



King's Academy Oakwood

Dare to be Remarkable



Summer Term 2022

Welcome back to school for the Summer term! I hope you all had a restful Easter break. I cannot believe we have reached our final term in Reception- this year has just flown by but I am so unbelievably proud of each and every single one of your children and the tremendous progress they have made since they started school. I am really looking forward to continuing to help them flourish during the Summer term, in preparation for Year 1 and their future lives.

Our Topic for the first half of the Summer Terms is 'Nature Rocks'. We will be exploring the life cycles of butterflies and chickens as well as learning about minibeasts. We will have our very own caterpillars and eggs in class to help support this learning. I know the children will absolutely love witnessing the amazing life cycles of these creatures in the classroom!

We became so engrossed in our dinosaur learning in the Spring term that we didn't move on to our topic of Space so the second part of the Summer term will begin with our space 'Look Up' topic which I have no doubt will ignite great awe and wonder in your children! We will then move on to learn about superheroes at the end of the year, including real life superheroes!



Opportunity and Success on a Global Stage

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Executive Principal: Mrs Sarah Howells

As mentioned in the Autumn and Spring Term, the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is split into seven areas and some of the learning opportunities for this term are detailed below. The first three areas (PSED, Communication and Language and Physical Development) are called the Prime areas. These areas are particularly important for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving and are hence interwoven throughout all we do in Reception. The children will continue to be given a plethora of opportunities which enable them to play and explore, help develop their resilience and perseverance and develop their creativity and critical thinking.

Personal, Social, Emotional Development

During this final term of Reception, we will continue to nurture your children and continue to help them to value themselves as the amazing and unique individuals they are. We will provide them with a variety of learning opportunities that develop their independence, focus and confidence. Indoor and outdoor provision will continue to allow children to work collaboratively with friends and we will support them with building respectful relationships. We will continue to support your child with managing their emotions as well as showing understanding towards the feelings of others and managing any conflicts independently. Towards the end of the term, the children will spend time in their new class in preparation for their transition to Year 1.



Communication and Language

Over this term, we will be building on the excellent communication and language skills that the children have learnt so far during their Reception year. There will continue to be plenty of opportunities for the children to speak and to listen, in whole class groups, small groups and one to one. We will be encouraging the children to speak in fully formed sentences, including the correct use of past, present and future tenses and conjunctions (joining words). We will continue to have a weekly 'Word of the Week' to help increase the children's ever-growing vocabulary and we will continue to let you know the Words of the Week in our fortnightly newsletter so that you can encourage your child to use these words at home. I know lots of you have great fun with these words at home and the children use them so fabulously in a variety of contexts!



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Physical Development

We will continue to encourage the children to be very active throughout the school day, with lots of opportunities for movement and endless opportunities for developing gross and fine motor skills. The children will continue to have two PE lessons a week (Tuesday and Wednesday), one of these being a Gymnastics session, focusing on revising and refining a whole host of physical skills and developing overall body strength, coordination, balance and agility. Our remaining PE lesson will focus on the skills needed for upcoming Sports Day (details to follow later in the term). Children will continue to be given the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills so they can use a range of tools (such as scissors, paint brushes, tweezers and cooking equipment) competently and safely. Children will be given opportunities to demonstrate accuracy and care when drawing using the correct tripod grip.

Willow Class will continue to be encouraged to develop their independence with tasks such as zipping up coats, toileting, undressing/dressing and using cutlery correctly at lunchtime. The children have made brilliant progress in this area throughout the year. Please continue to encourage your child to be as independent as possible with these tasks at home, in preparation for Year 1.



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Literacy

During this term, we will be reading lots more wonderful fiction and non-fiction books to support our learning in class and will continue to enjoy a plethora of rhymes, poems and songs. Children will demonstrate what has been read to them by retelling stories and narrative using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary. We will continue with our daily RWInc daily phonics sessions, focusing on identifying more digraphs and trigraphs (sounds with 2 or 3 letters in them) and blending these sounds in words. We will be working on children's fluency when reading and supporting them to 'Fred in their head' (sound out a word in their head before saying it aloud). We will be providing children with a range of purposeful and engaging writing opportunities and encourage them to write phrases and sentences that can be read by others, reminding them to use a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.

