



MILE OAK NEWSLETTER



FRIDAY 04TH APRIL 2025
SPRING 2 NEWSLETTER



Dear Families,

As we approach the end of the spring term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past few months and express my heartfelt thanks for your continued support and partnership in your child's education at Mile Oak.

First and foremost, I want to congratulate our children for their hard work, positivity, and dedication throughout the term. Their resilience and determination have been evident both in and out of the classroom. The enthusiasm they bring to their learning and their commitment to embodying the school's values has been truly inspiring. As we look ahead to the remainder of the school year, I encourage our children to maintain high standards, approach each day with optimism, and embrace the many opportunities that lie ahead. The summer term promises exciting events, trips, celebration days and challenges, as well as some warmth and sunshine.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated staff team, who have worked tirelessly to ensure that our children receive the best possible education. Their unwavering commitment to both the academic and personal well-being of every child is inspiring, and I am incredibly proud of the passion and professionalism they demonstrate each day. Last week's parents' evenings provided a valuable opportunity to meet with teachers and discuss your child's progress, achievements, and areas for growth. Thank you to all who attended these meetings. Your involvement in your child's education is truly appreciated and plays a crucial role in their success.

Finally, I would like to thank you, our families, for your continued support throughout the term. Your partnership is invaluable, and together, we can continue to nurture and empower our children.

We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Tuesday, April 22nd. Wishing you and your families a joyful and restful break filled with opportunities to recharge and enjoy quality time together.

Mr. Lording



AMBITION



RESPECT



PRIDE



COURAGE

ANTI-RACISM AND EQUALITIES



This half term saw a visit from leaders of the TTSA (Thrive Together Schools Alliance) for a whole school equalities walk. TTSA Leaders heard about our current equalities school plans and progression as well as having a tour of the school.

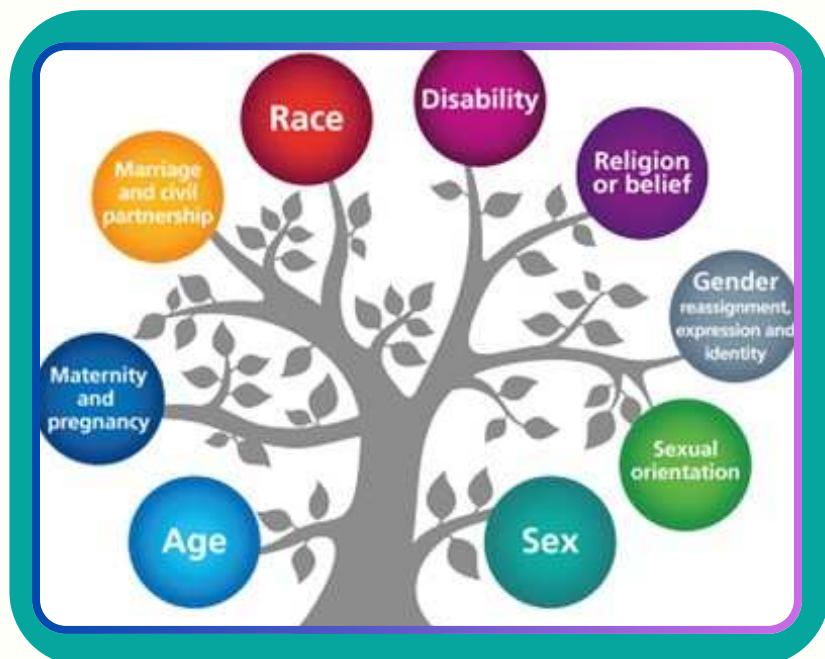
“Dawn Loder from Balfour Primary said *“I was impressed with Mile Oak’s clear commitment to equalities which values the views and ideas of global majority children and their families. The school has a clearly understood process for dealing with racist incidents to ensure children and their families know that these are always taken seriously and dealt with by supporting the victim and educating the child who had used racist behaviour.”*

NEXT TERM

Next term will be putting equalities as a whole into the spotlight as well as continuing to build on our anti-racism strategy. For more information on how we will be teaching this journey, you can be viewed on our website <https://www.mileoakschool.co.uk/our-anti-racism-journey/>

Equalities work focuses on characteristics which are protected under the equalities act 2010. To learn more about this please visit the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/equality-act-2010-guidance>



HOW CAN YOU HELP SUPPORT US?

