



OJS WEEKLY UPDATE

4th February 2022

Message from Mrs Sheridan and Mrs Elwill



Happy February and Happy Chinese New Year!

There was a lot to look forward to this week, including the Dodgeball competition. Our Sports Ambassadors had a busy time umpiring the tournament under the guidance of Mr Sheehan & Mr Isaacs

Curriculum

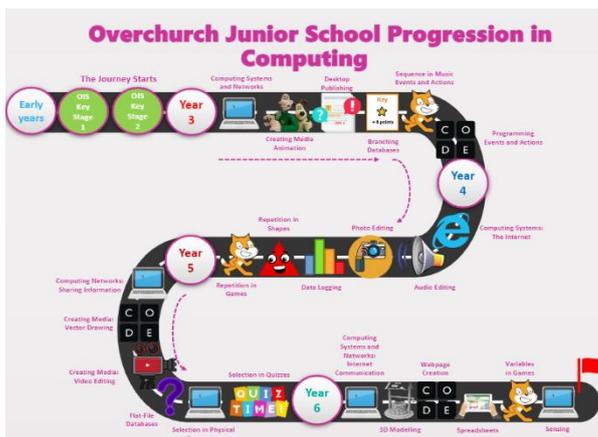
Continuing with our computing curriculum in Year 5 & 6, the attitudes, approach to learning and teamwork was abundantly evident.

Impressively, Year 6 used Tinkercad, to produce their own 3D model after learning how to manipulate three-dimensional digital objects.



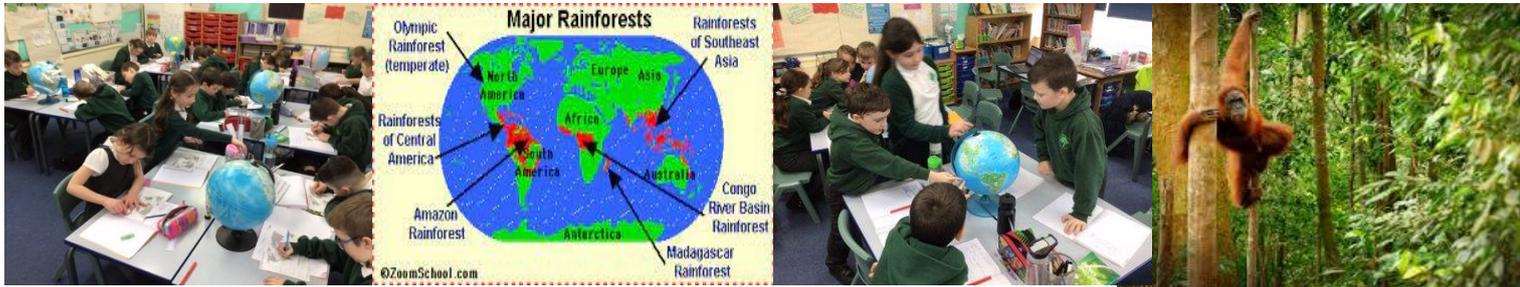
As part of the computing curriculum, Year 5 became budding film makers. Children worked in small groups planning from conception to completion. They learned about different camera angles, considered how different angles can be used for different purposes, how to reshoot and edit.

Please see: <https://teachcomputing.org/curriculum/key-stage-2> for more information about our Computing curriculum



Year 5 really excelled as directors, producers & editors in the wooded areas of school. They showed superb RESPECT, resilience and empathy. The technical vocabulary used on location demonstrated how much they learned during the week showing how they know and remember more. Year 5 will do brilliantly in their computing exit quiz.

In order to maximise the ipads & laptops we have for the computing curriculum, Year 3&4 classes worked as geographers this week, learning about lines of latitude, longitude and the Equator as they explained why rainforests can be found in certain locations on planet Earth. Children asked amazing questions as they discover more about physical geography, including: biomes and vegetation belts.



Parent Evening Survey

Thank you for your replies to the Parent's Evening Survey. The results informed us that 75% of you would prefer a face to face meeting. We will get busy organising the meetings and we will also offer a number of virtual meetings as we know that would help many of you.

Governing Body

On Tuesday evening there was a Full Governing Body meeting. We had the opportunity to welcome a new governor to our governing body. Emma Randles is our new parent governor as Gavin Parkinson's term as parent governor came to an end.

Governors and staff would like to thank Gavin for the support, challenge and vision he offered during his term of office.

At the meeting Mrs Walton reported on the progress that has been made in the reading curriculum since our Ofsted inspection in October. Children in Year 3&4 are making great progress in phonics as we fill learning gaps from time missed during the pandemic. Reading ages are moving up and up across the school as we have a sharp focus on reading. None of this could be achieved without your support.

Sharing reading with your child at home will help them remember what they have learned. Recording reading homework on Seesaw really helps us monitor how much reading is being done at home. A photo or a comment to their class teacher on the platform is always fantastic for teachers to see.

Thank you!



Reading at Overchurch Junior School

Phonics

At Overchurch Juniors, the majority of our children arrive with secure phonics knowledge.

For those children who need additional support to become familiar with the 44 sounds and corresponding graphemes used in English, phonics intervention is provided daily using our Rocket Phonics scheme.

Curriculum

Reading skills are predominantly taught through whole class shared reading lessons. These sessions take place daily with one timetabled as a Reading for Pleasure session.

All sessions are based around the VIPERS style questions and children are given opportunities to discuss the text with their peers and as a whole class.

High quality texts are chosen and where possible, links are made to the curriculum.

Reading Practise

To foster a love of reading and motivate regular reading practise, our children have access to a wide range of quality texts.

Our Reading Planet scheme provides children who are learning to read a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts that follow a progressive and systematic approach.

Once secure and fluent in their reading, our 'free-readers' choose books from our class libraries or school library to match their Accelerated Reader Book Level (or ZPD) and their interests.

At Overchurch Juniors, we have high aspirations and set our children the challenge to read at least 4 times a week at home to an adult.

Intervention

All our children have access to the high quality texts used throughout the teaching of reading.

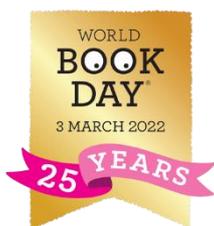
1:1 reading support, 3 times a week is provided for our lowest 20% and Pupil Premium readers.

Progress

Reading progress is mapped out using the Literacy Counts-Reading Counts Assessment document and using the Accelerated Reader Star Reader Test.

Reading Culture

Weekly Star Reader Awards
Extensive class libraries and school library
Links with local libraries
Scholastic Book Club
Reading workshops for parents and carers..



World Book Day – Thursday 3rd March

Our English Team are asking the children to take part in this year's World Book Day Reading Challenge. There is one challenge for each week leading up to World Book Day.

Re-enact a scene from your favourite book. You could be in the photo or use toys, props or drawings. Be creative!		Read a bedtime story to a family member or your favourite soft toy.
Build a den to enjoy some quiet reading time.	World Book Day 2022 Reading Challenge	Read a book outdoors.

Welcome to the 2022 Overchurch Junior School Reading Challenge!

This year, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. During the four weeks leading up to the big day, we have an exciting reading challenge for you to take part in. We are inviting you to try the tasks above and post your entries on Seesaw (or bring paper copies into school). If you complete all four tasks by Thursday 3rd March, you will receive a certificate and a prize.

We hope you enjoy taking part in our challenge.

The Overchurch Junior English Team



This Week's Class Attendance Figures

Apple	95.7%	Cherry	96%
Ash	94.3%	Pine	93.5%
Larch	94%	Silver Birch	91.8%
Beech	94.1%	Lime	94.1%
Hawthorn	94%	Rowan	92.8%
Willow	94.3%	Sycamore	92.5%

As a school we must achieve at least 96% attendance.

Congratulations to Cherry class for winning this week's class attendance and the overall school attendance with 96%! This class will receive extra MUGA time and 5 respect points for each class member.

This week's winner of lower school attendance is Apple class with 95.7%. This class will receive 3 respect points for each class member.

