



Parent Information Sheet



Class	Oliver Jeffers Class
Classroom Staff	Teachers – Mrs L. Button (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday) Mrs S. Newby (Thursday & Friday) Mrs M. Cole - GTA Mrs M. Emms - HLTA
Term	Autumn Term 2018

Topics to be covered this term

Our first topic this term is called "Towers, Tunnels and Turrets". We will be focusing on all areas of the curriculum, with a strong focus on Design Technology and History. Children will be having lots of opportunities to explore castles and how they have changed over time. We will build models of castles and test them. Hopefully, a trip to a local castle will take place this term, we can't wait!

In Literacy, we will be focusing on consolidating basic skills in reading, writing and speaking and listening. Children will be beginning to write in perfect sentences using a variety of punctuation marks and capital letters when required and using their phonics to spell trickier words. They will experience writing and reading descriptive sentences, recounts, stories, labels and captions. We are beginning to develop the children's cursive script, therefore we will be practising handwriting on a weekly basis. Each week children will be expected to carry out at least one piece of extended writing which will be used as ongoing assessments. Phonics will take place daily and will build on their knowledge and skills from last year. Continuing on from last year guided reading will take place on a daily basis.

In Maths, skills will be taught in daily maths sessions and these may include: number and place value, addition and subtraction, fractions, measure and geometry. These will start with whole class teaching, before small group activities that will be a mixture of practical and written, independent and adult-led. Children will also join in with counting and number recognition games every day.

In Science, our focus will be on animals, including humans. Classifying and identifying animals, looking at the human body – parts and senses, eating healthily and working scientifically. During the year, we will also look into our seasons and the similarities and differences between each of them.

All other areas of the curriculum will be taught through our topic and will include gymnastics, ball skills, dance, agility and strength in PE, drawing and sculpture in Art and model making in D&T. Researching historical castles through times and famous people in History, developing our knowledge and skills in Music, including singing, rhythm and improvisation, recognising good and bad choices, keeping safe and making a positive contribution in PSHE.

As a school we are working on developing children's resilience and independence, we refer to this as 'Learning to learn'. Please ask your children to talk to you about this, we are working on changing the children's mind-set from a fixed one to one that will accept we learn from making mistakes, so instead of 'I can't do it!' we say 'I will try my best' or 'I will do my best'.

Important things to remember

- **Reading books and Reading Record book must be in school daily.** Please can you record in these books when you have heard your child read.
- **PE kits must be in school every day** – our hall slots are Wednesdays and Fridays.
- As a class we will visit the school library regularly when the children will have the opportunity to change their books.
- Spellings will be sent home on a weekly basis and will be practised in school on a weekly basis.
- Key words that children need to be able to read and spell will continue to be sent home alongside reading books and weekly spellings.
- Children should be carrying out tasks at home using the little and often approach, this makes it easier for you and your child.
- If you are concerned about anything, please do not hesitate to speak to us either before 8:40am or after school.
- **Year 2 children** will be taking part in swimming lessons during this term, a separate letter will be sent home regarding this.
- Children **should not** be using the equipment set up in the outside learning area before and after school, this includes younger brothers and sisters.

How to help and support your child with their learning

- Ask and discuss with your child what they have learnt at school every day, encourage them to talk in detail, encouraging them to be positive.
- Listen to them read their book, little and often and encourage them to read for extended periods of time independently, when they become able to do so.
- Ensure that your child is practising their spellings and key words. Once your child is confident with their spellings, insist that they include them in a sentence verbally and when able to write them. This consolidates your child's understanding of the word.
- Encourage your child to be more independent and ensure that they have the correct PE kit in school every day.

We are looking forward to welcoming you into our classroom later this term so that the children can showcase their learning. Dates will be sent out nearer the time.

Thank you

The Oliver Jeffers Class Team