Over the holiday, please can all parents talk to their children about not using negative language around the word ‘gay’. This language is homophobic and has historically been used in school as a way to tease or insult other children. There will be a zero tolerance approach to this language so this conversation with your child is important. “Some people are gay. It is not ok to use the word gay in a negative way”



DEAF AWARENESS WEEK

Week commencing 5th May is deaf awareness week. We will be observing this week in school starting with a special assembly on Tuesday 6th led by Natalie Paddenburg specialist SEN teacher of the deaf from the Brighton and Hove Inclusion Support Service (BHISS).

... Mrs Larter





LITTLE OAKS NURSERY



The children at Little Oaks have been busy this half term: Going on a bear hunt through the long wavy grass and the swirling whirling snowstorms. We went over the benches in the hall and under the bridge on the climbing frame strengthening their gross motor skills. The children also re told the story 'We are going on a bear' hunt by Michael Rosen with material and teddy bears.

We have been practising our early phonics skills by clapping along to the Skunka Tanka beat whilst reading Tanka Tanka Skunk by Steve Web, as well as clapping the syllables in our names.

The children celebrated world book day by dressing up as some of their favourite characters and sharing stories with children from year 6 and PACA. Our lovely grown-ups also joined us for some book themed fun at our stay and play events. We also saw Hannah from farm school on the big screen for stories from the farm and got to see the sheep and chickens.

The children have shown a keen interest in the living classroom and have enjoyed regular visits with the waste from our snack café to add to the compost heap and have been on the look out for signs of spring- there are many new flowers already growing!

Lastly, the children have enjoyed reading 'We are Going on an Egg Hunt' by Martha Mumford. We revisited our positional language whilst having our own egg hunts and have decorated our own egg shapes using paint and pom poms for paint brushes.

We hope you all have a lovely holiday.

... The Little Oaks Nursery Team



A MESSAGE FROM RECEPTION



Another wonderful half term draws to a close here in Reception. This term we have been on a geographical adventure as part of our topic 'Near and Far'.

When we arrived back from our holidays we discovered we had some visitors. Much excitement ensued as we discovered two friendly aliens had joined us to take us on an exciting adventure to places near and far.

Mac and Ting, our alien visitors, were thoroughly welcomed by the children with an abundance of letters and drawings.

The following weeks saw the aliens help us to discover all about London and Paris landmarks and buildings. We had 'fry-ups' in our London café and thoroughly enjoyed making delicious crepes to support our learning about Paris. We went on bus tours and aeroplane flights in our outdoor learning area. We wrote our first entries in our travel journals as travel experts.

Next Mac and Ting wanted advice on exploring the arctic countries. This meant we got to explore ice, talking about freezing and melting and learnt lots about the animals that live in the Polar regions. Did you know that children live in the Polar regions too? They love the same things as us but they just need warmer clothes and have a lot more snow to play with!



Our alien friends also wanted to know about some places within the continent of Africa. Again, we learnt about African animals, the habitat of the African Savanna and we had a wonderful drumming session with Daniel- a real-life musician. Everyone had a drum and he took us on a 'banging' journey into the jungle.

The alien's final stop was to Australia. Here they told us we could find some amazing, yet dangerous, creatures. Lots of snake and crocodile themed activities and writing has taken place. Our dangerous animals vet surgeries have been very popular.

We found out more about Australia using our selection of non-fiction texts and video clips. We explored our big science question of 'What makes animals dangerous?'



A MESSAGE FROM RECEPTION



The dental nurse, also paid us a visit. She knew we had been thinking about animals' teeth and jaws, and also about our own teeth and keeping them healthy. The dental nurse was very impressed with our knowledge and skills. They just helped us 'brush up' on these!

Did you know current advice is to not wet your toothbrush and not to rinse after brushing? Let the toothpaste and the circling brush strokes do their job!

Our half term culminated in a brilliant hands-on animal encounter when the company RepTylers visited us. The children were amazed and intrigued by the animals they met, including the albino python who is over 3 metres long!

We said goodbye to our alien friends as they returned to their planet, Planet Zog. We thought about what is beyond our own Earth by learning a little bit about space and the planets in our solar system.



