

Dove Bank Times



Headteacher: Mr Cheesman

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Tel: 01530 262371

Email: office@dovebank.leics.sch.uk

Website: www.dovebankprimary.co.uk

Twitter: @dovebankprimary

Message from Mr Cheesman

I want to start by saying how proud I am to be the Headteacher of Dove Bank Primary School. With the world now a very different place for all of us, the past few months have been a challenge to say the least! However, we have had a fantastic start to the new academic year; the children have been nothing short of amazing. They have demonstrated bucket loads of resilience after being away from school for such a long period of time, and they have slotted straight back into their learning with enthusiasm and perseverance.

Everyone at Dove Bank – staff, children, parents and governors – has needed to quickly adapt to different ways of working and new procedures for just about everything!

It has been lovely to welcome new families to our school community, as well as new staff members to our Dove Bank team this year. The school continues to grow and it is fantastic to see our amazing extension now fully in use.

I hope you all have a restful half term and I look forward to seeing you all after the break.



Warm regards

Mr J Cheesman

Oak Class News



The children in Oak Class have made a wonderful start to life at Dove Bank Primary School. They have settled in extremely well and have become very used to new routines. We have spent this term learning about friends and friendships, finding out about the things friends do to show they care and how we know that someone is a friend. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the story of The Little Red Hen and using the story spoons and story map to retell the story. The best part was making bread- just like The Little Red Hen!

We have discovered that there are fairies living in our ceiling and they are leaving lots of secret messages for us to discover in the classroom. The children are always writing messages back to the fairies and are beginning to write messages to their friends as well. A real love of writing is being shown and it is fantastic to see.



Oak Class have been learning all about numbers to 5 and have become very confident at finding up to 5 objects all around our environment and counting these carefully by touching one object at a time. We have also learnt some letter sounds and are beginning to read and write using these! Wow Oak children, you have been so busy already this year! Both Ms. Earp are I extremely proud of you all.



Elm Class News



Elm Class have enjoyed exploring the world of dinosaurs. We can name dinosaurs and explain if they are herbivore or carnivores. We can tell you what a fossil is and we have learnt about Mary Anning the fossil hunter. We made dinosaur teeth using clay. Some dinosaur teeth were herbivore teeth and some were carnivore teeth.

We have read lots of non-fiction books about dinosaurs. We discussed how non-fiction books give us information or facts, and fiction books are stories. After reading many non-fiction books, we became dinosaur experts, so we decided to write our own information texts sharing facts about different dinosaurs.



We also learnt about different landscapes and habitats dinosaurs lived in. We collected natural materials from the woods and made our own landscape pictures using natural materials.



Birch Class News

This term, Birch Class children have been royal detectives finding out about kings and queens in our Magnificent Monarchs topic. We started by making crowns and royal guards. We had a go at careful step by step drawing of a castle.

After placing the monarchs on a timeline, we looked in detail at six of them, asking the question, "Were they a good king/queen or not?" There was a lot of debate and consideration. Who knew for example, that although Alfred the Great may not have been great at cake-baking, he could dress in disguise playing musical instruments to listen to his enemies' battle plans?!

Also, while the children were suitably appalled by King Henry VIII's treatment of his wives, they had to admit he built up our Navy into a force to be reckoned with!



Our story this term has become a firm favourite. David Malling's "The Kiss that Missed" enabled us to explore descriptive settings and have a go at writing our own. We also went on noun hunts, verb hunts and adjective hunts, which then helped us write our poems.

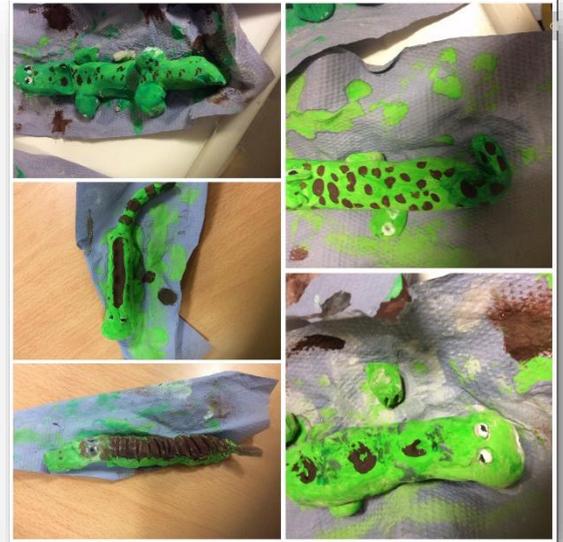


This term, Birch class had great fun producing the Harvest Assembly which we hope everyone has seen by now. We made some beautiful autumn leaf prints using leaves found in our own woodland. We explored the school allotment to find fresh fruit and vegetables growing but perhaps the most enjoyable part was acting out a drama and eating the real pizza while thinking about where our ingredients come from. Yum!



