



King's Academy Oakwood

Dare to be Remarkable



Head of Primary News

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week marks the start of our Parents' Evening session with two successful evenings at KAB. Next week will be Parents' Evening for KAO and we look forward to talking to you about how your child has settled into their new classes. This term, following positive feedback last year, we offered one virtual and one face to face event. It is clear to see that the face to face meetings have proven to be most popular and we will consider that when arranging parents' evenings in the Spring term. I hope you enjoyed reading the report from your child's class teacher. They were a pleasure to read and it is clear to see what a long way the children have come in a short time.

A huge welcome to our new PTA members and thank you for giving your time to fundraise and improve experiences for our students. The PTA have lots of lovely ideas for the next term and beyond and will be in touch with parents soon. Also a massive thankyou to our PTA members who have just stepped down. You found ways to raise money in the hardest of times.

It is understandable with the mixing of children and lifting of Covid restrictions that children will become unwell with colds and sickness bugs this term. We will continue to uphold hygiene standards to help stop the spread of any viruses. Children do need to be in school every day unless very unwell. The learning lost when a child is off has a significant impact upon them. We have seen an increase in parents requesting time off during term time which can only be given in exceptional circumstances which is highly unlikely to include a holiday. If a child misses 5 days in EYFS, this means they will have missed learning 5 new sounds that week and will need to catch up the following week which is difficult. Please keep term time absence to a minimum. Appointments for things like the dentist and opticians should be booked around school hours and any other time off for medical appointments such as hospital appointments need to be requested prior to the day and include the appointment letter in the request. We cannot allow for children to be collected early unless it has been approved by myself and constitutes an exceptional circumstance or medical appointment for the child.

This week I have received a number of complaints from both sites regarding parents speeding in, and around, the site. At KAB, as you drive through St George's Park, please be mindful that the limit is 9.5mph and that it is an exceptionally busy road with parents and students walking or cycling to and from school. At KAO, when entering the drop off point, please do so slowly and park considerately. I am pleased to see that congestion is easing now that many parents are exiting via Ellwood Fields - thank you to the parent who brought that route to our attention.

This is our last newsletter before half term so have a wonderful rest and we will see you back on 1st November.

Kind regards,

Mrs Tate

Head of Primary

Opportunity and Success on a Global Stage

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Executive Principal: Mrs Sarah Howells

Willow

Last week we continued our learning on the 'The Colour Monster goes to school' by Anna Llenas and enjoyed making their own colour monsters and labelling them in our Literacy lessons.

This week, to help celebrate Black History month, we read Little People, Big Dreams: Aretha Franklin by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara and enjoyed listening and dancing to her song R.E.S.P.E.C.T. We also learnt about Rosa Parks and discussed what an inspiration she was to so many people.

Last week in maths, the children loved the Monsters Milkshake Cafe. They helped the monsters with the milkshake mix-up by identifying their drinks. The children used vocabulary such as full, empty, half full, nearly full, nearly empty, most and least.

This week in maths the children have really loved learning about patterns and spotting them around us! They adored making wonderful patterns with jewels and teddy bears and created beautiful repeating pattern necklaces.



Last week's word of the week: Adore

Word of the week: Inspiration

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Ash

I have been so impressed with how hard Ash class have been working these past couple of weeks. We have begun to look at poems in English this week where the children have had fun matching different rhyming words. Over the week, the children have loved practising their storyteller voice by reciting 'The Nut' by Julia Donaldson!

In science, we have been focusing on our senses where the children got to try a range of foods and use adjectives to describe how they looked, smelled, felt and tasted. We had some giggles watching each other try the lemon! In Maths, the children have worked incredibly hard these past couple of weeks. We have been learning to use a part-whole model to complete some 'addition fact families'.



Word of the week: Rhyme

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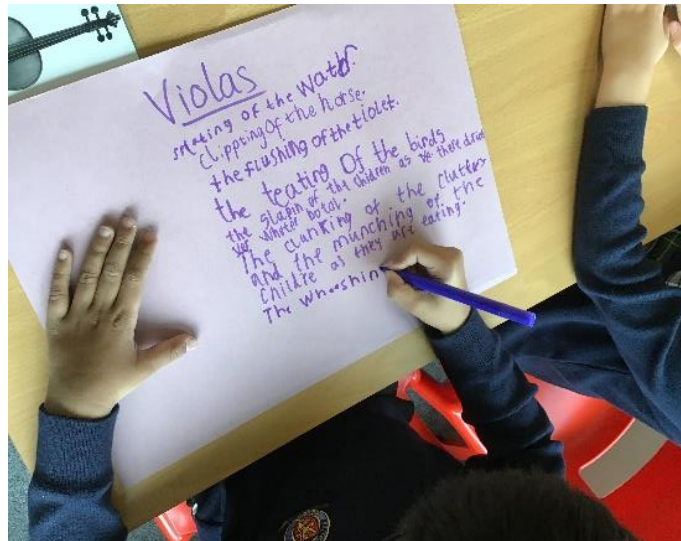
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Birch

Birch Class have had a great time researching and learning about camels and writing about them in the form of non-chronological reports. I have been so impressed with the sentences children wrote and all the exciting facts they learnt! We have started looking at the 'Sound Collector' poem this week and learning about onomatopoeia. We went on a sound walk around school to see what sounds the Sound Collector might take if they came round Oakwood. Birch class worked in their table teams and came up with some great onomatopoeic words. To our surprise, the Sound Collector came to our classroom and scared us all-they even took some of our voices! We only managed to get some blurry pictures as it all happened so quickly! This has inspired the children to begin to plan and write their own poems using onomatopoeia to describe sounds they hear around school. I can't wait to read them!

