

Oak Hill Church of
England Primary School
*'Jesus said, 'I have come that you may
have life in all its fullness'
(John 10:10)*

FAITH – VALUES – ACTION



Newsletter Friday 4th November 2022

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to everyone after half term when we begin one of the busiest terms of the school year. We want to say a big welcome to Evelyn who joins us in Year 4. Welcome to the Oak Hill Family.

Reception Places

Just a reminder that applications for Reception places close on 15th January 2023. We are currently showing parents around the school. If you know parents who are considering schools for their children, please do urge them to come in and see us.

Building Work

It has been an incredibly busy half term holiday period for our builders. The doors have been fitted to the Key Stage 1 classroom so we are able to start developing the outdoor area further for the children's use. The fencing and control entry points have enhanced the security of the site and safety of the children.

The main entrance to the school is now controlled by intercom and dongle access. To get out of the controlled doors, there are green buttons at a higher level on the front door and on the shed near the main gate.

There is still a bit of 'snagging' work to be carried out and then we can begin to develop further the resources outside for the children.



Bishop Gareth visits Oak Hill

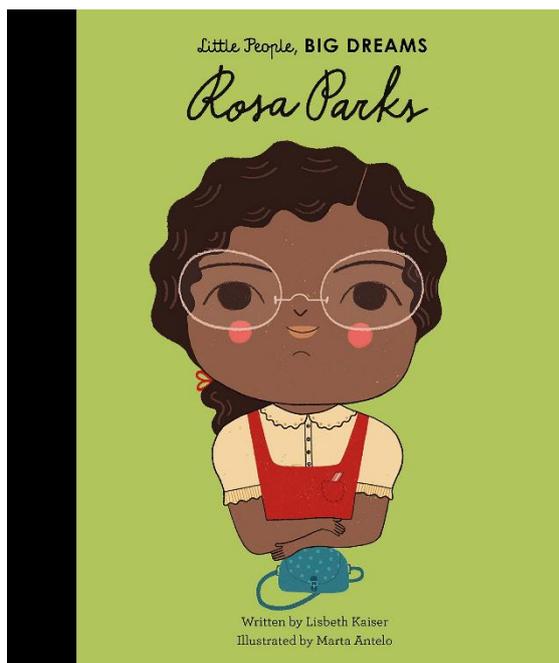
Next Thursday, we will be welcoming Bishop Gareth Davies to Oak Hill. Bishop Gareth will be joining us for Collective Worship, a tour of the school and a chance to see the improvements that have been made throughout the school and its environments.

Book review

Little People, Big Dreams: Rosa Parks

This book tells you the story of Rosa Parks' life. We think she was like a superhero as she wanted everyone to be treated equally no matter the colour of their skin. She spent lots of her life fighting for what was right and even got arrested when she wouldn't give up her seat on the bus for a person with white skin. We think you will like this book as it is full of interesting facts. We have been reading lots of the Little People, Big Dreams books and we think you will find one that is interesting for you, so go and take a look at the collection!

Rowan Class



Therapeutic Gardening

The children were very excited to find that our honesty and hollyhock seedlings had germinated over half term – they noticed the differences in germination rates between the honesty in Mrs. Edwards' classroom which had got very leggy due to lack of enough light, compared to the honesty in the greenhouse which looked shorter but stronger and sturdier. The children then pricked them out of their seed trays and put them into individual pots to grow on. Then we finished off planting more spring bulbs in containers at the front of the school which we hope will put on a super display next year. We talked about taking pride in our school and thinking about how it might make the children feel to know they had planted those bulbs, which would make such a difference welcoming people into the school at springtime. Using hands and making contact with the soil and specific soil bacteria (*mycobacterium vaccae*) is known to increase serotonin levels which makes you feel more relaxed and happier and can also strengthen the immune system.





Carol Service

Advance Notice:

We would like to invite everyone to our Carol Service at St Margaret's in Alderton on Thursday 15th December at 6pm. All children will be performing in the service and Year 6 will be leading us in worship.

National Children's Measurement Programme

The National Children's Measurement Programme for Reception and Year 6 will take place on 5th January 2023.