Pine Class News

What a busy half term we have had! We have really enjoyed being back together again in a new classroom, celebrating lots of birthdays and welcoming our new class member! Our topic this half term is called 'Predators', and we have had lots of fun lessons learning how to draw flying predators, writing a dilemma story where our main character was a crocodile and then making a crocodile or alligator out of clay. We even had a go at writing a Haiku poem about a predator!



We have spent time recognising and choosing a range of different strategies to access support when we are trying to overcome worrying situations and then we made our own worry dolls to take home.



ClassDojo

Pine Class are trialling Class Dojo. Don't forget to sign up to find out about our 'monster points'.

Maple Class News



This term, Maple Class have been finding out about Ancient Egypt. We started the topic with an Inspiration Day, where we researched the work of archaeologists and went to the school garden to take part in an archaeological dig, where we unearthed Ancient Egyptian artefacts. We then used magnifying glasses to study the artefacts and make careful drawings. We rounded off the day with a Mummy race, by wrapping each other in toilet roll!

We continued the topic with researching the discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb by Howard Carter and in English we wrote both a letter and a diary entry from the point of view of Howard Carter.

In topic we researched how to make a mummy, wrote detailed instructions, then made mummies out of clay and wrapped them in Modroc bandages. Another highlight of our topic was designing and making Egyptian jewellery. All in all Maple Class have had lots of fun during their first half term. May the fun continue!



Sycamore Class News



This term, Sycamore Class have been diving into the world of Victorian Britain for their topic. The children have learnt about the lives of the rich and the poor and how their toys, education and homes differed. As part of this historical learning they wrote instructions for, and made Victorian toys including thaumatropes, which spin to create an optical illusion.

The children have immersed themselves into life in the Victorian era by completing household chores like washing without a washing machine!

Our Victorian topic spilled into our English work, where our book (Cogheart by Peter Bunzl) is set in Victorian England, but in a world where robots and humans live side by side. The children have created 'mechanimals' which are part robot and part animal creations from the world of Cogheart and used their writing skills to complete a Wikipedia article on their mechanimal. After a term of this exciting topic, Sycamore Class will be sorry to leave the world of Cogheart and Victorian England!



Reminders

Home Learning: If your child is absent from school because they or a family member are awaiting a test but they are not poorly, please make every effort to complete the work set by the teachers using the OneDrives as detailed in an earlier letter.

Face coverings: Please remember to wear a face covering at all times when dropping off and collecting children from school. This includes whilst queuing outside the school gates.

Parking: It is very busy outside the school at the beginning and end of the school day so please take care when parking around the school and respect our neighbours. ***Please do not park in the bus lane as this is for dropping off only. Please do not park in the area marked with yellow crosshatching as this prevents the bus and other cars from being able to drive through the car park.***

Collecting children: Please let us know, in writing, the names of any additional adults who you have authorised to collect your children. We will not release children to any adults who are not listed on our records.

Contact details: Please can you ensure that all your up to date contact details are held by the school especially if you have changed address or phone number within the last few months.

Uniform: Please ensure all items of clothing worn in school are labelled with children's names as we have a large amount of lost property. This includes coats and PE kit.

Snacks: We will keep a selection of healthy snacks in school for those children who, for whatever reason, have missed breakfast that morning. Please inform the office if you do not want your child to be offered a snack.

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 19th – Friday 23rd October: Half term

Friday 30th October: Friends of Dove Bank (FOD) 'Break the Rules Day'

Thursday 4th November: FOD Meeting (Microsoft Teams / 7.00pm)

Monday 9th November: Flu immunisations

Friday 13th November: Children in Need

Monday 16th – Friday 20th November: Antibullying Week

Thursday 10th December: Christmas meal for children (date subject to change)

Friday 11th December: Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 18th December: School closed for Christmas holiday!

