

Weekly Newsletter 23rd January 2023



Right of the Fortnight: Article 30:

Your Right to Use Your Own Name



Dear Parents/Carers

Another week has flown by as we race through the academic year! It has been an **incredibly busy** week in school and the children and staff have been hard at work. As always, I am so **proud** of all of the **children's achievements** and as I walk around school visiting classes and looking at the work they produce, I continue to be blown away by their **excellence**!

The diverse programme of **Spring Term After School provision** was successfully launched last week. Mrs Osborne and I eagerly volunteered to cover two different Art clubs whilst some staff were attending Trust training. It was an absolute pleasure to witness how pupils are equally **enthusiastic** about participating in additional activities and attending clubs. This enables them to take the **responsibility** for further developing their own **talents and interests**. A huge thank you to all staff for their **ongoing commitment** to lead clubs.

Finally, we know that many people find this time of year a challenge. The **cold weather, shorter days and financial worries** are key contributors to **dips in mental health**. A record number of children have approached a friend or an adult to share worries about being hungry or cold in the family home. Some children have shared that adults are **skipping meals** to look after them. We've been able to help. If you are struggling and **need support** we understand. Please speak to Mrs Hood our Family Support Officer. We can **signpost** you to a number of **services**, access **foodbank vouchers, etc**, and this will be done in the strictest of confidence.

Have an amazing week! Stay warm!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne

Reception pupils were enthralled learning about **Chinese New Year**. Mrs Rowe shared her fond memories of living in China. The classroom was decorated and transformed into a sea of red and gold. Mrs Rowe created a wonderfully colourful display of **Chinese artefacts** linked to the Festival.

The children found out about the **preparations, special food, clothes and traditions** linked to this festival. A highlight for the children was the opportunity to make and sample a Chinese banquet to celebrate the '**Year of the Rabbit**'. Kung hei fat choi (Happy Chinese New Year!)



Dates For Your Diary - Spring Term

Wed 25th Jan	KS1 Northern Ballet Workshop
(Sunday 22nd Jan)	Chinese New Year
Mon 30th Jan	Y4 STEM Visit (am) : Industry will Power the Future Workshops
Tues 31st Jan	Y3 Visit Mosque (am)
	Group of Y4 Active Learning Competition (pm)

Week Commencing 28th Jan: 'National Storytelling Week'

Week Commencing 6th Feb: 'Children's Mental Health Week'



Mon 6th Feb Y1 Wheels Day

Tues 7th Feb 9.10am Y6 Open Morning for Parents & Carers
Safer Internet Day

Thurs 16th Feb 1.30pm Y1 (inc Y1 Willows) Open Afternoon for Parents & Carers
Launch Readathon
Pupils break up for half term

Fri 17th Feb **PD Day 4 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)**

HALF TERM

Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February

Mon 27th February - Children return to school

Week commencing 27th Feb: Fairtrade Fortnight (27th Feb to 12th March)

Mon 27th Feb	Y4/Y5 STEM visit (am): Industry will Power the Future Workshops
Tues 28th Feb	9.10am Y3L & Y3/4H Open Morning for Parents & Carers
Thurs 2nd March	World Book Day & Readathon Celebration
Fri 3rd March	Wonderdome In School

Mon 6th March Careers Week

Mon 13th March PD Day 5 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)
Launch of British Science Week

Tues 14th March Y4 Chocolate Story Visit

Fri 17th March Red Nose Comic Relief Charity Day
1.30pm Reception Open Afternoon for Parents and Carers

Wed 22nd March	9.10am Y4 Open Morning for Parents & Carers
	World Water Day
Thurs 23rd March	World Maths Day
Fri 24th March	Y3 Earth Hour

Week commencing 28th March: Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers

Fri 31st March Nursery Open Morning and Afternoon (times to be confirmed)
Children break up for Easter

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th April

Mon 17th April Summer Term Commences - Children return to school

North Yorkshire Moors National Park—Danby

This outdoor activity-day was designed around a **key text 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura**. The characters know how to make the most of the resources the forest provides. Understanding woodland is therefore the key to understanding **Mesolithic life** and imagining what it was like to live at this time.