This week's winner of upper school is Cherry class with 96%. This class will receive 3 respect points for each class member

Weekly Subject Focus

Each week we focus on a different subject which includes taking part in projects and conducting experiments. This helps to give the children a more in-depth knowledge of the subject as well as a greater interest. For your information, please see below the schedule of our weekly subject focus for this half term.

Week Commencing 7 th February 2022	Mental Health Week
Week Commencing 14 th February 2022	Art Week
HALF TERM	



Star Readers

This week's Star Readers are:

Apple -	<i>Teddy Mc</i>	Cherry -	<i>Isabella S</i>
Ash -	<i>Archie P</i>	Pine -	<i>Erin W</i>
Larch -	<i>Lucas K</i>	Silver Birch -	<i>Luca R</i>
Beech -	<i>Libby R</i>	Lime -	<i>Ava D</i>
Hawthorn -	<i>Maia V</i>	Rowan -	<i>Oliver W</i>
Willow -	<i>Max A</i>	Sycamore -	<i>Kian M</i>

Congratulations to all our Star Readers this week.

Congratulations to Joe and Scarlett in Sycamore class who have become millionaire readers!

Keep up the great work everybody.



Excellence Award Winners

Apple -	<i>Alfie B</i>	Cherry -	<i>Isabella M and Jasmine H</i>
Ash -	<i>Thomas A</i>	Pine -	<i>Angel X</i>
Larch -	<i>Michael L</i>	Silver Birch -	<i>Daisy O</i>
Beech -	<i>Zack L</i>	Lime -	<i>Alicia C</i>
Hawthorn -	<i>Jessica P</i>	Rowan -	<i>Mischa S</i>
Willow -	<i>Jack W</i>	Sycamore -	<i>Maddy B</i>

Well Done to All!!

HMRC - Help towards childcare costs

HM Revenue and Customs is reminding parents that they could be missing out on an opportunity to get up to £2,000 a year to help with the cost of childcare.

Tax-Free Childcare – the 20% childcare top-up – provides eligible working families with up to £500 every three months (or £1,000 if their child is disabled) towards the cost of holiday clubs, before and after-school clubs, childminders and nurseries, and other accredited childcare schemes.

Tax-Free Childcare is available for children aged up to 11, or 17 if the child has a disability. For every £8 deposited into an account, families will receive an additional £2 in government top-up.

Announcement can be found [here](#).



The Food Pantry

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

We are expecting a new delivery of food next week and we will be opening our Food Pantry once again.

Opening times will be:

Friday 4th February 3.00pm - 4.00pm

Monday 7th February 8.30am - 9.30am

There will be a wide range of dried and tinned goods available for anyone who would like to come in and fill up a bag. You can fill a bag for yourself, a family member or a neighbour.

We will also be serving tea and coffee at these times. Please ensure that you bring shopping bags.



As well as the Food Pantry, there will also be a School Uniform Exchange. We know that due to lockdowns, families have good quality, hardly worn uniforms that children have outgrown. So, we thought we could start swap scheme to help recycle uniforms. If you do not have any uniform to swap, don't worry you are more than welcome to come along and pick up some items.

So, come along with your uniforms to swap and bags to fill!

Let's do this! **Let's reduce, recycle and reuse.**



Healthy Eating Week – Week Commencing 7th February

The Oak Tree Diner will be serving various healthy options each day this week.

Monday 7 th February	Tuesday 8 th February	Wednesday 9 th February	Thursday 10 th February	Friday 11 th February
Pizza Day Pizzas will be made with a wholemeal base with a selection of toppings -Chicken & Sweetcorn -Tomato, Mushroom, Peppers and Sweetcorn -Quorn pieces, sweetcorn, peppers and herbs	Quorn chilli served with brown rice and vegetables	Roast Turkey / Quorn Dinner served with new potatoes and vegetables	Vegetable Curry with peppers and onions served with wholemeal rice	Fish Friday Baked battered cod served with oven baked chips
Carrot Cake or Fruit Pots	Date Slices	Fruit Salad	Chocolate Beetroot Cake	Melon Lollies or Ice Cream
Deli Bar, Jacket Potatoes and Paninis will be available as normal				