An adult in school will continue to hear your child read once a week. Please ensure their reading book is in school every day and please support your child's reading progress by listening to them read some pages of their school reading book at home as much as possible and recording this reading in the yellow reading record. This really does help their reading progress immensely and as always please do spend time sharing and enjoying a range of stories at home with your child. Modelling reading and instilling a love of books in your child is so important to their development.

Our Class Library time will continue to be on a Friday morning so please ensure your child's Library folder and book is in their book bag on this day. Please do look after our precious library books. If a book is lost we will ask for it to be replaced or paid for.



Mathematics

Maths will continue to be practical, engaging, purposeful and fun and there will be plenty of opportunities for maths throughout the day in Reception. The children will be consolidating their understanding of numbers to 10 but also begin identifying and building numbers to 20. We will learn about odd and even numbers, double facts and begin exploring sharing and grouping. The children will also develop their adding, taking away, spatial reasoning and map skills. Children will demonstrate their understanding of these areas by applying their maths skills to a variety of problems throughout the school day.



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Understanding the World

As we move from Spring to Summer we will observe the changing season and how the natural world is changing around us, focusing on describing what we see, hear and feel whilst outside. As previously mentioned, the caterpillars and eggs we have in class will provide children with a wonderful hands-on experience of the magic of nature!

We will continue to discover countries that are special to us and interest us, discussing how they are similar and different to the UK. Through books and discussions, we will talk about people and events from the past, to help deepen children's understanding of the past and present and the children will discuss similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in the country and our school community.

During the Summer Term we will spend time learning about lots of special celebrations including Ramadan and Eid, St George's Day, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Father's Day.

We are very lucky to have a diverse range of cultures and families in our class. If your family celebrates a special event or festival, please do let me know so that we can learn about it in class. If you would like to come into school and share anything about your culture, religion, job or special interest with Willow Class to help better their understanding of the world we would be very grateful and would welcome you with open arms!



Spanish

Spanish will continue to be taught once a week over the term by Señora Laroche. The Children thoroughly enjoy their Spanish lessons and this term their Spanish learning will be focused around learning the names of shapes and wild animals in Spanish, as well as reviewing previously learnt vocabulary. Olé!



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Expressive Arts and Design

The children in Willow Class will continue to have access to a range of creative resources which they can use throughout the day. They will safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. We will encourage the children to share their creations, explaining the process that they have used. Children will make use of props and materials when roleplaying characters throughout the learning environment. We will provide many opportunities to sing and dance. We will listen to a variety of songs and music and the children will use percussion instruments to express themselves. Through our 'Composer of the Fortnight', the children have the opportunity to experience a wide range of music. This term, we have an exciting theatre trip to see 'The Gruffalo' play to look forward to (more details to follow). I have no doubts the children will adore the show and it may well inspire some of our future thespians!



Star of the Week

Every Friday, I will be continuing to choose one child to be the star of the week. This is based on our school's DARE values:

- **Determination**
- **Aspiration**
- **Respect**
- **Enthusiasm**



The children will also be able to collect dojo points for demonstrating these values during the school day – these count individually as well as for their house.

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Tapestry

I know lots of you enjoy seeing what your children have been learning at school via Tapestry and looking at photos together with your child is a great prompt for eliciting information about their day and learning! Please bear in mind that whilst we love capturing your child's learning as often as we can, our priority is interacting with your child and supporting their learning and development so there may be periods in which you do not see observations as regularly as other times. Please do continue to post any pictures or learning from home that you would like your child to share in class.



I am so looking forward to this Summer Term with Willow Class and working in a supportive partnership with you.

Please do not hesitate to come and ask me any questions, my door is always open.

Kind regards,

Mrs Troublé

Reception Teacher

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