





Oakwood Primary Academy

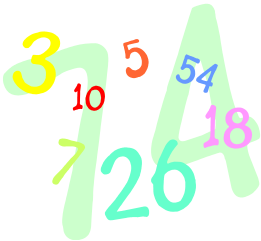
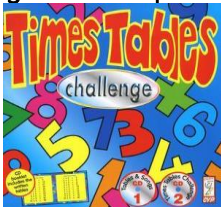

Learning Journey for this term and how you can support your child








Spring Term 3 and 4 - 2021	Year Group 4	Theme Fantastic Animals and Where to Find Them.
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Dear Parent and Carers,

Please find attached the programme of learning your child will be doing in the Spring terms in Year 4. This year we are developing our thematic approach to learning with a focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects. Each of our themes will have a STEM focus which will drive the learning through the rest of the topic.

<p>English</p> 	<p>In English for Term 3 and Term 4, we have a very exciting theme that we will be learning about using our thematic approach. Our focus on animals will give us the opportunity to explore both fiction and non-fiction texts, such as <i>Animalium</i> by Katy Scott and Jenny Broom, and <i>The Lost Words</i> by Robert Macfarlane. Our aim will be to develop our knowledge of different genres and we will be completing non-chronological report and poetry to demonstrate what we have learnt.</p> <p>As well as thematic English lessons, we will also have weekly explicit SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) lessons where we will focus on skills that we can use within our writing.</p> <p>As part of our thematic approach, we will still be focussing on comprehension skills such as inference, retrieval and prediction. These will be taught using high-quality texts as a stimulus. Within each day, there will also be time for children to read for pleasure. 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.</p> <p>We will continue our high expectations on our presentation by using and practising cursive handwriting; throughout the week, there will be regular handwriting sessions. We will also continue our focus on spellings and spelling patterns using the statutory Year 3 and 4 spellings as a basis. Children will be encouraged to apply the spellings in their work accurately.</p>
<p>How you can help</p> 	<p>Reading to and with your child is one of the most important aspect of their learning and provides them with the skills and confidence to fully access their learning across the whole curriculum. Explaining and discussing new vocabulary and asking questions is especially helpful, this encourages your child to think about word meanings and deepen comprehension skills. Please try to read with your child every day and when reading the school reading book with your child to record your comments in their reading diary. Encourage your child to read a range of texts as well as their school reading books and encourage them to work towards their next target for the REN books. Please ensure you sign their reading record daily. Encourage your child to write for different purposes, for example; a story, a shopping list, an invitation or an information booklet.</p>

<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>We will continue to reinforce concepts from previous year groups to ensure we continue building on our learning. Throughout the year, we will revisit areas that we have covered previously but we will further and develop our understanding and knowledge. We will still follow White Rose Maths and in Term 3 and Term 4, we will be focussing on our understanding of number by developing our multiplication and division skills, as well as deepening our understanding of fractions and decimals. We will also be exploring various measurements and how these can be applied in mathematics, as well as in everyday life. Throughout, we will be focussing on securing our fluency and mathematical vocabulary in order to be able to deepen our understanding and solve reasoning problems.</p> <p>All children have access to Timestable Rockstars which they can access in school and at home via www.trockstars.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 which will be celebrated.</p>
<p>How you can help</p> 	<p>Look to use any mathematical opportunities in the everyday world, such as getting your child to use money and tell the time using both an analogue and digital clock. Encourage rapid recall of number bonds and number relationships.</p>
<p>THEME- Fantastic Animals and where to find them. Following a thematic approach, we will be covering the following aspects of the curriculum...</p>	
<p>STEM Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics</p> 	<p>Our science learning will be interwoven with our theme topics this year and we will focus on developing our STEM Skills across all areas of the curriculum: asking questions, making predictions, setting up tests, observing and measuring, recording data, interpreting and communicating results, and evaluating.</p> <p>Through this thematic approach, when studying animals, we will focus primarily on our science knowledge to develop our understanding living things and their habitats. We will look at a variety of species of animals and explore how we can recognise living things and how we can use this information to group and classify them. We will do this by looking at classification keys for animals in our local area but also around the world! As a part of this, we will research animals to understand their characteristics, diet amongst other important information! We will also be looking at different environments and how they can be suitable habitats as well as animals' roles within various food chains.</p>
<p>History/Geography</p>	<p>Alongside STEM, our theme will have geography embedded throughout.</p> <p>Fantastic Animals and Where to Find Them will allow us to broaden our geographical knowledge of the world and give us the opportunity to explore the diverse environments that exist. By doing this, we will revise different continents of the world, different climates and some aspects of physical geography. We will be able to</p>

