



King's Academy Oakwood

**Dare to be Remarkable**



## Head of Primary News

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am really pleased to report that Covid cases have dropped hugely amongst staff and students. We are hopeful that the next few months will continue with less disruption than we have seen over this term. Even with the challenges of bubble learning, the teachers have been incredible at offering wonderful learning opportunities for your children which will be expanded over the coming terms.

I am extremely excited to let you know about our 'Friday Enrichment Offer'. Every Friday afternoon, after half term and until the end of the academic year, all adults within school (teachers, support staff and admin staff) will be running enrichment sessions during the school day which will teach the children new skills or give them the opportunity to take part in something that interests them and furthers their learning. The sessions on offer cover things such as: ballet, STEM, cookery, craft, first aid, nature, construction, computing and much more! The children have applied for three different sessions and will find out which enrichment session they will be taking part in after half term. We will of course share updates on these sessions with you in the newsletter.

You will know what your child is learning about this term through the Spring Term Curriculum letters which were sent out a few weeks ago, you can also look at the 'primary curriculum' tab on our website to find out more. Parents' Evening is coming up at the end of March and the second school report will go home just before this to let you know how your child is getting on at school. One thing we haven't yet been able to offer but will be offering early in the summer term are 'book looks'. The opportunity for you to pop in after school to look through your child's books with them. We will be offering this on a number of days after Easter so please look out for a future letter from your child's class teacher.

I hope you have a wonderful half-term and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 22nd February.

Kind regards,

*J Tate*

Mrs Tate  
Head of Primary

## Diary Dates

- **Friday 11th February:** Inset Day (academy closed to all pupils)
- **Monday 21st February:** Inset Day (academy closed to all pupils)
- **Thursday 3rd March:** World Book Day
- **10th/11th/12th March:** Secondary Phase production of We Will Rock you!
- **Friday 11th March:** Year 1 Windsor Castle Trip
- **Wednesday 15th March:** Wellbeing Day
- **Tuesday 29th March:** Fantastic Fred NHS Theatre Show KAO
- **Wednesday 30th March:** Parents Evening
- **Thursday 31st March:** Fantastic Fred NHS Theatre Show KAB/Parents Evening

## Opportunity and Success on a Global Stage

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Executive Principal: Mrs Sarah Howells

## School Sports News

On Wednesday, a team of 8 children from KAO attended a School Games Badminton Competition at Edgbarrow School. This was a wonderful opportunity for the children and those who took part represented the school wonderfully and should be very proud of themselves. They partook in a variety of badminton skill related activities and competed against other schools to earn points as a team. Well done to all who participated!



**Great news...The UK's best family magazine is now free to all parents & guardians- Enjoy!**

**Please click on the link below:**

**Family First - Winter 2021/22 by Seven Star Media - Issuu**

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## Willow:

Last week, the children discovered how Chinese people celebrated the Lunar New Year. They had much fun setting up a Chinese restaurant and making some pretend food with wool and other materials before ordering their spring rolls and noodles and eating them with chopsticks. They enjoyed learning about the Chinese Zodiac in the story of The Great Race and loved acting out the story using animal masks on the main playground. In Maths, they did a super job working in pairs to order all 12 animals in the correct finishing place in the race and writing the ordinal number of their favourite animals.

Willow class listened attentively and with interest to Mrs Kit as she revealed how she celebrates the New Year with her family. They particularly enjoyed learning how to say each animal of the Zodiac in Cantonese and watching Mrs Kit write their Zodiac signs in Chinese characters. After that magical experience, the children felt inspired to write some numbers in Chinese on their own lanterns. They really showcased their great cutting and writing skills in the process and their creations adorned our Chinese restaurant role play area for all to see. The week ended with a special treat of sampling some delectable Chinese food!

This week, our learning has revolved around the popular book 'Dear Zoo' and we've been learning more about wild animals and why some are kept in zoos. We've been creating our very own Willow Class 'Dear Zoo' book, thinking about what adjectives to use to describe the animals and in maths have been exploring height and length. We've ended the week by learning more about Valentine's day as it is coming up in half term, including the story of St Valentine himself.

### Word of the week:

**Last week:** genuine

**This week:** endangered



Oppo

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## Ash:

What a fantastic half term Year 1 have had! All the children have worked incredibly hard and shown such enthusiasm in every subject. We have been doing lots of work around continents and habitats looking at various information texts and videos to develop our knowledge of the world. In Art, I have loved seeing the focus and creativity of each child when designing and creating their shoebox habitats. The children have had small guidance on their projects and shown wonderful determination to think carefully about the different materials they wanted to use to make their designs come to life!

In Maths, Year 1 have been working hard on Place Value to 50 making numbers using dienes and counters to show how many tens and ones they have. We have then been applying our knowledge to different mathematical concepts and word problems to develop our thinking.

In R.E. we had our first debate! The proposed question was 'Do you think all synagogues are the same?' We learned how to have a debate and made some incredible points across both sides and some children even decided to change sides half way! In science, we have been focusing on different animals. Year 1 made some bird feeders this week where they were only given questions and a success criteria to work from. This led to such amazing, different designs and allowed the children to really think about how they were going to make them.

## Word of the week: Population



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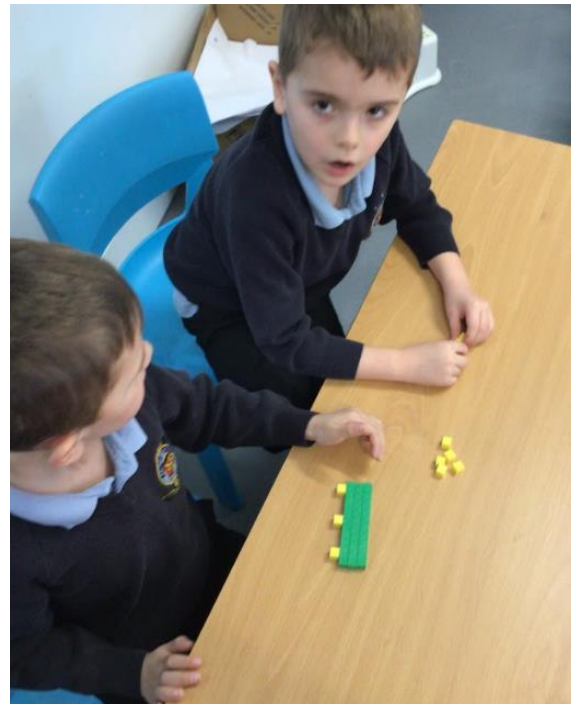
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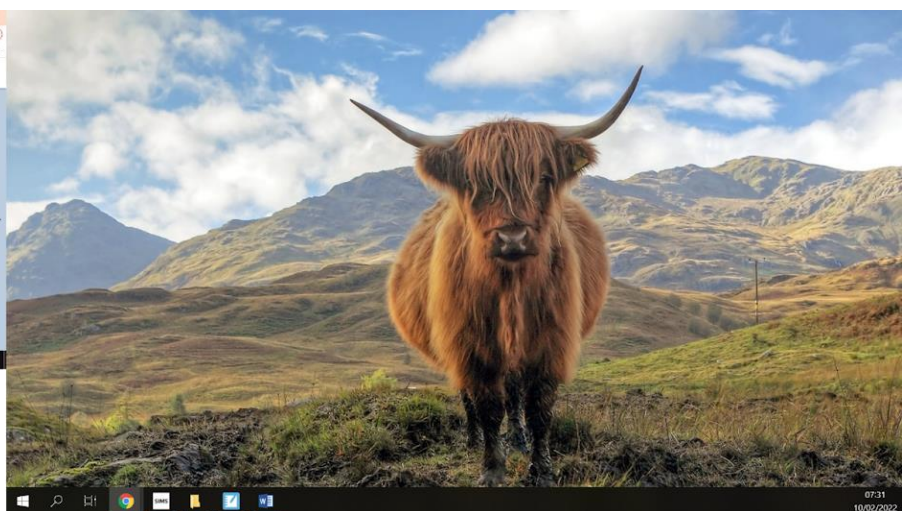
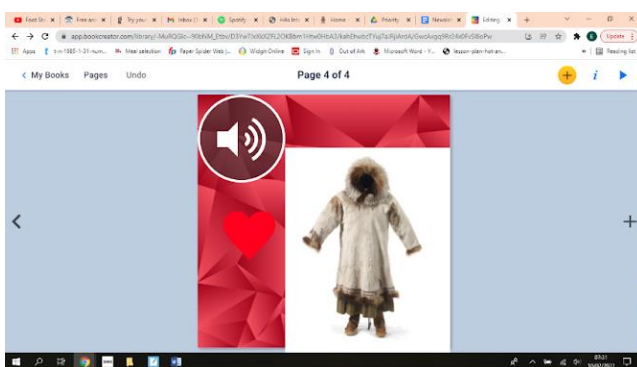
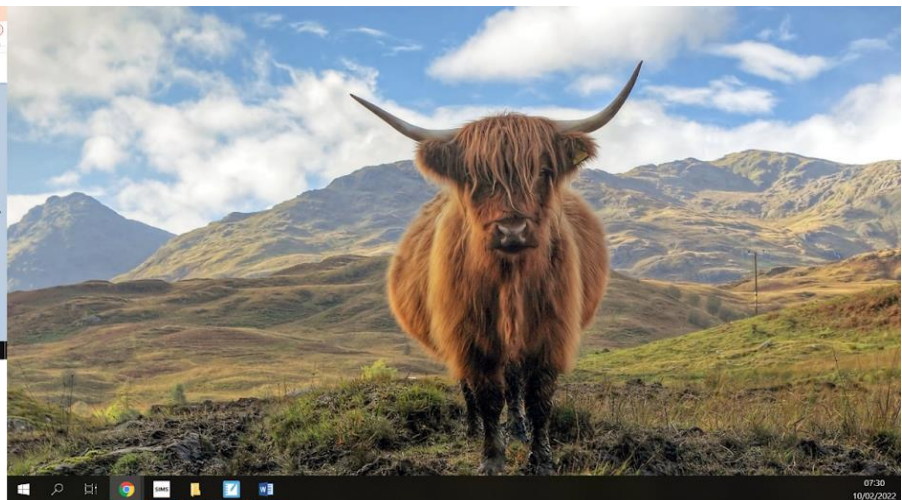
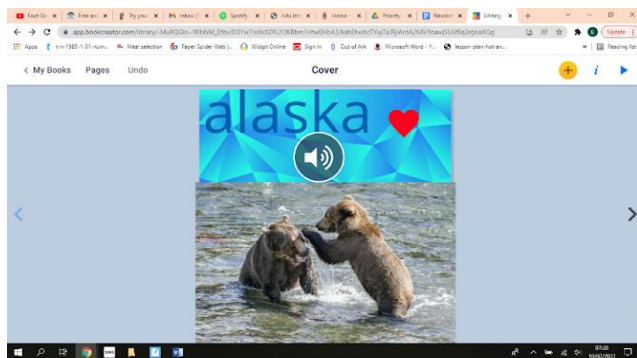
## Birch:

Year 2 have been doing some amazing learning the last couple of weeks. We have been busy learning about climate change in Geography and how it affects the different climate zones the children have been learning about. The children then made up their own very creative raps and songs to help children to take care of the planet. As well as this they have been spending time on the chrome books creating their own books comparing what life is like in the two very different climates of Alaska or Malaysia.

Our Science learning has linked very well to our Geography as we have been thinking about recycling. We made our very own paper from paper that we didn't need in class anymore! There was such great team work and the children will all get to take a little bit home with them!

The children have also started learning the ukuleles in Year 2 and have been playing songs using the C chord. I have been so impressed at how sensible the children have been getting the instruments out and how well they have listened and learned the new chords. Hopefully we can learn some more chords and showcase some of our songs soon!

**Word of the week:** biodegradable

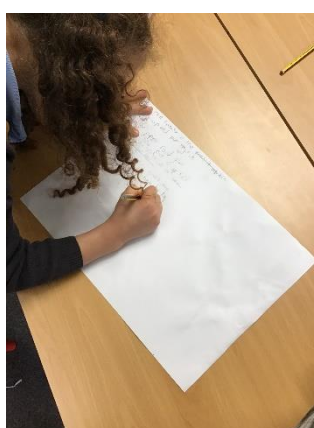


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## Chestnut:

Over the past couple of weeks in Year 3, we have been very busy writing diary entries set in India as part of our English topic on diaries. I have been so impressed with the way the children have been able to write from a perspective they do not have first hand experience of. In Maths, we have been busy dividing 2 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers and using manipulative resources and part whole models to help us.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our DT project this last week also related to our Geography topic of India. Last week, we taste tested various samosas and vegetables, and smelt different spices to help us choose which spices we would like in our own Samosas. After designing their own Samosas. The children have spent the past couple of days working in small groups to make their own samosas. From peeling the potatoes and frying the onions to rolling the pastry and grating their carrots, the children have made their own samosas entirely from scratch with only my supervision. They should be so proud of their culinary skills! Maybe they can now make samosas for you all at home!

