Leafield C.E. Primary School

The Green, Leafield, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX29 9NP

Tel: 01993 878273
Email: office.3124@leafield.oxon.sch.uk
Web: www.leafield.oxon.sch.uk
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Diane Axford
Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Rhiannon Abberley

Be kind, be curious, be you!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely, relaxing half-term break and enjoyed spending some quality time together. We are really looking forward to welcoming the children back for another exciting half term, filled with lots of wonderful learning opportunities, new adventures and festive fun!

Topic – The Enchanted Woodland

This half term, we will be stepping into the magical world of The Enchanted Woodland! We will begin our adventure with a visit to a local woodland, using our senses to explore the wonders of nature. We will become woodland detectives, investigating different trees, plants and animals and discovering what makes woodland habitats so special. We will explore the different parts of plants, investigate how pine cones change in different conditions and learn to identify evergreen and deciduous trees. Using our creativity and imagination, we will design magical woodland maps filled with winding paths, secret dens and hidden treasures, before bringing our ideas to life by creating miniature woodlands.

Literacy

In Literacy this term, the children will continue to build on their phonics knowledge, using what they've learned to become more confident and independent readers. They will be practising how to blend sounds to read new words and applying this knowledge in their writing as well. We will also focus on reading comprehension, encouraging children to talk about what they read, make predictions, and answer questions to show their understanding of different texts. In writing, we will be developing sentence structure, helping children to write clear and complete sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.

Science

This half term, our science lessons will focus on Living Things and Their Habitats. We will become nature detectives, exploring our local woodland to discover the different plants and animals that live there and investigating what they need to survive. We will learn to identify and sort living, non-living and once-living things, using our observation skills to explore the natural world around us. Armed with spotting sheets, we will search for woodland wildlife, identify different plants and investigate tiny microhabitats where creatures make their homes. We will also discover the fascinating ways plants and animals protect themselves from danger, exploring features such as camouflage, prickles, thorns and stinging leaves.

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Throughout our investigations, we will develop our scientific enquiry skills by observing closely, asking questions, sorting, identifying and recording our exciting discoveries!

DT

This half term, our Design and Technology lessons will focus on **Remarkable Recipes!** We will become chefs, exploring where our food comes from and discovering how different ingredients are grown or produced. We will investigate a variety of kitchen tools, learning how to use them safely and choosing the best equipment for different cooking tasks. We will develop our cooking skills by reading and following recipes, measuring ingredients and creating our very own delicious treats! We will also take on the exciting challenge of becoming school menu designers, exploring healthy ingredients and choosing a tasty new lunchtime meal that meets a special design brief. Throughout our topic, we will develop our practical skills, teamwork and creativity whilst learning the importance of making healthy food choices, following instructions and evaluating our delicious creations!

PE

PE will take place on Tuesdays with Mr. Andrews and Friday with Mrs Harrild.

Outdoor Learning

This term we will be taking part in outdoor learning sessions every **Thursday** afternoon. These sessions will take place either in the school garden, or at the Leafield Millennium Woods. Please make sure your child comes to school wearing clothing suitable for the outdoors on this day (long sleeves and trousers **must** be worn for the sessions, to prevent bites/stings or scrapes that may occur outdoors) and bring appropriate waterproofs, wellies, etc in a named rucksack or bag. As the weather starts to get colder, please also ensure your child is wearing warm clothing and that they have a hat, gloves and scarf (please make sure that these are named). We are really excited to get stuck into our outdoor activities.

Homework

Homework will be set on Fridays and is due the following Wednesday.

Regular reading is encouraged and reading books will be changed on a Thursday. If you have mislaid your reading diary, please let us know and we can replace it.

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Numbots

Numbots is a fun and engaging way for children to practise their number skills and build confidence with maths. We would encourage children to aim for around 10 minutes of Numbots practice each week. Little and often is a great way to help develop their fluency and recall of key number facts!

Keeping in touch

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me via the school office or catch me for a quick chat at drop-off or pick-up time.

I am looking forward to another brilliant term together.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Harrild

Donaldson Class Teacher