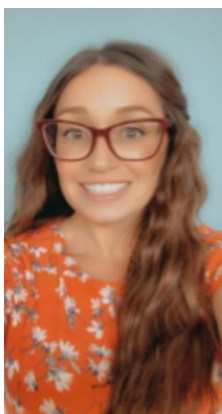
	<p>not only learn about the natural world but use our learning to investigate the role humans play in the animal kingdom and the impact human life can have on habitats.</p>
<p>Art and Music</p> 	<p>Our theme will allow us lots of exciting opportunities to explore the animal kingdom through the medium of art and we will be using a range of techniques and resources to demonstrate our understanding and to showcase our imaginations!</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>Throughout our lessons, we will be using computing in a range of different ways to support and enhance our learning. In school we will be using iPads and Netbooks to learn how to effectively research topics to aid our writing and to develop our understanding of areas within our theme, such as habitats and different animal species. We will also be using programmes to learn how to present our work in other mediums. Online safety plays an important part throughout our school journey, and we will make links to this throughout the year. We will make appropriate adaptations for children learning at home to reflect the technology that is available to use.</p>
<p>PSHEE</p> 	<p>Throughout Term 3 and 4, we will be building on the work that we completed last term about respect and relationships as well as how making choices can impact others around us. We will use what we have learnt to understand how our choices can impact on the wider world and environment.</p>
<p>RE and Collective Worship</p> 	<p>Our Collective Worship Programme will be class based this term with a virtual whole school assembly held once a week. Over the term this will include links to multi-cultural festivals, reflection about ways to be ready, respectful and safe in school along with celebration of achievements.</p> <p>In the Spring terms, we will be continuing our learning about Hinduism, expanding our knowledge of Gods, festivals and customs, and considering what it is like to be a Hindu in Britain today.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>We will be making sure that we are staying physically active throughout the day in a variety of ways. As part of our daily routine, we will be completing the daily mile, as well as incorporating active games into our lessons, breaktimes and lunchtimes. This will help us to keep our bodies and minds healthy. In Term 3 and 4, we will be looking at developing our stamina, co-ordination and understanding how our body can move by focussing on multi-skill techniques. If your child is learning at home, please make sure that regular times for exercise is included every day – in line with government guidelines during lockdown.</p>
<p>French</p> 	<p>In French, we will be following the iLanguages programme. In Terms 3 and 4, we will be developing our general understanding of nouns within French, including classroom instructions, animals and colours.</p>

<p>Ready, Respectful, Safe</p> 	<p>Our school rules are based on Ready, Respectful, Safe. Please refer to the 'Managing and Supporting Positive Behaviour Policy' for additional information about behaviour expectations at Oakwood.</p> <p>In class, teachers will be using the Recognition Board to promote positive behaviour. This is a great way to reinforce the behaviour and actions expected in the classroom, and if your child is learning at home and provides an opportunity to celebrate the children's positive actions.</p>
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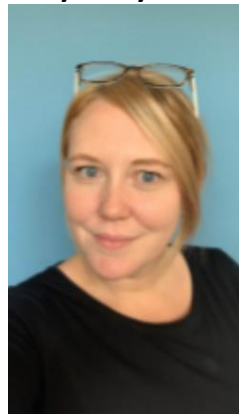
Parent information for this term

Teachers in Year 4

Mrs Carroll – Goldcrest Class



Mrs Tearney – Skylark Class



Year 3 and 4 - Drop off and pick up arrangements for children in school

Year 3 and 4 children and parents will need to access the school via the gate by Little Acorns and follow the walkway to the Year 4 pods. There are white arrows to show what direction parents and children should enter the grounds with blue lines to help to keep distance between children and adults. There are also red lines to indicate out of bounds areas in front of the class for parents or carers. **Please do not cross any red lines.** Staff will be available to welcome and escort your child on entry to school.

