



Oakfield House School

Newsletter April 2025



End of Term Message from the Executive Head Teacher, Mrs Rigby: As the Spring term concludes, I'd like to reflect on the progress Oakfield House School has made this term. In January we welcomed Mrs O'Donohoe as our Deputy Head, who quickly and efficiently had to adapt to acting Head of School when Miss Stevenson stepped down as Head Teacher. Mrs O'Donohoe has worked tirelessly in ensuring the smooth running of the school throughout the term, alongside Mrs Carter and the rest of the staff team. The last week of term we had our Ofsted inspection. Once I receive the official report, I look forward to sharing it with you all. I am incredibly proud of the staff team and the pupils throughout the Ofsted inspection, they were a credit to you all and the school. I am pleased to share that we have now appointed a new Head of School, Mr Williams, who will be joining us for the start of the new academic year in September 2025.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break and look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for more learning in the summer term.

Warmest regards

Helen

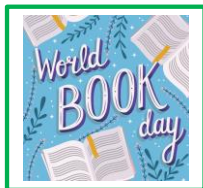
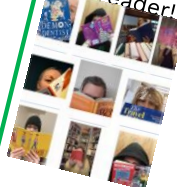
Message from Mrs O'Donohoe:

Hello everyone, I cannot believe how rapidly we are approaching the Easter holidays! It has been a very busy term. I have seen singing, comedians, baking and badge earning alongside phonics and firsts of varied kinds for many children.

As I walked around our grounds this week it was lovely to see and hear all the children outside - they are a real asset to us. They were playing, chatting and learning together in a really positive way, I am really proud to be a part of everything that is happening and thank you for supporting everything that is



World Book Day
quiz - Guess
the reader!



World Book Day:

We celebrated World Book Day this half term. The children took part in lots of book-themed activities, Children across the school dressed up as a book character and what a lot of fabulous costumes and outfits we had ... well done!



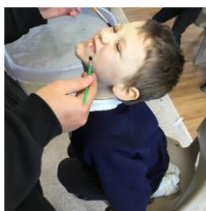
Acorn Class



Acorn Class have had another busy term and have completed lots of activities. All our children have improved with their listening and engaging skills this term and it has been so lovely to watch them learning and developing new skills! They have engaged extremely well with our 'good morning' song, playing instruments along to the music and joining in with registration to say 'good morning'! Children take part in a variety of sensory activities, such as sensory circuits, sensory massage, Playdoh Gym, spending time in the sensory room or on the sensory swing and in the immersive room. Our theme this half term has been Spring and as part of Literacy, children have been engaging in our whole class sensory story, *The Snail and the Whale*. Children have enjoyed listening to the story, exploring the objects and using communication boards to say what they like and dislike. They enjoyed looking at and exploring the sensory objects, such as gloop, water, bubbles and crushed cornflakes!



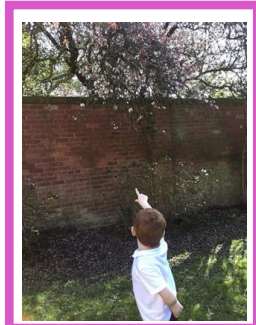
Children have also engaged in many Spring themed arts and crafts, such as exploring our home-made frogspawn (lime jelly and raisins), completing Spring themed fine motor skills activities, bee paintings, butterfly handprints, matching games and lots more! Within Numeracy, children have been counting and matching numbers, recognising numbers to 15/20, completing sorting activities and making chicks using 2D shapes. Our children have also loved spending time in our outdoor area, in the water tray, on the trim trail and we've enjoyed a snack or two outside when the sun has been shining! Acorn Class have also been on trips out to the shops, Freckleton Park and Ribby Hall park where children have continued to develop their skills to play alongside their friends, taking turns and developing their sharing skills. Children have had a weekly Forest School session with Mrs Jones, where they have been exploring the forest area within school, collecting sticks and leaves, jumping in puddles, exploring sand and toasting marshmallows on the fire. We are looking forward to seeing children after Easter and our sensory story will be *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*!



Birch Class



Birch class have had lots of fun this half term. Our topic we have explored this half term is all about spring. As the days get warmer and brighter, the children in Birch have been exploring how trees grow their leaves back and baby animals like chicks and bunnies come into the world. Our story we have been learning all about this half term is 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. The children have been able to sequence the order of the story and re tell this in their own words. They have been learning about counting, the days of the week, and even how things change in nature. The children took part in a food tasting activity, they each tried the different foods that the hungry caterpillar ate each day. Birch class have been learning all about the life cycle of a butterfly, we are currently caring for our own caterpillars and waiting for them to transform into butterflies.



Recycling

Birch class have celebrated national recycling week and have learnt all about the importance of recycling and keeping our environment clean by. The boys enjoyed making their own robots from recycled plastic bottles and really enjoyed litter picking together as a team on the school grounds.



Scouts

The boys in Birch class have invested into Beavers and have earned their neckers and also their pets and walking badges for their jumpers.