On the same day the Reception children will have their vision screening. Further details will follow,

Online Safety

FIFA 23, like its many predecessors, is a massively popular football simulator featuring lifelike recreations of thousands of real-world players, drawn from teams around the globe. While the gameplay is subtly improved year on year, the publisher EA's focus remains firmly on FIFA Ultimate Team – a mode in the game that can tempt players of all ages to spend actual money on recruiting better players for their side. With each new release of FIFA comes a host of new players to unlock – meaning that youngsters can feel pressured to keep buying to compete with their friends.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as age-inappropriate chat, scammers and addiction.

Attendance

We have adjusted our Attendance Policy with regard to the changes from the Department of Education that were brought in in September. The policy now includes a form that must be filled in to request periods of absence. We will send a copy of the policy via Dojo to all parents shortly.

Book Fair

Book Fair 9th - 16th November. No cash - there will be a QR code to scan and make payment online.



<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

REMINDER: Shoe boxes are due in school by the 15th November.



Operation Christmas Child

This year Oak Hill will once again be taking part in Operation Christmas Child, the UK's largest children's Christmas appeal. It is an initiative of the Christian relief and development agency Samaritan's Purse and provides underprivileged children around the world with gift-filled shoeboxes wrapped and packed by children and adults in the UK. The idea is simple. Children and adults wrap and pack shoeboxes with a range of gifts and bring them to school. These are then collected and sent overseas where local churches distribute them to children, on the basis of need alone. This year the goal is to send two-thirds of shoeboxes from the UK to Ukraine or the neighbouring countries like Moldova and Romania that are hosting many Ukrainian refugee families. If you would like to fill a shoe box, please look out for a leaflet and letter that will be sent home with your child this week.

For more information, please take a look at

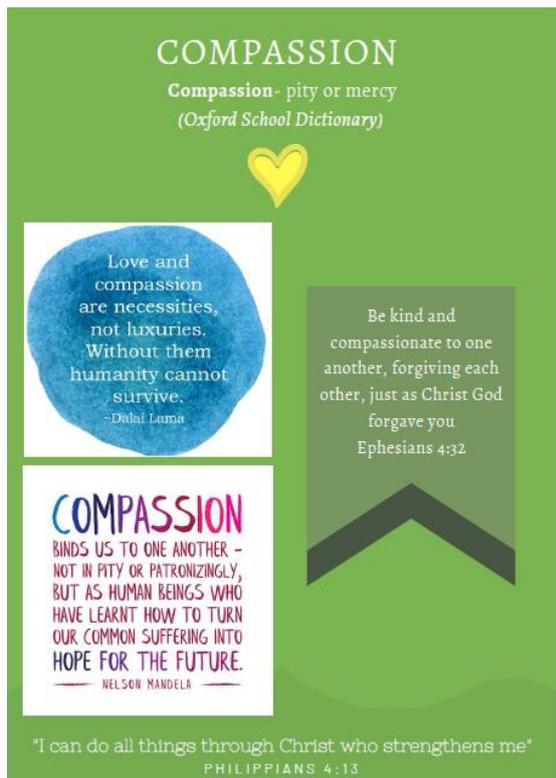
Pupil News

Congratulations to Betsy who has been made a Sixer in her Cubs group!

Betsy was chosen for this role because of her leadership skills and encouraging all fellow cubs to join in!



Half Termly Christian Value



Church Service in Alderton

Services this Sunday are:

9.00am Great Washbourne HC Trad

10.30am Dumbleton HC CW

Children in Need

Friday 18th November is Children in Need. This year's theme is Spotacular! We will be holding a sponsored 'On the Spot-o-Thon'. The children will be taking part in a number of timed physical activities on the spot. Letters with more information and sponsor forms will be coming home on Monday.

Christmas Bunting

Over the next week the children will be decorating a lovely Christmas themed bunting flag. These will be sent to the charity Starlight who work with hospitals. The lovely bunting will then be sent over to various children's wards to decorate the

rooms of children who have to spend this time of year in hospital. Alderton Acorns will be creating bunting as well.

Rowan Class

This week in Rowan Class we have been using the story book 'Last Stop on Market Street' to help us write some sentences using the conjunction 'and'. We have also been trying to get some exclamation marks in our work by thinking of excited exclamations. We listened to sounds of buses pulling in and thought of some human exclamations of being 'fed up'. The children wrote some fantastic sentences.