If your KS2 child has updated walking home permission, please take time to talk through road safety again so that they are reminded about where and how to cross roads safety. Please also reinforce that children **go straight home** in line with Government advice to stay home during this current lockdown.

Social Distancing reminders

- **Wear a face covering when you enter the school grounds.**
- **Keep a social distance from other parents and carers at all times.**
- **Only 1 adult should drop off and pick up children from school.**

During this current lockdown it is very important that you support social distancing measures when bringing and collecting your child from school. Please be mindful of other adults and children so that you do not block pathways. Once you have dropped off your child to their

entrance or class pod, please leave the school grounds promptly so that other parents and children can make their way to their class.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Covid Symptoms

No child should come to school if they, or anyone they live with, has symptoms of Covid-19.

These are:

A new persistent cough

A high temperature

A change in their normal sense of taste or smell.

Please ring the school office to inform the school of any absence related to Covid or any other sickness as usual. If your child has sickness or diarrhoea then remember that they cannot attend school until after 48 hours after their last bout of sickness. Please leave a message on the school answerphone if this is before school hours.

What to bring to school each day:

- **Reading book and reading diary**
- **Water bottle with 'sports top only' (not squash or flavoured water).**
- **Piece of fruit for break time**

Please do not send in any additional things in with your child including pencil cases, small toys, birthday cake or birthday sweets, this helps to limit risks of transmission.

Home learning

Please continue to please read with your child regularly.

Communications on the School Website

Please keep informed about dates, events and information by visiting our school website regularly. If you go to the school website and select the **Parent** tab at the top, you will see the drop-down menu has a page titled – **Covid Information Updates**. In this page you will find all the information and letters in one place regarding the changes and measures we have in place to support the children on their return to school this term. The parent tab also is the place where you will find all the newsletters, letters, forms and school dinner menu.

When you select the **Learning** tab you will see information related to home learning and a range of useful links to help support you and your child whether they are attending school or learning from home.

Contacting your child's teacher

Please use eschools to message your child's class teacher if you have a query or need some information about your child's learning. You can also email or call the school and someone can deal with your question as soon as possible.

Remote Learning

Remote learning will be provided for all children to access whilst they are not attending school. Children in Year 1 – 6 will have access to two x 1-hour Teams sessions a day to access the curriculum, with a focus on Reading, Writing, Maths and Theme. Year group times will also

provide additional, optional, learning opportunities outside of these subjects, such as PE, times tables and spellings. For children in Reception, we are not currently providing live Teams sessions, but there will be videos available to support your child's learning at home. To support the sessions on Teams, children will access their learning tasks through our eSchools platform under the 'Homework' tab. All activities can be accessed on a computer or tablet and the activities can be completed on paper – there is no requirement to print the activities to access them. Homework will be organised in days and will include all the resources needed for that day of learning. Once the learning for each day has been completed, it can be uploaded to eSchools – attaching pictures or scanned documents. We would ask that all work has been uploaded by Friday evening. This will ensure there is adequate time to review the learning and mark it. If you need to contact a member of staff at any time, please use the messages facility on eSchools to do this, and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

It is essential that if you are a key worker, and you are sending your child to school, that you DO NOT send them when you are at home. We have been asked to limit the numbers of children in school, and this will support us in being able to maintain this.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of the children and families in Year 4. We understand that it has been a very different start to the year than we expected; however, the children have been so positive and have really embraced the changes. All of the children worked incredibly hard in Terms 1 and 2 and we are already seeing that hard-work continue whilst they are either in school learning or at home completing remote learning. It has been an absolute pleasure to see children joining the live lessons and we are continuously impressed with the quality of work that the children in school and at home are producing. Your ongoing support at home is very much appreciated – thank you.

Mrs Carroll and Mrs Tearney