940s hairstyles for all children interested. In PE we will be creating, rehearsing and performing 1940s dances which will help develop their flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance. Please ensure that your child has a PE kit in school from Monday to Friday. The children may be going outside and will need suitable outside kit including trainers or plimsolls. Please remember that earrings must be removed by your child before taking part in PE lessons. Social, Moral, Spiritual and The children will discuss the new school year, friendships, new teachers and the responsibilities of being in upper Key Stage 2. Following our NSPCC workshop, the children will focus on keeping their bodies Cultural Learning /PSHE safe and how to understand their emotions. In addition to this there will be an emphasis on the practice of mindfulness and how this can be used to improve their emotional wellbeing in school as well as other aspects of their lives. Our Collective Worship Programme for this term is as follows RE and Collective Worship Monday - Whole School - Virtue of the week Tuesday - Whole School- Open the Book Collective Worship led by the Church Groups from the Church of the Holy Spirit and Derriford Church Wednesday - Class Collective Worship - Thought for the Day Thursday – Whole School Singing Collective Worship Friday - Whole School Celebration Collective Worship or Class Assembly

Our theme for R.E. this term is Judaism. The children will learn about the key aspects of this religion

	including its stories, beliefs, values, traditions and influences. They will have the opportunity to discuss	
	their own views and ideas and share them with their peers.	
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Computing	In computing the children will be taught to design, write and debunk programs that accomplish specific	
	goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems; solve problems by decomposing them into	
	smaller parts.	
French	In French we will be exploring spoken and written language through patterns, sounds, songs and	
Sun.	rhymes. This will include spellings, pronunciation and the meanings of words.	
Class Rewards	We have a new behaviour reward system at Oakwood which encourages and rewards positive	
	behaviour. The children can earn treasure coins when demonstrating good behaviour choices and	
	positive learning behaviours in line with the Golden Rules. Children may move up or down the jewel	
	levels throughout the day and earn extra coins for exemplary behaviour. At the end of each term the	
	children can 'spend' the coins they have collected on a range of prizes and rewards.	
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In addition, children should bring their reading books, reading diary and book bag to school each day. Each child has a reading scheme book to take home which will be changed once completed. Please sign the reading diary when you have listened to your child read at home. Children who do not have their reading diary signed will be asked to read during other times of the school day. Homework will be set on a Friday and is due in by the following Thursday.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Gooding, Mrs Collier, Mrs Harvey and Mrs Wieprecht