



ACADEMY UPDATE

For parents and carers

September 2019

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:

Curriculum Implementation

- We will be working on developing our curriculum further so that it incorporates activities, experiences, visits and visitors to enable children to access a broad and rich curriculum. We will also be working on developing links across subjects to help children develop their long-term memory so that they retain their learning.

Pedagogy

- This is all about how children learn. We will be working on MAT and school-based projects and training so that teaching is targeted from children's starting points and subsequent areas for development. We will be looking particularly how we can challenge and accelerate progress for our more able children and on SEN provision across the school.

Early Intervention

- This is a whole school focus on closing gaps between groups of children, starting in reception and tracking this throughout KS1 and 2.
- We have introduced a SEN provision called the 'HUT' which stands for 'Helping Us Thrive' this term. The HUT is led by our school INCO Mrs Connett. Miss Pellow and Miss Woolley provide therapeutic support and intervention for children so that they can build up resilience to access their learning with increasing independence. We have also introduced our 'Ready, Respectful and Safe' rules as part of the new MAT 'Managing and Supporting Positive Behaviour Policy'. Please see the letter explaining this sent out earlier this term for further details.

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** – we have just introduced cursive handwriting and have been very impressed by the progress the children have made in such a short time. 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. Please see the update in the newsletter for further information.

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