So many wonderful stories supported our learning throughout this topic. The Queen's Hat, Everybody Bonjour, The Leopard's Drum and Alan's scary teeth to name but a few.



Our next topic, is sure to be another fun-filled escapade as we disappear into a world of make-believe. 'Can you imagine?' is the title and 'Storyland' is our destination. The topic includes giants, fairies, unicorns, dragons, knights, castles, magic, wonder, imagination and fun!

We will meet new characters, discover new plots and settings and welcome the return of some familiar traditional tale characters that we know and love. This will all be supporting our communication and language skills, our reading comprehension and our story writing abilities.

Thank you for all your ongoing support,

... The Reception Team



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR ONE



We cannot believe we are over half way through Year 1! Both Goldfinch class and Starling classes progress throughout Year 1 has been incredible. Miss Turnbull and Miss Shlomo are really proud of everything our children have achieved already!



As part of our “Around the world” topic we have been looking at explorers and the journeys that made them famous. In Art we have combined our knowledge of the explorers with the work of Gustav Klimt to create our own college of our favourite explorer.



We have used our Computing and History lessons to further our knowledge about explorers, especially Christopher Columbus, Amelia Earhart and Neil Armstrong. We have been busy discovering exciting facts about each explorer online, whilst learning how to search for something on Google and BBC Bitesize.



In English, we have continued our learning of explorers and created a fact file about explorers we have researched! We have been busy writing what they are most famous for, what they travelled in and an interesting ‘Did you know?’ fact. We can not wait to show you our published fact files where we have been fantastic at applying all of our Year 1 “writing rules” especially using a range of punctuation.



In our PE lessons, we have been focusing on Fitness, exploring how good exercise is for, not just our bodies, but our minds too! Some of our children have also been lucky to take part in sporting events such as the Sussex Cricket afternoon and Let Girls Play. We love being active and are really excited to start learning about invasion games and team building.

In PSHE, we have been taking part in the topic ‘Growing an Anti-Racist School’. The children have had great excitement in discussing what ‘makes me, me!’ and what makes us unique on the inside and outside. The adults have been very proud of both classes for being so respectful and kindly curious of each other.

Just a reminder, that all the children have their ‘Phonics Screening Check’ during the next term. Please remember to listen to your child read each night and practice any flashcards that they have received at parents’ evening to give them the best chance at succeeding. Thank you for your support.

We hope you all have a relaxing Easter break and are excited for our next topic ‘Animals!’.



The Year 1 Team

A MESSAGE FROM YEAR TWO



Year 2 have loved learning about 'The Great Outdoors' this half term and have been so immersed in the topic.

The children enjoyed starting off this topic by looking for the first signs of Spring by sketching some daffodils. We used our art skills to create the shading of the daffodil and used lines to create the shape. The sketches look fantastic and have been the main part of our topic display in our classrooms.

Our texts this half term have been 'The Snail and the Whale' and 'One Plastic Bag'. We linked our English to 'The Snail and the Whale' and wrote some brilliant retellings of the journey of the tiny snail and the gigantic whale. The children included some fantastic, detailed vocabulary including expanded noun phrases. We were so proud of them!

Next, we wrote some amazing fact files on snails. We began by looking at a model text and highlighting what makes a good information text. We then used our conjunction skills to write about the appearance, diet and habitat of snails. Our favourite fact was that snails eat the poo of other animals!

In maths, we have consolidated our knowledge on multiplication and we have now moved on to division. We began by looking at equal groups, then groups with some left over! The children have also worked really hard on multiplication and remember our 2s, 5s and 10 times tables.



To continue our 'The Great Outdoors' topic, we adored a forest school experience led by Miss Turnbull! During our time in the forest school area, we participated in a variety of activities including creating a flower sketch using chalk pastels, fire lighting, bug finding and den building. We had a fabulous time!

Next term, we will be starting our new topic 'Helping Heroes'! The children have worked so brilliantly during the Spring term and we look forward to seeing them again at the start of summer term.

Happy Easter!



... The Year 2 Team

A MESSAGE FROM YEAR THREE



Our “Passport to Europe” topic has provided opportunities for writing and research. In writing, we are reading and writing non chronological reports about countries in Europe, using our computing and research skills to find information and fun facts about chosen places. In English, we are developing our understanding of features of text, using headings, sub headings and paragraphs to present our writing of reports. The published work looks very fluent and accomplished. Well done, children!

We have also developed our map reading and atlas skills in geography and our understanding of the United Kingdom and Europe, as well as continents and oceans.

The children are all making progress in reading. There was a lot of interest in our poetry competition, and we had a lot of fun hearing the children as they practised and performed.



In music we are working on our understanding of beat, and the musical notation to show different time lengths in beat. Year 3 children took part in a fabulous drumming workshop, enjoying call and response games and chants! We are learning the language of crochets and quavers, minims and rests and then writing beat patterns to practice. We also play alongside tunes and patterns to practise our listening skills and keeping in time.

In design and technology, we are investigating healthy foods and diets, making links with our science learning about bones and muscles. Next week, we will plan healthy salad dishes, making, eating and of course, evaluating!

We hope you all have a great Easter break and are excited for our next topic ‘Ancient Egypt’.



... The Year 3 Team



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR FOUR



This term, Year 4 have continued their learning on the Romans.

They have explored the impact of Boudicca and how the Roman Empire came to an end.

In English, the children have written an explanation text explaining how the water cycle works. This has enhanced their English, Geography and Science learning. Their explanations are very clear and informative. They have all the features we would expect in an explanation text and we are very impressed!

In PSHE, we have focusing on 'Good to be Me' and 'Growing an Anti-Racist School'. The children have enjoyed discussing what makes them unique. They have shown a lot of respect when exploring the similarities and differences they share with one another.

We are proud of the values we are growing within the school.



We have been involved in a complex project to make models of Roman catapults this term. These have allowed children to develop their measuring, sawing and gluing skills, as well as the opportunity to work with others towards creating a finished product.

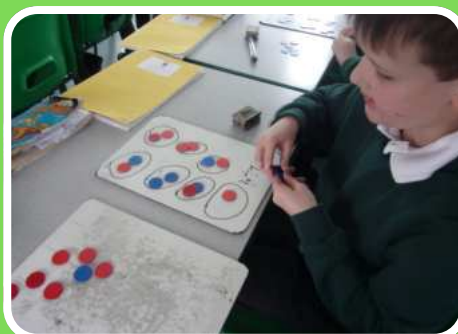


As always, please continue to support your child with learning their times tables. Ten minutes daily playing TTRS on an ipad/phone will make all the difference. The children have really enjoyed seeing their heatmaps change from red, to yellow and then to green! Look out for your 'Going Green Certificate', if your child hasn't already achieved this. Similarly, practising their personalised spellings daily will always be really beneficial for their learning too.

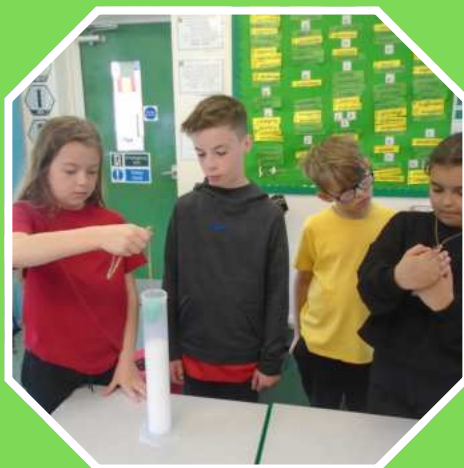
Have a wonderful Easter break! We look forward to welcoming the children back for the summer term in Year 4 for our 'Up, Up and Away' topic.



... The Year 4 Team



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR FIVE



Within this half term, World Book Day was a highlight (especially the Bookie Footy Quiz!) while our class reader – The Jamie Drake Equation - has encouraged us to write about the International Space Station as well as a setting description of the alien world, which children first created with pastels for inspiration. The phrases and vocabulary that Year 5 have generated is something to be proud of, especially the figurative language around their extra-terrestrial worlds!

We have also been discovering the fantastic forces that shape our world! We explored gravity, the force that keeps us grounded and makes objects fall to Earth. We also experimented with friction, which slows things down when surfaces rub together and learned how water and air resistance act like invisible brakes on moving objects. To learn how to make work easier, we investigated pulleys, a simple machine that helps lift heavy loads with less effort.



Within maths, we have been exploring division. The children have mastered the short division method, including interpreting remainders correctly. They have also tackled a variety of word problems linked to the four operations and have acquired strategies to solve them and make the process more straight forward.

Please encourage your child to keep practising this essential mathematical concept at home by playing TTRS for 30 minutes a week.

We really enjoyed our Bikeability sessions where we were able to build up our confidence and skills within bike riding. This was also a great way of seeing science in action and understanding how forces impact our everyday lives!



... The Year 5 Team

A MESSAGE FROM YEAR SIX



The Year 6 Team would like to start by saying how proud we are of the children for working so hard towards their SATs this year. The children are committing to practising skills and revising all their learning from across Key Stage 2.

English - In our writing this term, we continued to look to our topic of World War 2 and our guided reading book, *When the Sky Falls*. No World War 2 topic would be complete without letter writing, one of the key ways loved ones communicated during this time. The children immersed themselves into battlefield life through 'Beyond the Lines' and wrote beautifully, emotive letters home to reassure their loved ones. This was linked to our history learning about 6888th Battalion and their efforts in the war to ensure that U.S. Army mail was delivered to loved ones in a time of crisis.

After this, we returned to newspaper report writing based on a big question: Are zoo animals safe? The stimulus was based upon a dramatic event that happened in our class reader and required the children to write a non-bias report using direct and indirect speech to show perspectives.

Maths - The children have made us extremely proud by putting in 100% effort into their maths learning: not only in their regular lessons but their extra ones too to make sure the curriculum is covered before the SATs tests in May. They have made strides in their understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages, which is a big part of the year 6 curriculum and sets them up for secondary school. They have also been able to apply their percentages skills to some real-life scenarios to help them see the benefit of maths in the real world.

Well done to Sycamore and Chestnut classes who finished 16th and 22nd respectively in the TTRS – 'Top of the Rocks' competition out of 295 classes across the city. A special mention to Poppy.P for finishing 45th out of 4150 students. Fantastic effort.

Reading - The children are enjoying their current class reader 'When the Sky Falls' and are hooked with the drama of it. The book club groups continue to be a success with children not only enjoying the challenge, but in agreement, that they are reading more than ever. Thank you for supporting your child to read their book daily as it really does help develop their skills further ready for secondary school in September.

World Book Day was a great celebration of reading for pleasure. The children took part in 'The Big Footy and Booky Quiz' as well as making a reading river to demonstrate how important reading is to our daily life. Then they battled it out using their Oracy skills to crown the 'Ultimate Character Champion'.

PE - Keeping active, year 6 have been focusing on gymnastics and handball this half term. The movement and shape routines created in gymnastics requires good core strength and creativity, whereas handball has progressed their hand-eye co-ordination and team work skills.



... The Year 6 Team

A MESSAGE FROM SAPLING CLASS



Our topic of 'The great outdoors' has inspired us to get moving outdoors more! We have loved taking part in various hunts around the school-using our senses to describe what we can see and hear.

We have developed our gardening skills by planting cress seeds and we have enjoyed looking for various signs of spring around us!

Saplings have been enjoying learning about different animals through play and exploration. We loved having a visit from the Reptylers and we showed great courage and respect when handling them!

Our school value this term has been Pride, we have been able to demonstrate what it is to feel proud and have been identifying this in the forest class and through our work. We had a visit from our local dentist where she taught us how to show pride in our appearance and keep those teeth sparkly white!

We have been working hard to strengthen our fine motor skills through threading, sewing, using tweezers to sort and identify objects and cutting skills. This has had a great impact on our handwriting and our ability to hold a pen!

We are enjoying sharing stories as a group, decorating biscuits, learning how to play uno and other group work, we are also building up our resilience and our confidence. Sapling class are looking forward to our next topic after Easter, 'Our world'

We hope you have a lovely Easter break!

... Sapling Class



PE UPDATE



There have been many thrilling sporting opportunities on offer for our children this term. Firstly, one of the most exciting events from this term was the #letgirlsplay football day that took place on the school field. Many of the girls had never played football but all of them loved the experience and have even started playing football at break times or outside of school. This was an important event as it gave lots of the girls an opportunity to shine and feel confident participating in sport. Further girls football opportunities will be sent out in the summer term for those girls who would like to continue playing football.

