

# Autumn Term

## Class Welcome

Oak Class have had a busy term. Our students who arrived in September have settled well into their new setting. Those who were with us last year have continued to make excellent progress. It's hard to believe it's nearly the end of term, the weeks have flown by!

We have engaged well with our theme this term, which was 'Feelings'. We have taken part in lots of activities to explore our own emotions and methods of self-regulation.

We have enjoyed taking part in the PTA pumpkin-carving competition and the Halloween party. We also enjoyed Children In Need Day, and learning about Remembrance Day.

On 'Come Learn with Me' day we showed our parents how we do PE, and they joined in too!

Currently we are feeling quite festive and are looking forward to the holiday and spending time with our families.



## Communication and interaction

In Communication and Interaction, we have used a variety of sensory stories. By far the most popular with the class has been 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. We have also taken this story to share with Shakespeare Class during whole school shared reading.

In Phonics we have been learning the SATPIN sounds. 'S' came to us in the form of sprinkles and syrup, 't' was tomatoes, and 'a' was apples. We also trace the letter shapes with our fingers in shaving foam. Messy phonics is something the whole class look forward to.



## Cognition and Learning

In Cognition and Learning we have been working on our positional language, with the help of Marmaduke the bear and his story.

In Science we have been working on forces and using push and pull toys to illustrate this.

In ICT we have been following sequences on the board using HelpKidzLearn, and programming BeeBots to follow our instructions.

In Sensology we explore something with each of our 5 senses each week. We have smelled vanilla, lavender and cocoa butter, and tasted lemon juice, orange jelly and honey. We have listened to birdsong and musical instruments, looked at sensory lights, and touched foil, bubble wrap, cotton wool, and fabrics.



## Independence, social and emotional development

In ISED we have been working on understanding our emotions. In PSHE we have been reading 'The Colour Monster' sensory story and using colour to identify our big feelings.

In Music we have been exploring rhythm, slow and fast, and quiet and loud sounds. We love playing our instruments to the music!

In Food Tech we have been working on our fine motor skills with lots of mixing, chopping and grating. We have made coleslaw, potato salad and fruit salad. Food tech is one of our favourite lessons.



### **Physical and Sensory**

In Physical and Sensory we have excelled in Swimming. Each week our confidence grows. We are pushing off from the side, kicking on front and back, practicing our arm movements and blowing bubbles in the water. In the last few weeks, we have begun jumping in. We have loved exploring the new Sensory Room and Sensory Circuit. These sessions are favourites of the class. In the Sensory Circuit we can swing, roll, climb and bounce. In the Sensory Room we can explore fascinating lights, sounds and textures.



### **Special news and upcoming events**

We are looking forward to our Christmas events over the next two weeks including Christmas dinner, Christmas jumper day and Class Parties.

Some notable dates for your diary for the end of this term and the beginning of next term are:

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Merit awards and craft afternoon

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – End of term (Early finish for pupils)

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Start of Spring Term

16<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term

Our learning when we return will be based around the books written by David Walliams.

We hope you have a lovely Christmas Break and look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Jo, Natalie, Ella and Amina.