



# ACADEMY UPDATE

For parents and carers

October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to share with you Oakwood Primary Academy school priorities for the Autumn Term. These have been determined following assessments and reviews of teaching and learning at the end of the Summer Term and aim to further develop our school's effectiveness.

Over this term we will be focusing on the following:

## Implementation of the new EYFS Framework

- Develop high quality vocabulary throughout all learning and play based activities.
- Develop opportunities for parents to support their children through workshops, FSA drop in events and through regular communication via Tapestry and Facebook learning updates.

## Embed STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics within our thematic curriculum

- STEM skills will be displayed in every class and linked to curriculum subjects where relevant. The STEM skills are **Creativity** - think outside the box, **Inquiry Skills** - questioning why something is as it is, **Observation** - looking closely, **Flexibility** - change the way you try things if it doesn't work and **Collaboration** - working together.
- Each class will have a topic 'Learning Journey' display which will include 'The Big Question' and the 'Destination'.
- Photographs from each class will be shared with parents and carers via Facebook to celebrate learning and wow moments on a regular basis.

## Writing

- Continue to embed the 'Write Stuff' approach to support the development and progress of writing skills for all children.
- Continued focus on cursive handwriting to embed high and progressive expectations for presentation in books.

## How can you help your child?

- **Reading** – As you support and encourage your child with reading at home; please take time to discuss and explain 'challenge' words to broaden vocabulary development and understanding. Reading at home is so valuable and has such a positive impact on your child's learning in school. You could join the local library they are really keen to support children reading and provide many free events across the year.
- **Maths** - Please continue to support your child to learn number facts so that they have a quick and accurate recall of number. Times Table Rock Stars is a brilliant online resource you and your child can use at home to help support these important skills.
- **Writing** – Please continue to encourage your child to think carefully about their cursive handwriting when they are doing their homework so that their presentation is the best that it can be.

These priorities will be reviewed again at the end of the Autumn Term and a further update will follow at the beginning of the Spring Term. A copy of the School Improvement Plan for the Autumn Term is on display in the Community Area of our school.

I would like to thank you for your continued support for our school and your engagement with any learning opportunities that your child undertakes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison', written in a cursive style.

Alison Nettleship

Chief Executive Officer/Executive Headteacher

Discovery Multi Academy Trust