

OVERSTONE NEWS



Winter is definitely on the way! Chillier mornings and cold hands and feet on the playground and at forest school seem the norm at the moment.

Speaking of forest school, the children have been extremely creative over the last few weeks. We have seen some wonderful clay hedgehogs and some of the children made sparklers to wave on bonfire night. We also saw lots of children making poppies out of natural materials whilst learning about the relevance of the flowers during war time.

Armistice Day was remembered in the village with wreaths being laid at the church to mark the occasion. My thanks go to Grace and Alex for representing the school at this important occasion and for laying a wreath on behalf of Overstone.

I am very pleased to share that we have been invited to be part of the Wing Youth Parish Council. The council has been set up to include students from The Cottesloe School and Overstone so the children in the village are able to make a contribution to items discussed at the full Parish Council meetings. Well done to Anna and Jake in Year 5 and to Neriah and Leo in Year 6 who will be our School Ambassadors, representing Overstone at these meetings.

As the winter season draws ever closer please do carefully read the email you have recently received as to the procedure if we were to experience bad weather. We will always endeavour to give as much notice as possible if school arrangements have to change owing to circumstances beyond our control, but it is best to have a plan in place just in case.

Thanks

Mrs K. Eales

Headteacher

Dec Dates:

7th 9am Nursery Nativity

7th 2:15pm Reception Nativity

9th 2:15pm Y2 Nativity

10th 2:15pm Y1 Nativity

10th Christmas jumper day

16th Christmas Lunch (menu coming soon!)

17th KS2 Carol Service Y6

17th Last day of term

Dates for your 2022 diary:

5th January: Spring Term Begins

21st -25th February: Half Term
(all term dates are on our [website](#))

News highlights from our classes

Acorn Nursery have been celebrating Diwali the Hindu festival of light, we looked at the story about Rama and Sita, made diva lamps, Rangoli patterns and Mendi patterns on our hands.

We have been looking at hibernation for the last couple of weeks. What is hibernation and which animals hibernate in the UK? We have been discussing why they hibernate and how long for. We have made some hedgehogs from salt dough and then painted them.

Ash This month, we have been observing the changes taking place in nature all around us. At Forest School, we went on a leaf hunt to find five different leaves. We then looked carefully at the colours, shapes and texture of the fallen leaves and used them to produce pictures and 'leaf kebabs'! We have enjoyed starting to learn about hibernation, recreating the cosy nests made by hedgehogs to keep warm during the winter. To end each forest session, we warm ourselves up with a lovely cup of hot chocolate!

Beech We really enjoyed visiting Wing Church and spoke with Reverend Howard who told us about some of the features of the church. We have learnt how to make some colourful Christingle art work in class.

A favourite activity in November has been the biscuit and crisp tasting in Design Technology. We tasted and described their flavour. We plan to design and make our own festival biscuit. We are the biscuit designers of the future!

Elm A couple of weeks ago one of the children in class spotted a 'tion' word (as in action, fiction etc) in the book that he was reading during one of our quiet reading times. There has since been a lot of detective activity, generated by the children spotting and thinking of 'tion' words. The children have shown great enthusiasm and we really do have quite a collection now!

Fir There has been an air of 'Strictly' in class. As part of the Year 3 music curriculum, the children have been playing tuned percussion instruments including chime bars, glockenspiels and xylophone to accompany various tunes including Strictly Come Dancing. Thankfully there was no critical judgement at the end of the performances, just lots of smiling faces!

Holly Lots of things have been going on since the last newsletter. We have made poppies out of wood as part of Remembrance Day in Forest School. This was such a good use of skills and we also got to celebrate and think about Black History Month across the school. We learnt about famous black people who have helped pave our futures. In particular we looked at George Crumb - he invented the potato crisp. We carried out a taste test, used mood boards to consider different designs in order for us to then design our own flavour of crisps and packaging. Next week as part of our RE for Christmas, we have Reverend Howard coming in to help us with the making and understanding of Christingle. We will tell you all about it in our next monthly update.

Oak We have been making the most of technology this month - we wrote poems about bonfire night and fact files about Remembrance Day and then we typed them on the chrome books. The children loved choosing different fonts and colour schemes!

Redwood We've been using the laptops the last few weeks to learn about vector drawings - images created completely out of shapes! We've looked at lots of different tools such as resizing and reordering shapes so they can go behind each other. We made a penguin out of ovals and circles, and are also beginning to make our own vector drawings. Wish us luck!

Sycamore We have been enjoying writing flashback narratives based on the book 'A story like the wind' The class also loved acting their stories out and here are Anand and Josh working in the cornfield.

Willow We've been having fun in PE and some children have been selected for a Street Dance competition. We've also been really busy working in Art/DT making cam mechanisms and enjoyed using drama in our English lessons.

Recommended kit for Winter Forest School

During this time of year, the children need to be prepared for chilly and often wet sessions.

BASE LAYER

Vest or thermal top, Tights or thermal leggings

MID LAYER

Long sleeved T-shirt top, Fleece top/jumper

Leggings/trousers (preferably a thicker type material for really cold weeks)

TOP LAYER - for really cold weeks, Thicker fleece /jacket

WATERPROOF LAYER

Waterproof jacket, Waterproof trousers or dungaree trousers

FOOTWEAR

Tights or socks - would advise two pairs of socks in the colder weeks, feet get cold in wellies, also ensure you have a suitable size that will fit two pairs of socks - if the boot is too tight it will also make the feet colder.

HEAD AND HANDS

Wool hat and snood, Gloves (extra pair of gloves in bag)

Welly boots / Snow boots are ok in cold/dry conditions- but not when we have lots of water.

In addition to the above could each child bring with them in their large bag the following clothing: Trainers and socks to change into.

Reminders

School Dinners Lunches are supplied by AiP and can be ordered through ParentPay. Please note that the deadline for ordering is midnight on Wednesday of the week before. Please remember to cancel any lunches that your child does not require by contacting AiP on 01296 689729