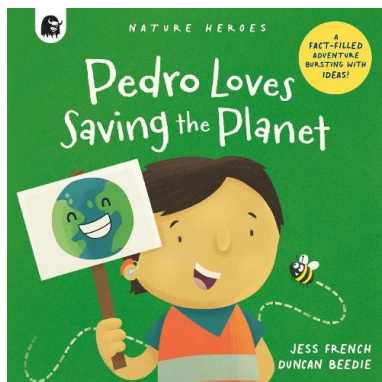
In teams, the Y3/4 tribes constructed their very own **Stone Age shelters** using natural resources they gathered from the woodland. They demonstrated excellent team work to carry some rather heavy branches to construct a sturdy shelter. Children gathered extra resources to **insulate** their shelter, whilst also making it watertight! We now know that animal skin was a perfect addition to a Stone Age shelter, helping to keep them warm and dry.

Once the shelter was built, they created a fire for warmth! The children were shown fire making techniques using flints, fire steels and natural ignition material and collected wood to make a safe communal fire. They practised using flint to **ignite** the **fire**. Lots of children mentioned how they were very thankful for their heating at home – starting a fire was extremely tricky! Children were excellent at making **comparisons past to present** – to modern life and life in the Stone Age.

After lunch, the Y3/4s put their **map work skills** to the test! They applied key **forest skills** such as **orienteering** to **locate trees** and examine their **properties**. They used clues to find out what each tree was used for in the Stone Age. Oak trees were excellent for building strong, sturdy shelters; whereas, Hazelnut trees provided delicious, nutritious nuts for Stone Age people to enjoy. After a day filled with lots of fun activities, the children generated a **timeline** and explored how the landscape of the North York Moors has changed since the last ice age to the present day and the role of people in that process.



Recommended Reads



This week's recommended read is from **Miss Robinson** 'Pedro Loves saving the Planet' by Jess French.

Pedro Loves the Planet tells the fact-filled story of a day in the life of a boy who is **passionate about the environment**. Pedro spends the day at his school eco club's forest cabin where he learns about **electric cars**, plants some **vegetable seeds** and encourages his friends to think of creative ways to **recycle**. Can you find out what else you can do to help **protect our planet**?

Week Ending 20th January 2023
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 
Morning Nursery Mrs Guest	Bonnie-Rae Scarth-Ferguson	Jack Bourne	Michael Smith
Afternoon Nursery Mrs Guest	Ollie Fraser	Elodie Richardson	N/A
YR Miss Robinson	Callum Hall	Joseph Luker	Amani Mohammad
Willows Mrs Farnaby & Mr Brown	Edward Gardiner-Jukes	Harrison Kirk	Theo Smith-Sewell
Y1L Miss Leonard	Leo Archer	Ivy-May Fiddes	Charlotte Eley-Carberry
Y2D Mrs Durham	Blake Playle	Beth Denmark	Daisy Thompson
Y3/4H Mr Horkan	Kain Carmichael	Piper Noon	Ben Bainbridge
Y3L Mrs Largan	Annie-Mai Harris	Charlie Kibbler	Autumn Lonsdale
Y4S Miss Smith	Amelia Wilks	Hayden Jackson	Jack Westmoreland
Y5W Mrs Wilson	Blake Jeffrey	Emily Daniel	Olly Harris
Y5M Mr McConnell	Kallum Squires	Monica Dobson	Jack Tunney
Y6B Miss Bestwick	Ben Jardine	Levi Hall	Olivia Woodcock

Star of the Week: High no of Dojos, Rights Respecting both in class & at lunchtime, PE Readiness, read at home, learnt spellings etc

Star Reader: Read at least minimum number of times depending on key stage therefore in Reading Raffle, using myON at home etc

Star Writer: Joined handwriting, presentation of written work, creative content, quality/quantity of written work, correct letter sizes etc