



# P.P.S. Oak Class

April 2023  
Summer Term

Dear Parents,

For the first half of the term, we will be exploring a variety of books by the author Oliver Jeffers.

## Communication and Language

We have started our topic by beginning the story *Lost and Found*. After discovering a suitcase in the classroom, we discussed who it might belong to. Then we discovered a penguin in the class, we found out he/she is lost and discussed what questions we would like to ask him or her. As we read the book further, we will be talking about the character's feelings.

After our work around *Lost and Found*, we will be reading the story *The Way Back Home*, which features the same character and carrying out similar activities.

## Understanding the World

We will be learning all about penguins, including different species, their life cycle, where they live and how they adapt. We will be finding out facts about Antarctica and other animals that live there. We will also be learning about materials that float and sink. Later in the term we will be finding out about space and gravity.

## Arts and Design

We will begin by making foil boats and testing them for size and strength, just as the boy did in the story. Next, we will be making penguins out of cardboard tubes and learning the best way to attach the details. Then, we will be designing and making paper planes and testing them to see if they can fly. We will be learning about Van Gogh and looking at the painting 'Starry Night'. We will then be producing our own versions of this beautiful artwork. Later, we will be making bottle rockets, stars and paper plate UFOs. Finally, we will be designing and making paper kites.

We would be grateful if you could bring in any small cardboard boxes, cardboard tubes and small plastic drinks bottles that you may have for our junk modelling.

## Phonics

We will be continuing to learn more digraphs and trigraphs, making sure that we can recognise these in words and use them within our writing. We will also be learning some different common exception words (words we cannot blend) to help us read more sentences independently. We have continued to practise our 'say it, hear it, count it, write it' approach when rehearsing our sentences, before we write them, and will use this to write simple sentences, using finger spaces in between our words.



# P.P.S. Oak Class

April 2023  
Summer Term

## Reading

Please continue to hear your child read **at least four times a week** and make a note of this in their reading record. Please also practise the sounds on their snail and words on their flower before they read. This additional practise is essential in order to help them recall sounds and words that we have been learning in Phonics. It also helps to develop comprehension skills by talking about what they have read and answering questions about the characters, the events and discussing new vocabulary.

## Maths

We have been exploring numbers 11–20 and representing these in different ways, including Numicon, tens frames and multilink cubes. Whilst making numberlines to show these numerals, some of them have become mixed up and it has been our job to help put them back into the correct order. We will then explore adding more and taking away as well as looking at shape in more detail.

## P.E.

We will then continue to have P.E. on a Tuesday and will carry on practising our balancing, rolling and moving using different apparatus. Please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school at all times in case they need to change into it for other reasons.

## Ideas for home

Below are some ideas of activities that you might like to try at home with your child. If you complete any of them, please bring them in so we can share them with the rest of the class or take a photo and upload it to Tapestry.

- Use non-fiction books from the library to find out more about Antarctica and space.
- Read any Oliver Jeffers' books that you may have at home or can borrow from the library. These could include Lost and Found, Up and Down, The Way Back Home, How to Catch a Star, Stuck.
- Role play these stories with siblings or adults at home. Decide who will be which character, what could you use as props to support your storytelling, for example using large cardboard boxes to be the plane in The Way Back Home or the fire engine in Stuck.

Thank you for your continued support.

If you have any questions, please speak to Mrs Harris or Mrs Ford.