

☀️ Oaks Class Newsletter – End of First Spring Half Term ☀️

Having missed the last fortnightly newsletter from Oaks, we thought we would give you a summary of our Half Term News.

We've had an incredibly full and exciting first half of the Spring Term, and the children should be very proud of everything they've achieved. Here's a look at the wonderful learning that's taken place across the curriculum:

English

This half term, we focused on writing **chronological reports**, using *The Extinction of the Dinosaurs* as our theme. The children explored how to organise information clearly, use time-sequenced language, and build factual, well-structured pieces of writing.

Art

Our art lessons have been vibrant and creative!

Children developed their **observational drawing skills**, then used these to create stunning **mixed-media collages and paintings** inspired by **beetles, bees, and butterflies**. The results have been beautifully detailed and full of personality.

Geography

We have been strengthening our **map skills**, learning how to identify key **features of Earth**, use **time zones**, and locate places using **latitude and longitude**. Everyone has become much more confident navigating atlases and digital maps.

Guided Reading

We finished reading *Farm Boy*, the sequel to *War Horse* by **Michael Morpurgo**. The children engaged brilliantly with the themes of family, memory, and resilience, and offered thoughtful reflections during discussions.

P.E.

Our P.E. sessions have been full of energy!

- **Gymnastics:** exploring balance, sequences, and control
- **Dance:** including a lively introduction to **Street Dance**

The class showed brilliant teamwork and enthusiasm throughout.

R.E.

In R.E., we studied **Hinduism**, with a particular focus on understanding how beliefs about **Brahman and Atman** influence the way Hindus choose to live. The children showed great curiosity and respect in their discussions.

Whole School Highlights

We celebrated a **positive SIAMS inspection**, recognising the strong values and community spirit across our school.

As part of the **Archbishop Young Leaders Award**, Oaks explored *what makes someone a good leader*. They have started a **personal challenge**, reflecting on their own leadership strengths and the skills they'd like to develop. This should have come home today.

Looking Ahead

We're already getting excited for **World Book Day!**

Children are thinking about which costume to wear—whether inspired by a favourite book character or linked to a sound/phrase from **Read Write Inc (RWI)**.

We can't wait to see their creativity! We are also very excited to be taking part in a **Sponsored Read** and adding to our books for children to enjoy and read at school.

Half-Term Wishes

After such a busy and productive few weeks, we are all looking forward to a well-deserved break.

We hope everyone has a **happy, fun, and safe half term**—and fingers crossed for **not too much rain!**

We can't wait to see the children refreshed and ready for the second half of the Spring Term.

Mrs Bolar, Mrs Salisbury, Mrs Baker, and Millie the dog.