## Word of the week: Scorching



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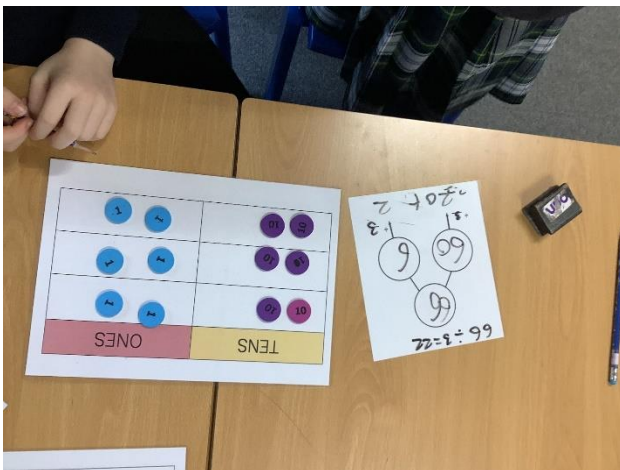
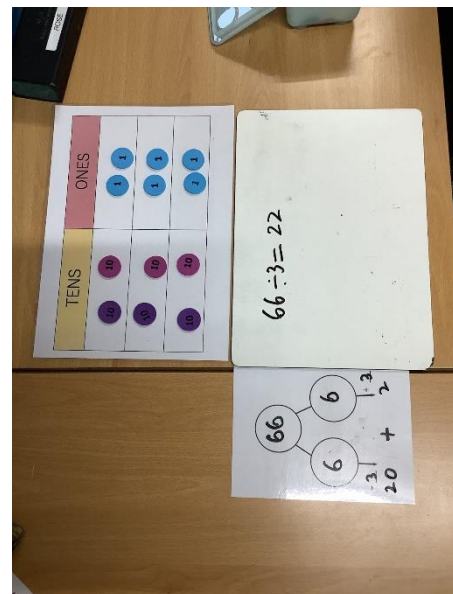
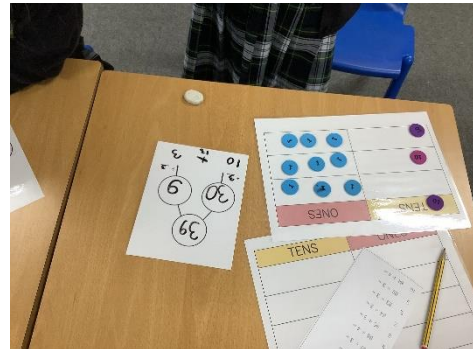
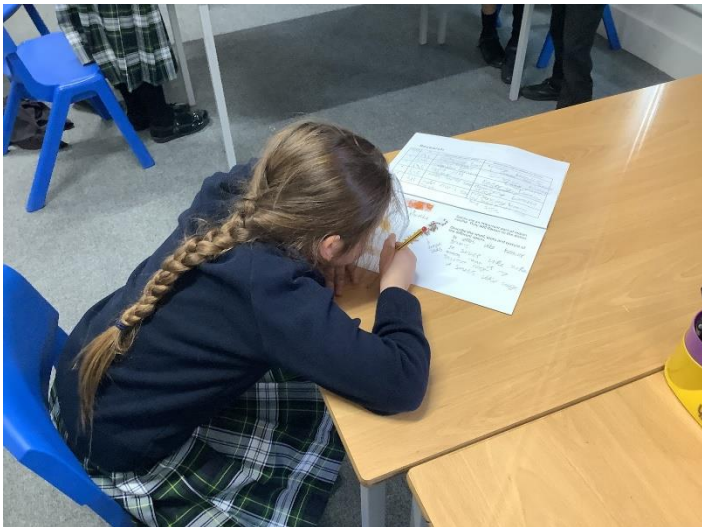
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**Pine:**

**Word of the week:** Integrity

In English and Guided Reading we have been reading fictional texts based on the real life stories of 2 refugee children. Having read a story about a boy called Sami who lived in Beirut during war time, the children wrote their own resolutions for the story. Their endings included fleeing to seek refugee status, taking part in a peaceful protest and hiding to remain safe. The children showed great emotional maturity and were able to thoughtfully consider the emotions of the main character.

In maths, we have started our new topic on fractions. Children have found fractions of amounts and shapes and gained an understanding of what a fraction is. They have also learnt how to identify equivalent fractions and started to learn about fractions greater than 1.

As part of their science topic, *Animals Including Humans*, Year 4 have been learning the names, types and functions of teeth. The children can plan and conduct a fair test to investigate the effect different liquids have on our teeth. They submerged egg shells (because they also contain calcium) in a variety of liquids, including: vinegar, cola, no added-sugar squash and milk. Pine class were very excited to see the results. They were surprised the cola did not break the eggshell down as much as they had predicted. Lots of Year 4s did predict correctly that the vinegar would have the biggest effect; if you see a member of Pine Class, do ask them why!



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This week, Year 4 decorated eggs in the style of Peter Carl Fabergé. At the start of their geography topic, *Exploring Eastern Europe*, Year 4 found out about the famous jeweller from Russia and planned their own egg designs in their sketchbooks. The final pieces include gems carefully positioned to create: their initials, waves, trees and even a dragon!



### Outside Achievements

We would like to say a huge congratulations to Daria who took part in a London area Judo competition and finished 3rd achieving a bronze medal. We are so very proud of you, well done!



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