During this term, the school competed in a stinger netball tournament. The competition started slowly with two draws but the team grew more confident in the following games and performed very admirably. As the tournament progressed, it was a pleasure to see the progress that the children were making and that their understanding of the game was growing. Mile Oak finished with three wins, three draws and two losses, which meant that the children finished fifth out of nine schools. On a different day, the results may have gone more in our favour and we would have finished higher. Unsurprisingly, our determination and togetherness did not go unnoticed as the school received the teamwork award, a reward for the team showing the most sporting values on the court. Overall, the children should be very proud in the way that they represented the school.

Some of our boys also competed in a friendly tournament on the school field with two teams from Hangleton school. It was fantastic to see the boys enjoying the experience of representing the school as some of them had never done so before. All of the games were played in very good spirits and both the teams finished in second and third place out of four teams.

There were also two festivals that our children attended this half term: an inclusion multisports festival and a year one cricket festival. The multisports festival was held at BHASVIC school, where the students participated in a range of different sporting activities such as basketball and throwing. All of the children really appreciated the experience. At the end of the term, a cricket festival was held at PACA for ten year one children. There were many mini games focussed around batting, throwing and catching. It was so lovely to see some of the younger members of the school represent Mile Oak for the first time, which they did wonderfully!

In the summer term, there will be many more sporting opportunities, such as Y3/4 rackets festival, Y3/4 tri-golf tournament, Y4/5/6 athletics at Withdean stadium and a swimming gala. Thank you for your continued support with Mile Oak school sport, we greatly appreciate it.



... Mr McCusker and Mr Crellin

POETRY FESTIVAL



Congratulations to all the children who participated in the Portslade Poetry Festival at Brackenbury! It was a fantastic afternoon filled with creativity, passion and incredible performances. Each child delivered their poem with energy, enthusiasm and confidence, captivating the audience with their expressive voices and engaging stage presence. We were incredibly proud of every single performer for their hard work and dedication.

Following the initial performances, four outstanding children were selected to advance to the next stage of the competition. The four winning children returned to Brackenbury for the grand event, where they performed in front of a larger audience alongside students from various schools across Brighton and Hove. The atmosphere was electric, with excitement and anticipation filling the air. It was a truly memorable morning, as students from different backgrounds came together to celebrate the beauty of poetry and the power of spoken word.

Although we were not among the winning schools this year, the experience was invaluable, and we are immensely proud of our young poets for their dedication and courage. This festival is an annual event and we are already looking forward to next year's competition. Who knows? Next time, we might bring home the trophy!

Well done to everyone who took part – your performances were truly inspiring!



... Ms Wilks



LET'S DANCE



What a Night at the Dome!

Our children were absolutely sensational, delivering an ambitious and high-energy dance performance that lit up the stage. The atmosphere was electric and the excitement in the air was palpable!

After weeks of dedicated rehearsals, refining choreography with Miss Turnbull and perfecting every movement with precision and passion, the children were finally ready to shine.

Backstage, there was a mix of nervous anticipation and sheer excitement as they prepared to step onto the grand stage in front of thousands of spectators. Then, the music began...

A roar erupted from the crowd and as our dancers moved in perfect harmony, their beaming smiles said it all. Any pre-show nerves disappeared in an instant, replaced by pure joy and an incredible sense of achievement. They performed a stunning sequence of moves, showcasing their talent, confidence and hard work.

Congratulations to each and every one of you! Your dedication, creativity and enthusiasm were truly inspiring.

A huge thank you to all our families for their unwavering support throughout this journey. There may have been a few tired faces the next morning, but every moment was absolutely worth it!

... Ms. Wilks



WORLD BOOK DAY



Yet again, World Book Day was a great success at Mile Oak!

The children (and staff) looked fantastic in their creative and artistic costumes. It was wonderful to see so many home-made efforts – thank you to our families for putting in such an effort at home.



We enjoyed a day filled with activities to celebrate and share our love of reading. During paired reading, classes teamed up across the school with the younger children sharing some of their favourite stories with the older classes. This was a lovely opportunity for our children higher up the school to support others with their reading.



