



King's Academy Oakwood

**Dare to be Remarkable**

# Newsletter

## Head of Primary News

Dear parents and carers,

It is hard to believe that another term has gone by. As usual, the students have shown the most amazing resilience in regards to catch up work, staff absence, student absence and illness. We are so proud of our students and all that they have achieved and I hope that you were pleased with your child's report and the parents meeting with your class teacher.

Please do know that whilst we have three reports and two parents' evenings per year, the teachers are always happy to speak to you about any concerns or queries you may have outside of those times. Our doors are always open and whilst a teacher may not be able to speak at the start or end of the day, they will happily arrange a meeting with you for a more suitable time.

## Cricket Skills

We are so proud of all of the primary students from KAB and KAO who took part in the cricket skills tournaments. We sent two teams to the initial competition at Great Hollands Recreation Ground and were invited to send a team to the Berkshire Winter School Games. I am so pleased to say that our team returned as bronze medallists! There are a range of competitions that run through Bracknell Forest for a variety of age groups so all students will have the opportunity, through their time in the primary phase, to represent the Academies.



## Opportunity and Success on a Global Stage

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## Term Time Holidays

Students have missed out on so much in school learning over the past two years that it is really alarming to see children being removed from school for a second, or in some cases, third term time holiday! Whilst I completely understand that holidays are important for you as families and that some learning can take place during holidays, taking children during term time has a hugely detrimental effect on their learning. Some families take their children out of school at the end of each term which means key assessments are not completed, the children do not get the opportunity to consolidate their learning and they miss the end of key topics and learning.

Term time holidays will never be approved for this reason and I ask that you book holidays within the 13 weeks school holidays. Some parents have even asked staff to set work for their children to complete on holiday; this is a completely unreasonable demand and unfair to expect teachers to add to their workload by organising additional work.

We keep regular track of attendance with our minimum expectation being 97%. I completely understand that small children get ill and need time off, however I do have a duty to invite parents in next term and arrange for attendance plans to be put into place to support students with low attendance.

Have a wonderful two week break and we will see you on Tuesday 19th April.

Kind regards,



Mrs Tate

Head of Primary



**Friday 1st April:** Last day of Term and Easter Hat competition (PTA event)

**4th - 18th April:** Easter Holidays

**Tuesday 19th April:** Start of Term

**Monday 2nd May:** Academies closed (bank holiday)

**Monday 30th May - 3rd June:** Half Term Break

**Tuesday 19th - 21st July:** Year 4 residential to Runway's End

**Friday 22nd July:** Last day of Term

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### Willow

Name	House
Jack W	Churchill
Norah	Mandela
Sebastian S	Nightingale
Jessica H	Curie

### Ash

Name	House
Isabelle	Churchill
Joshua W	Mandela
Sienna	Nightingale
Kyla	Curie

### Birch

Name	House
Mia	Churchill
Olivia	Mandela
Noah	Nightingale
Inara	Curie

### Chestnut

Name	House
Isla A	Churchill
Daisy	Mandela
Georgia S	Nightingale
Mila	Curie

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### Pine

Name	House
Angelica	Churchill
Eva	Mandela
Charlotte	Nightingale
Molly	Curie

**DARE Students of the Spring Term** - Stand out students who have embodied our values of determination, aspiration, respect and enthusiasm this term!

#### Willow - Vincent

For always showing such a positive attitude to his learning and for being such a role model at all times.  
Well done Vincent, you are a super star learner!

#### Ash - Jackson

Jackson is consistently showing determination across all subjects and will contribute such interesting ideas to class discussions. He has worked incredibly hard this term and is always striving to challenge himself. Well done Jackson!

#### Birch - Charlie

For such an improved attitude to his learning. He has been showing more determination and aspiration in his writing and fantastic enthusiasm for Maths. Well done Charlie!

#### Chestnut - Georgia S

For being such a positive role model since starting at King's Academy Oakwood and for always showing such enthusiasm for your learning.

#### Pine - Din

For ALWAYS being kind and trying his very best in everything he does!

