

Oak Class Newsletter

November 2018

Welcome back!

We have had a wonderful start to the year. The Reception children have settled in beautifully and are aware of the routines and expectations in school. This half term they will also be joining in with playtime. The Year 1 children are being fantastic role models and Spixworth Stars! We have enjoyed getting to know the children and developing our classroom environment together. Our Dream Big topic gave us an insight into the children's ambitions and we learnt about different careers and pioneers. We also learnt about the amazing things our body can do and painted a variety of wonderful portraits. This half term we have lots of festivals to celebrate! We look forward to exploring light and colour throughout the curriculum.

Our school topic for this half term is: Lights, Camera, Action
Our enquiry question is: What are all the colours in the world?

English

We will be learning about story language through Cinderella and creating our own stories. With our own ball (Christmas Disco!) on the horizon we will also create our own invitations.

We will begin story scribing with Reception children where they will have the opportunity to apply all the sounds they have learnt so far. We can't wait to read their wonderful stories. As always children will be encouraged to read and write for different purposes in their independent learning.

Maths

In maths we will continue learning about counting, ordering and problem solving through practical activities. Year 1 children will be adding and subtracting through practical activities and Reception children will be problem solving in their play and through adult led activities. We will also learn about shape names and use mathematical language to describe shapes.

Learning Across the Curriculum

As the nights draw in and a number of festivals are celebrated we will be exploring what light and colour mean to us through our topic. We will learn about Bonfire Night, Diwali, Hannukah and Christmas. Through Science we will conduct a number of investigations from creating our own fireworks in jars to helping Rudolph find reflective materials for his nose! Within our DT lessons we will be exploring light using shadow puppets and creating our own puppet shows!

In geography we will be exploring weather and climate both in the UK and further afield. We will be creating weather charts, becoming weather forecasters and thinking about how the weather affects us.

Reminders

We will have a library visit once a week on Friday

Your child can choose/change a library book.

Please ensure children have coats and wellies at school everyday. We will be going out in all weathers!

How to Support at Home

Please continue to read every day with your child at home. We will check book bags daily and change books once a comment has been written in their diary.

Class Dates

Christmas Café – Tuesday 27th
November 2pm – 3

Parents' meetings
Friday 30th November - Wednesday
5th December 3.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

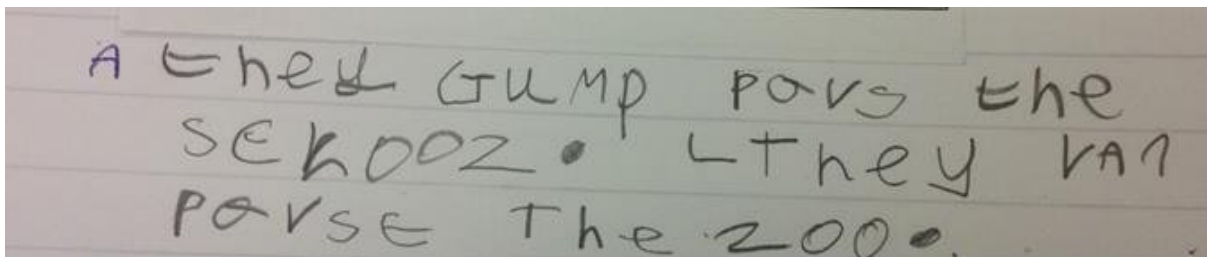
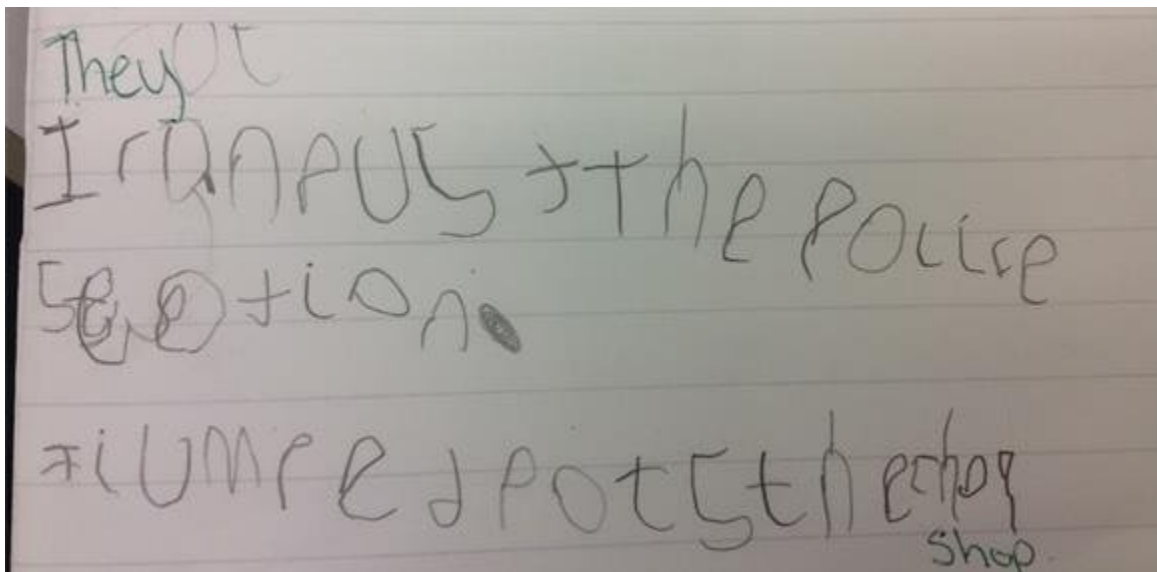
Christmas Plays
Thursday 13th and Friday 14th
December

Our eight week project this term focusses on reading for understanding.

A key part of understanding what has been read is discussing the words used within the book and thinking about why the author has made these word choices. This skill allows children to 'magpie' or steal words, learned through reading, to use in their own writing.

This is just one of the many reasons that it is so important for children to read regularly at home. Children should aim to read at least three times a week in order to develop confidence and fluency.

Below are examples of how Oak Class have stolen words from the book *Funny Bones* to use in their own writing.



Our library was full to bursting so the school librarians will be holding a book stall on Tuesday 13th November at 3.15pm. Feel free to take as many books as you like. If you wish to make a contribution towards these it would be gratefully received. The librarians will be selecting some new guided reading books with any profits that they make.