In Maths, we have been doing lots of work on number bonds. Reception have been working on their number recognition to 10, Year 1 have been learning their number bonds within 10 and Year 2 up to 100.

We were very lucky to be joined by Joanne from Tewkesbury Museum this week who came to talk to us about Robert Priestley. We have been learning about him as part of our topic on significant people. She told us lots of interesting facts about his life and his expeditions to Antarctica and gave all of the children a special penguin badge. The children were all keen to visit Tewkesbury Museum to find out even more, see their other exhibitions and collect more penguin badges!!





In English, the children have continued to write some creative and imaginative verses to describe Autumn.

Here are some examples from a number of children:

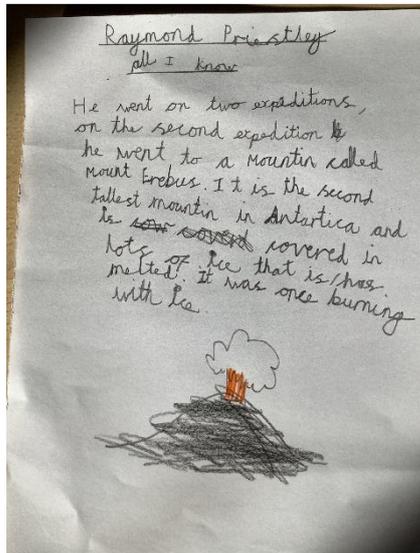
Days begin with a thin layer of candyfloss

A carpet of cloud-like mist

Red sunsets create flaming rubies in the sky

Jungles covered with sleek velcro traps

Forests provide a buffet of food for the animals



Redwood Class

It was lovely to welcome the children back after half term. We have started a new English unit. The children are going to be writing a non-fiction piece using Mount Everest as our inspiration. The children have used this week to become familiar with the shapes we need to structure a non-chronological report. This is a key part of The Write Stuff.

Elm Class

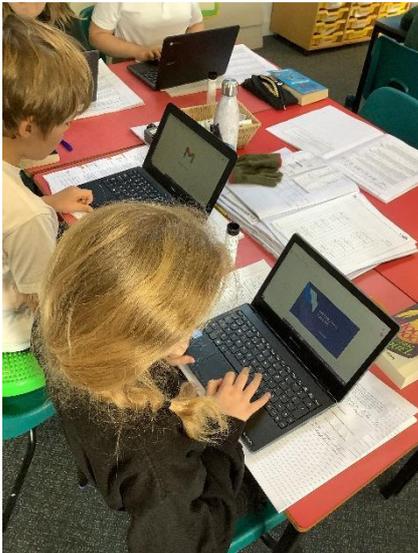
In Elm Class, we have set up a toothpaste investigation this week, coating two eggs in toothpaste with different amounts of fluoride. We look forward to using vinegar to test the results next week.

In Maths, Year 5 children have been learning about prime, square and cube numbers. They used multi links to create the cube numbers and understanding how they are created.

In Science, the children designed an investigation to test their heart rate which they will carry out the next week.

In Design and Technology, the children explored different black artists and sculptors and they will choose one of their pieces of work to recreate later in the unit.

In PE, the children have had two units of real PE focusing on two different cogs; personal and creative.



House Points

House point totals for this week:

Ashdown 210

Sherwood 198

Dean 217

Class Attendance

Rowan Class 83.6%

Elm Class 77.1%

Redwood Class 76.2%

Stars of the Week

Rowan Class:

Star of week - Edie for a fantastic write up about Raymond Priestley

Value of week - Ollie for persevering with your handwriting

Elm Class:

Star of the week: Paige for producing some excellent work this week. She has worked hard.

Value of the week: Miles for showing compassion towards others.

Redwood Class:

Star of the week: Summer for determination to learn her times tables.

Value of the week: Freddie for perseverance in Maths

Diary Dates

Please be aware that these may be subject to change.

November

- 9th Book Fair Arrives
- 10th School Disco
- 11th Remembrance Day
Flu Vaccinations am
- 18th Children in Need

December

- 5th Nativity Dress Rehearsal
- 6th Nativity Performance 2pm
- 7th Nativity Performance 6pm
- 13th Christmas Craft Day
- 14th Christmas Lunch (TBC)
- 15th Carol Service 6pm @Alderton Church
- 16th Term Ends