



Oak Class - Curriculum Overview

Spring 1 (2023) - Keep Calm and Carry On

English

Our English learning will be made up of a combination of grammar, spelling, reading, handwriting and composition work. We have dedicated reading journals to explore a range of ERIC skills – E(explore) R(retrieve) I(Interpret) C(choice). In these sessions we will continue to examine 'The Boy in the Tower' by Polly Ho-Yen which has already promoted a lot of discussion. In addition, we will look at a variety of extracts.

As always, our TfW units will start by learning an oral story, developing a toolkit, boxing up a model and then innovating our own examples. To support this unit of work we will be using a range of stories which use World War II as a context, including 'Goodnight Mr Tom', 'Blitz Cat', 'Friend or Foe', 'War Boy', 'Carrie's War' and 'Rose Blanche'.

Science

Can you ever have a complete blackout? (Science)

While investigating this question, we will be learning how light travels and how this enables us to see objects. We will consider how shadows are formed, and create a functional periscope so any boxes saved from Christmas would be useful!

Mathematics

Our maths topics this half term will include:

Decimals – Children will recap their understanding of numbers with up to 3 decimal places. They will look at the value of each place value column and describe its value in words and digits. Children will use concrete resources to investigate exchanging between columns e.g. 3 tenths is the same as 30 hundredths. Children will multiply numbers with up to three decimal places by 10, 100 and 1,000. They will discover that digits move to the left when they are multiplying and use zero as a place value holder. The decimal point does not move.

Percentages – It is important that children understand that 'percent' means 'out of 100'. They will learn to convert fractions to equivalent fractions where the denominator is 100 in order to find the percentage equivalent.

Algebra - Children will explore simple one-step function machines. This is where they perform just one operation on the input. Children will understand that for each number they put into a function machine, there is an output. They will also be taught to "work backwards" to find the input given the output. So that given a set of inputs and outputs, they should be able to work out the function.

Home Help

Please support your child by talking to them about their learning in school. Please read and discuss texts with your child as regularly as possible. Reading records are collected in each Thursday and there is a spelling test each Friday.

Art

How did art influence opinion during World War II?

In this unit, we will learn about the shelter sketches created by the official war artist, Henry Moore. We will consider how these artworks were constructed and the impact they had on the public. We will then use them as an inspiration for our own work, exploring the use of tone and shade.

History

Should children have been evacuated during the Blitz?

As you can imagine, this is an emotive question and will involve looking at key events in WW2, discussing different source materials and their reliability. In addition, we will be examining propaganda materials and looking at first person accounts of evacuation. If you have any family stories you can share we would be keen to hear them.

Computing

Oak Class will be introduced to creating websites for a chosen purpose. They will identify what makes a good web page and use this information to design and evaluate their own website using Google Sites. Throughout the process, they will pay specific attention to copyright and the fair use of media, the aesthetics of the site, and navigation paths.

MFL (Spanish)

We will work from Language Angels and our focus will be on developing Spanish phrases related to the theme of 'The Weekend'. This will involve talking about our hobbies and interests.

PSHE and Religious Education

Christianity will be our focus and we will be exploring the concept of salvation by considering the following **Big Question**: Is anything ever eternal?

In PSHE, we will be looking at the theme of **Diversity and Community** which will explore issues of identity and our role in the community.

Physical Education

On Thursday afternoon, we will have our sessions with Active Sports.

Please ensure appropriate outdoor PE kits are in school.