Ash Class

The Children's News

Oak Class

12th October 2026

Ash and Oak have been busy immersing themselves in autumn over the last couple of weeks. We have enjoyed some beautiful autumn days outside and the children have really enjoyed their forest school sessions. They have explored the different signs of autumn and used natural items to make self portraits.





The children have really enjoyed challenging themselves on the slack line, showing a real 'Go for It Gorilla' attitude and being 'Persevering Parrots'. The slack line helps them to develop their strength, balance and gross motor skills. They have also been developing the skills to negotiate wheelbarrows across a balance plank and to climb trees. All these activities in Forest School help children to develop their upper-body strength, grip and coordination, building the strong shoulder, arm and hand muscles they need to support pencil control and develop their early writing skills.





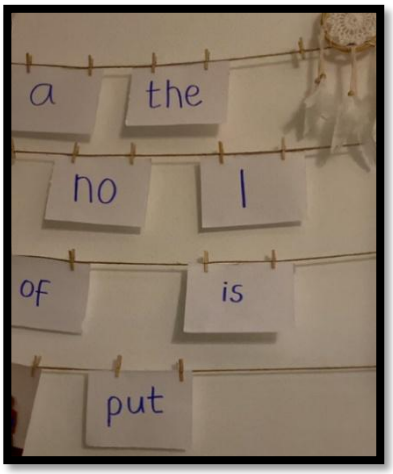


Tapestry

At Gothic Mede, one of the ways that we monitor children's progress is through observations on Tapestry. Some of these observations will be in depth and some of them will be a short snapshot that has been recorded to inform our formal assessment. Sometimes these may identify an area your child has found

challenging. We use this to inform future planning so that we can move the children's learning on. This can also be useful for you as it identifies an area that you may be able to support your child with at home. This is just one method of assessment which is why you will not always see observations of your child on Tapestry. We really value your observations from home, we know that so many of the children benefit from a wide range of experiences outside of school and these help us to build up a big picture of your child. If you have any concerns and questions about your child, please go through the usual methods of contacting us through the school office or if it is just a quick update, on the gate in the morning or after school. We cannot guarantee that messages will be seen in time if they are sent through Tapestry. And lastly, please can we ask that you make sure that your child is fully clothed in any Tapestry photos or videos that you share with us.

Phonics



We continue to be impressed with how well the children are doing in our daily phonics sessions. Last week we learnt the sounds; **g, o, c and k** and the harder to read a spell words; **put, of** and **is.** This week we will be practising and consolidating all the sounds we have learnt so far; **s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, g, o, c, k and this week we will be learning ck, e, u and r.** The children are also becoming more confident with blending words when they hear the sounds eg; c-a-t = cat. You can practise this at home when they read their reading books or by saying sounds and letting your child blend them together. For example, you could say 'We need to feed the f-i-sh.' Or 'let's put on our s-o-ck-s' etc. **We would love to see examples of the children being able to do this on Tapestry.**

It has been lovely to see how you are practising the sounds and harder to read and spell words at home. Repetition and frequent exposure to the sounds and words helps them to become embedded. We really liked the idea that one of our families had of hanging the HRSW on a washing line so that they can be looked at every day.

Maths



During our maths lesson the children have been comparing size, capacity and mass. In particular, we have focused on the vocabulary we use to make comparisons. Some of the sentences the children have used include: The ___ is larger/smaller than the ___.

The ___ is lighter than the ___

The ___ holds more.

The ___ has the same capacity as the ___ .

We have also been playing simple pattern and size matching games like this one based around the story Dear Zoo.

We have also been exploring repeated patterns and the children have enjoyed creating these using a variety of different objects.



It would be lovely to see some observations of Tapestry which demonstrate your child's understanding of comparing size, capacity and mass. This could be through exploring containers at bath time, measuring ingredients for a recipe or comparing the size of toys.

Forest School dates

Tues 13th Oct - Ash
Tues 20th Oct – Oak
Half Term
Tues 3rd Nov – Ash
Tues 10th Nov – Oak
Tues 17th Nov - Ash

Diary dates

Thursday 15th October – Rock Steady assembly (children only)
Friday 16th October – PTA Movie Night
Friday 23rd October – Parents Coffee morning (all welcome)
Monday 26th Oct- Friday 30th Oct – Half Term Holiday
Tuesday 17th Nov & Thursday 19th Nov – Parent Consultation evenings (more info to follow)
Tuesday 1st December – Whole school trip to Pantomime

Homework/ Show & Tell;

Please practise reading (or share a book together) **every day** and practice recognising the harder to read and spell words listed above.

Maths task;
Please complete some of the tasks from the **Matching and Sorting** sheet that accompanies this newsletter.
Please share any activities that you do on Tapestry.



Important Reminders:

- Please can we ask that you name the snacks that you send in for morning snack time. Sharpie is fine. Please could you also check that names haven't washed off of water bottles too.
- If your child is prone to accidents, please can we ask that you keep the stock of spare undies and socks/ tights etc in your child's bag topped up. If your child has been sent home in school spares, please can we ask that they are washed and returned as soon as you are able to ensure we have enough. Thank you