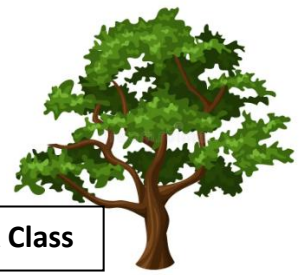
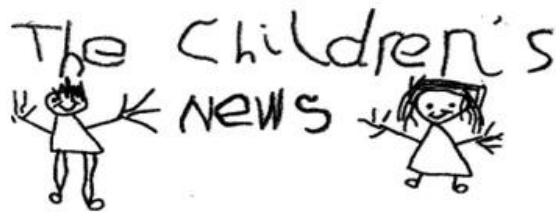


Ash Class



Oak Class

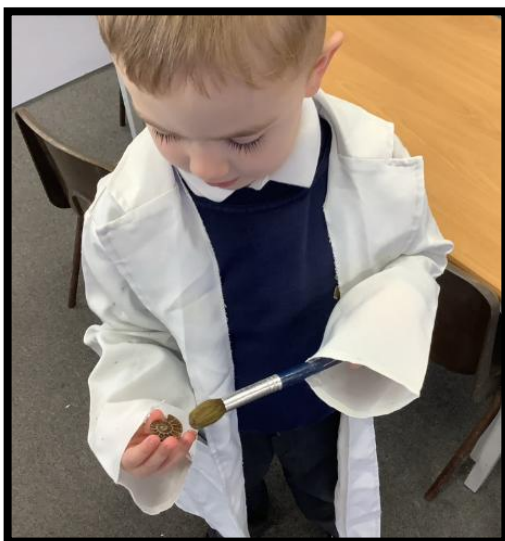
### Week ending 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

As I type this, the sun is trying to break through the mist and it feels as though spring is on the way. We hope you had a good half term break. It has been nice to share the children's news with them. It was lovely to see so many parents at the consultation evenings last week and be able to share the great things your children have been achieving. These are always enjoyable evenings for staff and we thank you all for your support and enthusiasm too.

Last week, we started our new topic on Dinosaurs. The children are very excited and interested in this topic and have really enjoyed immersing themselves in it. Last week, the children thought about some questions they have about dinosaurs. These were written out and added to a display and we will try and answer them as we find out more in the next few weeks. We looked at two books together and decided which was a fiction (story) book and which was a non-fiction (facts). We thought about the differences between fiction and non-fiction texts and then used the non-fiction book to start to find out about fossils. The children have enjoyed playing in our Palaeontologists' Lab, using the magnifying glasses to look at fossils and draw them. They have also been looking at pictures of dinosaurs and thinking about their features.



This week, we will begin to make our very own non-fiction text about dinosaurs. The children will begin by labelling a picture of a dinosaur and write a sentence giving facts about their chosen dino too.



Another popular activity in Discovery Time, has been the dinosaur habitat making activity in our craft area. The children have enjoyed creating 2d and 3d representations of habitats with trees, rivers and even volcanoes. This has been great for encouraging the children to think about what living creatures need to survive and has led to some interesting discussions about what different dinosaurs ate. It has been a really good activity for encouraging the children to think creatively and develop their artistic skills.



survive and has led to some interesting discussions about what different dinosaurs ate. It has been a really good activity for encouraging the children to think creatively and develop their artistic skills.



Ash class children were very creative in Forest School this week, using charcoal (left over from last week's fires) as a drawing medium. Look at this beautiful picture;

As you can imagine, we have some children who are absolutely loving this topic!

## Phonics

Last week and this week, we have continued to recap and reinforce the children's understanding of the Phase 3 and 4 sounds. We have been focusing on reading phrases and sentences and have practised this daily in our phonics lessons. We have also been practising writing words and phrases containing Phase 3 and 4 sounds on a daily basis.

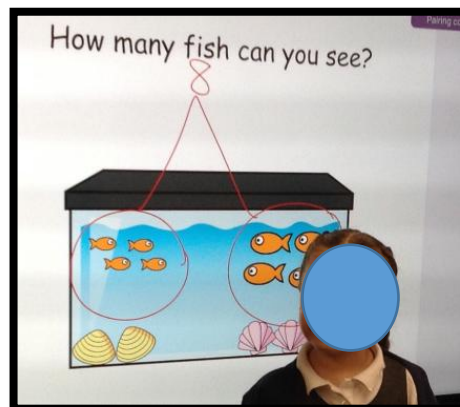
Hopefully, you have seen the communications inviting you along to the Phonics workshop on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 9-10am. We have put this event on in response to feedback shared after the maths morning where many parents expressed an interest in further sessions to help them to support their children in key areas of the curriculum. Phonics and writing is taught in a very specific way at this age and this session will give you an idea of how we support the children to develop the skills needed for reading and writing – you will actually take part in a daily phonics lesson. We are really hoping that all children are able to have an adult present at this session. We completely understand the pressures of daily life and work though, so please do speak to us if this is proving difficult. Please also feel free to send a grandparent or other family member or even a close family friend.

Please follow this link to sign up; <https://forms.gle/3841oN7TQ5nGACq36>

## Maths

In our maths sessions we have continued with our topic called 'Growing 6, 7 and 8.'. We have been investigating odd and even numbers up to 8 by pairing items up. If all items were in pairs the number is even, if there was one left over the number is odd.

We have also, started to investigate doubles; thinking about what a double is and investigating this practically using our fingers and numicon. We have encouraged them to say out loud what they have discovered. For example; 'double 4 is 8' or '4 and 4 is 8' or 'I have made double 4 which is 8'.



## Important Reminders:

- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> (tomorrow) is World Book Day. Please send your child in in pyjamas with their favourite bedtime story to share or they can come in a character costume. Please do dress them warmly and put them in sturdy shoes as they will be playing outside.
- Please check your child's bag regularly for letters and to make sure any stocks of spare clothes are topped up.
- Please return (washed) any clothes that we have leant your child as our stocks are running low. Thank you

## Forest School dates

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Mar – Oak

Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Mar – Ash

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar – Oak

### **Easter Holidays**

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April – Inset day

Mon 20<sup>th</sup> April – Ash

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> April – Oak

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> May – bank holiday

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> May – Ash

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> May – Oak

## Homework/ Show & Tell;

### **Reading & Phonics;**

Daily reading & daily HRSW practise

### **Spring Handwriting Homework;**

Letter-join 

<https://www.gothicmede.org.uk/page/?title=Homework&pid=121&action=saved>

### **Letters to practice;**

Choose a letter to watch

i l t

u w e

c o

a d

n m h

## Diary dates

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March – School Nurse visit

Week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> March – Science Week

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Mother's Day breakfast

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 5.30pm – Nursery Bedtime

story. For all children below school age whether they attend GMA or not. Do sign up and bring your little ones along (older siblings are welcome to attend too)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – World Down Syndrome Day

Wear odd socks to school

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Last day of Spring Term