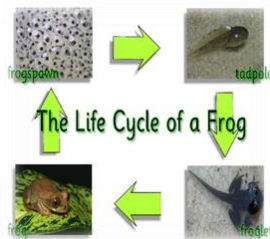
Oaks Class

Oak Class – Spring Term

This term we have been learning all about rainforests. We have explored the plants and animals that live there and found out all about ingenious tribes. The children have produced some amazing artwork and made their own masks for our class display!



In Science, we have been studying the structure and function of plants. We are growing our own beanstalks and investigating the conditions they need to grow best. We have also collected some frogspawn from the pond and watching what happens to it while we learn about the life cycle of frogs.



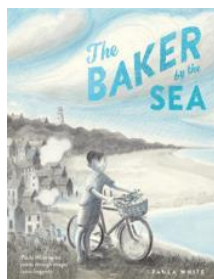
In PE, we have been developing our batting and fielding skills in cricket. We have also enjoyed celebrating world book day and raising money for comic relief!



Sycamore Class

This term we have read 'Baker by the sea' and have started 'The lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe' pupils have enjoyed looking at the 5 senses whilst trying different chocolates! We have celebrated world book day – Pupils enjoyed dressing up!

In RE we have looked at Buddhism and Hinduism stories to learn more about different religions and express our own values and beliefs. In topic, we have explored the prehistoric world and have enjoyed making our own stone age jewellery and finding out about dinosaurs.



Pine Class



This term has seen the creation of Pine class. The boys have settled in really well, and have been working really hard. They have been getting to grips with a fuller timetable and extra lessons in the day, and they are doing brilliantly!

They have been reading "I will not ever never eat a tomato" and have used their imagination to make up crazy descriptions of food...and even tasted quite a lot too. We have also had some time for fun, and enjoyed forest school, Scouts, and playing in class, focussing on turn taking.



Rowan Class

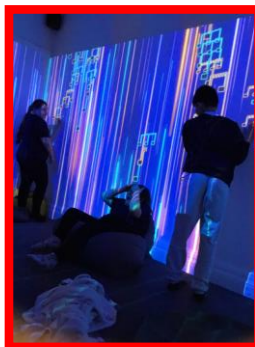


Rowan Class have had two pupils join us this half term. All pupils have been very welcoming and are building positive relationships with each other. Rowan class have been enjoying time in the immersive room, taking turns to choose which activity the group completes.

In Literacy, pupils have been focusing on the story "Tadpole's Promise". Pupils have enjoyed this story, including the twist at the end. Pupils have written their own versions of the story – including adverbial phrases and speech.

Pupils have also been focusing on the guardian newspaper three little pigs campaign. The pupils have written newspaper articles and headings. They have looked at both sides of an argument and written in roles of both, for and against.

In Numeracy, pupils have been working on long multiplication, as well as multiplying by decimal numbers. Pupils have also been working on measuring angles and finding fractions of amounts.



Maple Class



Spring term in Maple has seen a class eager to communicate which is lovely to see & hear!! Whether that be through visuals or words our Maple class students have all made huge strides forward in expressing themselves. From first sounds to new words each moment brings a smile to all the staff in Maple Class faces. One of our key focuses has been on turn taking and sharing and we are proud of the progress they have all made.



The Maple Class Team



Willow Class

Willow class have been focusing on exploring using their senses.

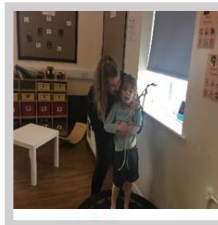
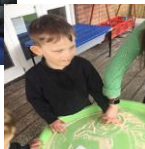
Looking – We have been looking at ourselves in the mirror and the twinkling lights in the sensory room.

Hearing – We have listened to music and tried a range of musical instruments during our sensory stories.

Feeling – We have explored a range of textures on our sensory walks in our school forest area.

Smelling – We have investigated the smell of a range of springtime flowers.

Tasting – We have been trying a range of fruit and vegetables and the different tastes they all have.



Eco Council have been taking part in litter picking and collected 5 bags of rubbish!
Amazing work by the Eco team



Message from our Therapy team:

"We welcomed two new members of the team Gail and Faizah. They have been supported in getting to know the pupils by Kim and Natalie who are long established in school.

We wanted a fun way of recording and communicating all the incidental but oh so important successes that happen each week, so we now send out a school wide "Shout out". It's been great to look back and see all the mentions even in the space of one term"



2025 Term Dates:

Easter Half Term: Pupils Finish at 2pm on Friday 4th April 25

Until 08:45 Tuesday 22nd April 25.

Inset Day: Friday 2nd May 25

UK Bank Holiday: Monday 5th May 25

May Half Term: Pupils finish at 2pm on Friday 23rd May 25

Until 08:45 Mon 2nd June 25.

Inset Day: Monday 23rd June 25

Last day of Summer Term: Pupils finish at 12 noon Tuesday 22nd July 25

Until 08:45 Tuesday 2nd September 25.

Inset Day: Monday 1st September 25

Commented [DW1]: