

KEY DIARY DATES

PE Days: Mondays and Wednesdays

Books will be changed fortnightly on a Thursday

7th Jan – Bring in your favourite small toy

9.1.26: Non-Uniform Day: Fundraiser for Livestock Day

23.01.26: Handwriting day

29th Jan-4th Feb: National story telling week

2.2.26: You are Invited: Parent drop in to class : Zones of Regulation

3.2.26: Choir performing at Young Voices, Wembley

6.2.26- Non-Uniform Day: NSPCC Number Day

9.2.26-15.2.26: Children's Mental Health Week

12.2.26: Safer Internet Day Sharing Assembly to parents @ 2.15pm in hall

Half Term: Monday 16th- Friday 20th February 2026

Welcome Back and Happy New Year

Welcome back and happy New Year to all our children, families, and staff! We hope you had a joyful and relaxing Christmas break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the exciting term ahead.

This half term will be full of new challenges, exciting learning, and lots of opportunities to discover what you can achieve. We will be exploring new topics, developing our reading and writing skills, tackling fun mathematical challenges, and enjoying creative subjects such as art, music, and PE. Most importantly, we will be learning how to work together, support one another, and enjoy our learning every day.

We are pleased to share that Willow Class will be welcoming their new teacher this term, Ms Stroud. She is very much looking forward to getting to know the children and supporting them in their learning. She is committed to ensuring that all children feel happy, confident, and settled as we move forward together.

For parents and carers, thank you for your support. Working together is key to helping the children feel confident, happy, and successful at school. We will continue to keep you informed about learning, events, and ways you can support your child at home. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

Ms Stroud

Our Lessons: Curriculum Information

English (Writing): 'The Magic Paintbrush' by Julia Donaldson is a lovely traditional tale and we will be using this as our model for writing our own traditional tale. As ever I can't wait to read their stories. The next text we are looking at is 'The Street Beneath my Feet' by Charlotte Guillan and Yuval Zommer. This is a non fiction and an explanation text. Our learning outcome will be to write our own explanation text about rocks and soil.

Whole Class Reading: We will be reading the 'Just So Stories' and developing our fluency skills and our performance reading aloud. Following this we will be reading 'The Rock Factory', this also supports our learning for English and our Science next term.

Maths: We are continuing to deepen our knowledge of multiplication and division- please continue lots of times tables practice at home- this really helps our children. We then move on to length and perimeter, so lots of fun measuring and practicing using a ruler to measure at school and at home please.

Science: In this engaging unit we explore the properties of light, understanding how it travels and its interactions with various objects to create shadows.

Handwriting: We are continuing to practise our letter formation.

Spelling: This term will focus on the explicit teaching of prefixes and suffixes, helping children understand how adding them changes the meaning of words and supports accurate spelling in their independent writing..

RE: Our focus this term is Judaism with the theme of Beliefs and Practices. We will be exploring 'How special is the relationship Jews have with God?' We are also deepening our knowledge with our class trip to a synagogue.

Geography: Our key enquiry for Geography this term is : Beyond the Magic Kingdom: What is the sunshine state really like? We will be learning all about the geography of Florida and making comparisons to Norfolk.

Art: Working with shape and colour, we will be exploring the work of Matisse and discovering how we can create artwork by using scissors to create shape and negative space. We will also be adding line to the collage to add depth and definition.

Computing: Sequencing Sounds. This unit explores the concept of sequencing in programming through Scratch. It culminates in a final project to make a representation of a piano.

French: Mon Corps- Parts of the body, with a nice project on character descriptions and numbers 11-20.

Music: In music we will be using Glockenspiels and using imagination when creating compositions. Also, thinking deeply about the world, our communities and relationships with others.

PE: Children will be swimming every Wednesday . Gymnastics lessons will be on Monday, where children will have the opportunity to develop their agility, balance and coordination. They will also develop their teamwork skills.

Shared Reading Book: The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson

At Home

Your continued support at home with your children's learning is greatly appreciated.

Please continue to read, log on Boom Reader and write book reviews to complete our reading Bingo. Reading at home develops fluency and supports learning in spelling.

Please also encourage TTRS, this really supports the children with their maths fluency in multiplication timetables.

Please practise your child's spellings at home, this supports developing writing and reading skills.

Homework will continue to be in a grid format where you can choose an activity each week.

How you can help your child at home?

- Please **read** regularly with your child asking them questions about what they are reading, the characters and their opinions. Then please complete Boom Reader to confirm that they have read with you **every day**. Read aloud and even make the occasional deliberate mistake – as allowing your child to correct you helps them to see we all make mistakes!
- Encourage your child to learn their spellings from the Year 3 and 4 Statutory Spelling list: https://cdn.oxfordowl.co.uk/2019/08/29/13/54/08/76f1443d-9b6d-4030-be0d-25fcfef01438/SpellingWordList_Y3-4.pdf Also, learn our focus spelling word. Lots of practice writing the words in all different places- in the mud with a stick, chalk on the pavement, hide and seek with words around the house, it all helps!
- Again, for maths, multiplication and division is a focus. Lots of practical situations when we use timestables '3 for you, 3 for them and 3 for them is the same as $3 \times 3 = 9$ ' or '3 lots of 3 = 9'. The same with division, it is helpful if you start to talk about 'sharing and grouping' – sharing 12 between 4 groups = 3 or 12 in groups of 4=3.
- We continue focusing on times tables 2,3,4,5,8, 10. Learning can be done in many ways and different children respond to different styles. Take a look at our [help with times tables](#) page to support you.
- Please do start to talk about measure at home– thinking about the size, length of items and familiarise our children with units of lengths.
- Please also encourage your child to access Times Tables Rockstars at home.

Questions, Queries, Concerns: If you have any queries or concerns, please do speak to myself or one of the team at the start or end of the school day. Alternatively, either telephone or email using year3@obps.set.education

Many thanks for your support,

Claire Stroud and team

PE

This term we are lucky to be taking our PE to Diss leisure centre for Swimming lessons. This will be on a Monday afternoon within school hours. Children will need to wear swimming costumes for girls and swimming shorts for boys. Swim hats **MUST** be worn and goggles may be worn. Please ensure that your child has a water bottle with them in school.

Our other PE lesson- gymnastics will be on **Wednesday** this term. Please can the children arrive in school wearing their PE kit as per the uniform policy.

Snacks and Water Bottles

Children **must** bring a bottle of **still, plain water** to school so that they may drink whenever they are thirsty (a sip bottle is ideal). They are not allowed to bring fizzy or flavoured water.

Please remember that in Year 3 our children no longer receive fruit or veg so please bring in a fruit or vegetable snack for breaktime.

Equipment

We provide stationery; therefore, your child does not need to bring in their own pencil case.