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## Willow

Willow class has had a brilliant end to their Spring term and I am so proud of how hard they have all worked this term. Spring finally arrived last week and they enjoyed spending time outdoors noticing changes in Nature and making some wonderful observational drawings and paintings of the beautiful daffodils that have bloomed.

Last week, the children enjoyed learning about Mother's day and made some beautiful cards and pattern bracelets to give to their mummies. After listening to one of our favourite stories by Jill Murray, 'Five Minutes Peace', the children all thought of some great ways to treat their mummies on Mother's day so we hope you mummies were all thoroughly spoiled!

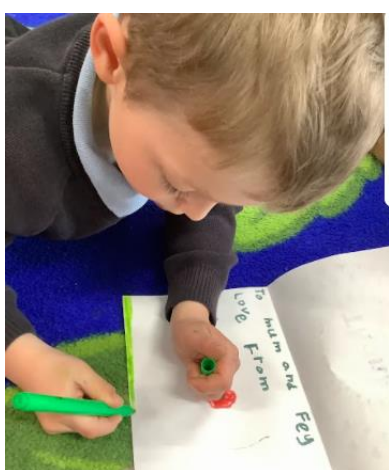
This week, our learning has revolved around Easter and why and how Christians celebrate it. We have learnt the Easter story and enjoyed lots of Easter activities, including painting some Easter eggs and going on an Easter egg hunt. Having an egg rolling competition was lots of fun too! It allowed the children to explore the properties of 3D objects as they rolled eggs, balls and dice down the ramps. The children also built magnificent churches and other buildings using their understanding of 3D shapes in the environment.

I hope you all have a very well deserved Easter break and see you all in the Summer Term!

### Word of the Week:

Last week: Omnivore

This week: Flabbergasted



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## Ash

All the children have worked incredibly hard over this past term and they should be so proud of themselves!

In Maths, the children have been learning about weight, height, volume and capacity! They all had wonderful enthusiasm when measuring out different volume and using key language of full, almost full, half, almost empty and empty. We have also been getting into the Easter spirit with some Easter maths equations. The children were using whiteboard pens on the table to draw out their counters to find out the answers to the sums.

In Science, we have finished off our 'Materials' topic by sorting different objects into various groups. For example, some children put them into groups based upon their properties or what materials they were made from.

I have been so impressed with how focused the children have been in computing this half term. They have been working hard on their touch typing skills and have thoroughly enjoyed going on 'dance mat typing' on BBC Bitesize to help develop their skills.

I hope you all have a wonderful and well-deserved break!

### Word of the Week: Crinkle



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## Birch

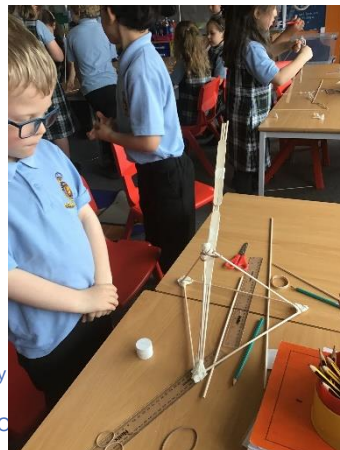
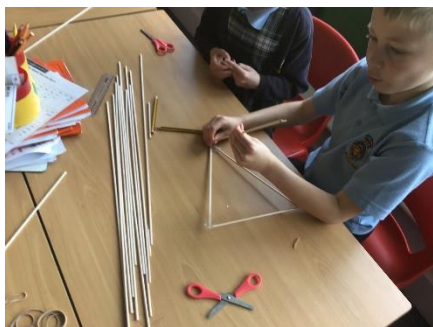
We have packed a lot in these last couple of weeks and Birch have been working so hard! They have been practising their writing by inventing a dragon and writing a non-chronological report all about it. The children also drew pictures that came out amazingly and they were all so creative!

Tying in with our castles topic in History, children made their own catapults. We looked at two different types: a lollipop catapult and a pyramid catapult. The children worked in groups for their pyramid catapults and the results from their wonderful teamwork were incredible. The class then went outside and tested the catapults. They fired cubes into the air to see which catapult made their cube go the furthest. They then wrote an evaluation on what went well and how to make them better next time. It was such good fun!