The children were all excited to 'drop everything and read' when a surprise bell sounded in the afternoon. Whatever was happening across the school stopped immediately, for 15 minutes, while the children and adults became immersed into their books.



Other activities, such as online book quizzes and character creations, took place in different classes throughout the day and the whole school joined together for a fashion show.

It was great to see the children's enthusiasm for reading and love of books shine out across the day.



To end the spring term and to continue to promote and celebrate reading, we will hold another Book Swap. Thank you so much to all of our families who have kindly donated books in order to keep this event a regular feature on the Mile Oak calendar.

... Mr Cosgrove



OUR SCHOOL, OUR CITY, OUR WORLD



We have been busily continuing our work on making the school a more sustainable place and helping children understand how to care for our planet.



WASTE

This term, we have been focussing on WASTE. We have:

- Delivered assemblies on waste, how to reduce it and how it links to climate change.
- Encouraged greater recycling and reusing in school, especially of paper.
- Run a poster competition to encourage recycling and reusing – we have had some lovely entries so far.
- By looking at what we throw out as a school, we have reduced the number of bins the council collect each week - saving lots of landfill, carbon and money!
- We have started measuring how much food waste is generated from our dining halls. This has led us to survey all the children in school about what school dinners options they like and do not like. We will continue to work on reducing this waste.



FAMILY PLEDGE REMINDER

We invite all families and individuals in our community to make a pledge to help the planet each term.

This term we would love you to think about **Food Waste**:

- As a family, how much food do you think you throw away each week?
- Could you pledge to measure this (perhaps by weighing it or completing a tally chart)?
- Could you then pledge one action, as a family, to reduce this waste?



Please feel free to email what your Family Pledge is, plus any photos or observations to: office@mileoak.brighton-hove.sch.uk

CLIMATE CHANGE HELP

If you would like to talk more to your children about what climate change is, we have been recommended this handy guide:

<https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/GPUK-Parents-Carers-Guide-Climate-Change.pdf>

Or, if you would to become more carbon literate yourself, this engaging video is recommended by the Our City, Our World project:

LOOKING AHEAD

Recently, we invited everyone to take part in Earth Hour and it was great to see families getting involved with this. We are now going to build on this with Earth Day.

This year Earth Day falls on the first school day after the Easter Holidays – 22nd April so we are going to mark the day in school.

We will start by teaching children what Earth Day is and why it happens. In the afternoon, all classes will do a lesson that does not involve any electricity (including screens) or printing (not as easy as you might think!) Please do talk to your children about their experience.

SCAN ME












Finally, next term we will be focusing on WATER. If there is anyone in our community who has any expertise in this area, perhaps through their work, please do get in touch.

.... Mr Harris

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Summer 1 Religious Festival Calendar

April			
13 th – 15 th April	Songkran	Thai	Also known as the Thai New Year, this is one of Thailand's most celebrated festivals, marking the beginning of the traditional Thai calendar.
6 th April	Rama Navami	Hindu 	This is the birthday of Rama. It is one of the most important festivals for Hindus.
13 th April	Pesach (Passover)	Jewish 	This eight day festival is when Jews commemorate the Exodus from their slavery in Egypt. The <i>Seder</i> meal is held in each family's home at the beginning of the festival, when the story of their deliverance is recounted. <i>Matzah</i> (unleavened bread) is eaten throughout the festival.
13 th April	Palm Sunday	Christian 	This is the first day of Holy Week, when Christians remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. In many churches the entry is commemorated by processions, with the congregation carrying symbolic branches of trees, or palm leaves folded in the form of a cross.
13 th – 19 th April	Holy Week	Christian 	The most solemn week of the Christian year, in which Christians recall the events of the week in which Jesus was crucified.
17 th April	Maundy Thursday	Christian 	Christians remember the Last Supper when Jesus blessed bread and wine and commanded his disciples to remember him whenever they did this.
18 th April	Good Friday	Christian 	This day commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. Meditative services are held in church to mark the time that Jesus spent on the cross.
20 th April	Easter Day	Christian 	Easter Day is the most important festival of the Christian year, as it is when Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Many Easter traditions, such as the giving of chocolate Easter eggs symbolise the gift of new life.
May			
29 th May	Ascension Day	Christian 	This day commemorates the last earthly appearance of the Risen Christ, who, according to Christian belief, ascended into heaven in the presence of many witnesses.
12 th May	Wesak (Buddha Day)	Buddhist 	Wesak is the biggest of Buddhist festivals Where the birth, enlightenment and final passing away of Gautama Buddha is celebrated. Houses are decorated with lanterns and garlands, and temples are ringed with little oil lamps. People often send 'Wesak cards' to their friends, and come together at monasteries at this time.