Still focussing on Kandinsky in art, children have been creating skylines using either warm or cool colours. This week we will be adding our silhouettes of London to the paintings. We have already put our Kandinsky circles pictures up on display for everyone to see and they look beautiful!



Word of the week: Onomatopoeia

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Chestnut

We have had a very busy few weeks in Chestnut Class in which the children have undertaken a lot of practical activities related to their learning.

In Science, we have been learning about how fossils are formed and about the contributions Mary Anning made to the field of paleontology. The children loved having the opportunity to explore real fossils under magnifying glasses. In History, we have been learning all about the bronze age and how the introduction of metal changed the lives of people during prehistoric times. We looked at different pictures of bronze age artefacts and considered what we thought they were, how they would have been used and what these artefacts can teach us about the past.

In Maths, we have completed our unit of work on Number and place value by exploring number lines to both 100 and 1000; the children loved creating huge number lines in the hall using base 10 to represent different numbers on their number lines. We have now moved on to a unit of work on addition and subtraction of numbers to 1000. The children are enjoying using practical resources to demonstrate their understanding of exchanging ten 10s for 100 and ten 1s for one 10.

During art this week, Chestnut class began creating their very own stone age jewellery by creating stone age bones, teeth and rocks using salt dough. We are excited to create our finished stone age necklaces once our salt dough has baked!

Word of the week: pioneering



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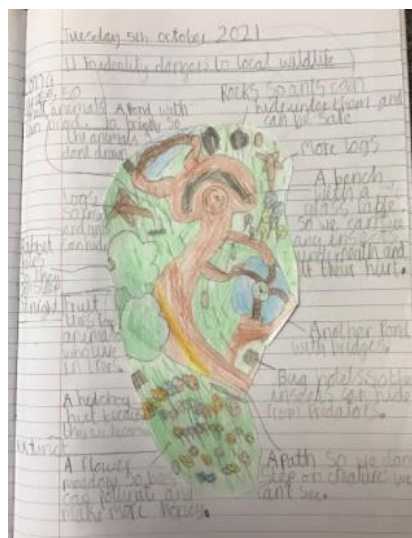
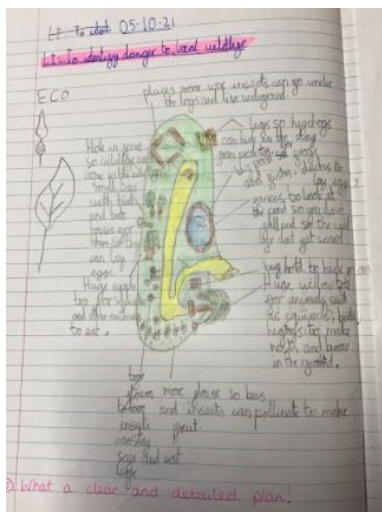
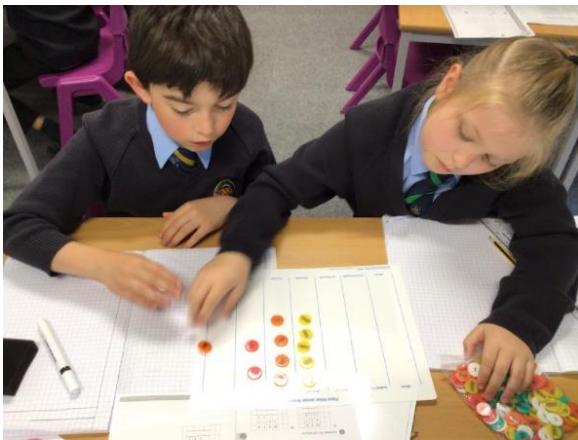
Pine

It's non-stop learning in Pine class! I have been so impressed how hard everyone is working and how much progress I am already seeing, just 6 weeks into year 4.

In English, we have been writing Non-Chronological Reports focusing first on the Anglo-Saxons and then revisiting year 3 learning and writing about the Romans. In maths, we've been doing Addition and Subtraction of 4 digit numbers using equipment to exchange between 1s and 10s, 10s and hundreds and hundreds to thousands. We continue to work on our mental maths skills daily, including times table practise.

The afternoons have been full of fun activities too. In science we have considered the impact that humans have on the environment and designed a new outdoor area at school which would help animals to live alongside humans. The chromebooks have helped to play an important part in our Spanish learning as the teaching is supported by quizzes and games online. Our art has been linked to our topic on the Anglo-Saxons and the children made these beautiful Anglo-Saxon brooches.

Word of the week: Preposterous



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Outside Achievements

We would like to say massive congratulations to Olivia on winning Star Player on Saturday at her football club, Wildcats. Well done Olivia, absolutely brilliant news.



And to Oliver for his Player of the Match award with his team, Ascot FC. Well done Oliver, we are very proud of you.



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