For their computing, Birch class have been doing lots of work on data collection and writing it up on the computer.

We have also been doing lots of wonderful easterly things to end a very packed term. I hope that everyone has a well-deserved, relaxing Easter break!

### Word of the Week: Trebuchet



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## Chestnut

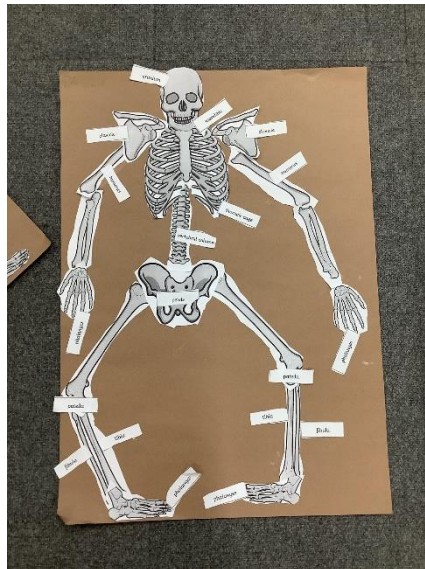
In English, we have been enjoying writing non chronological reports about Gladiators. The class have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Gladiator battles and have worked hard to make their non fiction texts factually accurate and informative. In Maths, we have been learning about statistics; We have been presenting data on pictograms, bar charts and tables and also interpreting data already presented in these ways.

In Science, the class thoroughly enjoyed learning about the human skeleton and learning the scientific names for their bones as well as gaining an understanding about how we move due to our muscles and joints.

In History, we have been continuing our learning about the Romans and considering what the Romans did for us by exploring the many impacts the Romans had that are still evident in today's society. The class are very excited to finish our Romans topic with our Roman day tomorrow!

In PE lessons, the children enjoyed using various apparatus, including the wall bars to put together routines in pairs using various jumps, rolls, balances and ways of travelling. It was wonderful to see the children working so sensibly and enthusiastically with their partners.

## Word of the Week: Bucolic



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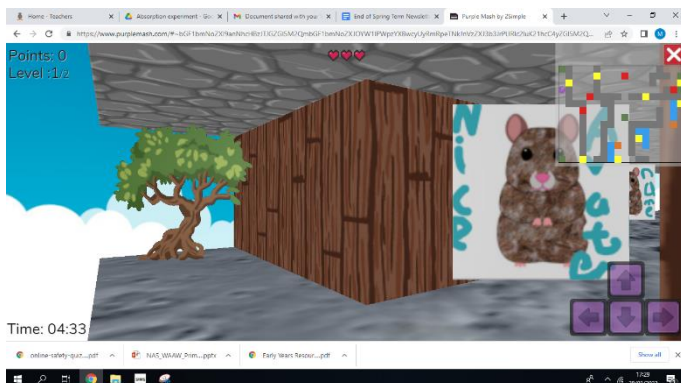
In English, year 4 have been using everything they've learnt to write persuasive leaflets about the school. It has been truly lovely to read all the wonderful things they have had to say about the learning, staff and facilities at this school.

In maths, we have continued our learning on decimal fractions; including multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100, knowing the value of each digit and representing decimal fractions on a number line and a place value grid.

In science, Year 4 have been investigating which material is best at absorbing sound. They planned and conducted a fair test using fabric, bubble wrap, cotton wool, newspaper and tissue paper. Most of our predictions were proved right - can you guess which one absorbed the most sound from the iPad?



In our afternoon sessions, Pine class has also been designing their own computer games using Purple Mash. Working in teams of 6, they have created their own sprites and sound effects. Younger children will be able to play the games to learn about keeping safe online. We will be entering one of the games into a national competition - good luck, Year 4!



**Last week's word of the week:** obstinate  
**Word of the Week:** imperative

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## **Outside Achievements**

We would like to say a big Well Done to Georgia on being awarded "Player of the Match" at her Football Club at the weekend. We are very proud of you.



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