WE ARE MOSAIC



Mile Oak SEND Awareness, Inclusion & Community

Let's Support Each Other!

Hello Parents/Carers,

We're a group of parents at Mile Oak Primary School, navigating the ups and downs of raising children with special educational needs (SEND). Some of our children have official diagnoses or EHCPs, while others don't – but what we all have in common is that our children find certain aspects of school life challenging.

We know how isolating it can sometimes feel when you're worrying about your child's needs, wondering if you're doing enough, or trying to figure out how best to support them at school. That's why we've come together – to support each other, share experiences, and work with the school to help make things better for our children.

You may have attended or heard about the meetings with Amaze representatives – what we're doing is building on that work, with the full support of Mr. Lording and the school's Senior Leadership Team. We want to keep these conversations going in a way that feels natural and supportive, without requiring a big time commitment.

What We Want to Do

- Create a safe and supportive space for parents to connect and share experiences
- Listen to your and your child's concerns and, where appropriate, pass feedback to the school
- Work together to come up with ideas and strategies that could help our children feel happier and more understood at school

What We Can't Do (But Can Help With!)

We're not experts, so we can't offer medical or legal advice – but we can point you in the direction of organisations that might be able to help.

What Happens Next?

To start, we just want to hear from you – to understand what kind of support would be helpful. For now, we'll keep in touch via email with updates, and if you'd like to be more involved, we'd love that too! There's no pressure – we'll figure it out together.

We're taking this one step at a time, focusing on building trust, sharing experiences, and finding ways to make school life better for our children. Let's support each other – because no one understands this journey quite like other parents who are walking it too.

How to Reach Us

By email – this is the best way to contact us if you'd like a reply

mile.oak.mosaic@gmail.com

Everything shared will be treated confidentially unless you ask us to pass something on.

We are looking forward to connecting with you!

... MOSAIC

NEXT HALF TERM

Topics for Summer 1

Reception - Can you Imagine?

Year 1 - Amazing Animals

Year 2 - Helping Heros

Year 3 - Ancient Egyptians

Year 4 - Up Up and Away

Year 5 - Mayans

Year 6 - Crime and Punishment

Please visit the school website and select your child's year group to view the curriculum overview for their year:

www.mileoakschool.co.uk/year-groups.

This details what children will be learning in each subject.

In addition to which topics children will cover, the curriculum maps show the key skills which will be taught.

Core Reading Texts for Summer 1

Reception: Jack and the beanstalk, There is no Dragon in this Story, The Knight that wouldn't Fight, How to Grow a Unicorn

Year 1: You're Called What? by Kes Grey, Alan's Big Scary Teeth by Jarvis

Year 2: The Extraordinary Life of Mary Seacole by Naida Redgrave, Ada Twist, Scientist by Andrea Beaty

Year 3: A Mummy Ate My Homework by Thiago De Moraes

Year 4: Kenzuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo

Year 5: The Explorer by Katherine Rundell

Year 6: A Kind of Spark by Elle McNicoll



April

Tues 22.04.25 Children return to School

Tues 22.04.25 Earth Day

Tues 29.04.25 to Tues 06.05.25 Year 5 Swimming - Elder Class



May

Mon 05.05.25 Bank Holiday - School Closed

Mon 05.05.25 to Sun 11.05.25 Deaf Awareness Week

Tues 06.05.25 Reception Big Make - Ladybird Class 9:00am

Tues 06.05.25 Year 3 - Beech Class visit the Brighton Museum

Wed 07.05.25 Year 1 visit the Booth Museum

Wed 07.05.25 Year 5 Assembly for Parents 2:30pm

Thurs 08.05.25 Reception Big Make - Dragonfly Class 9:00am

Thurs 08.05.25 Year 5 - Mayan Workshop (Onsite)

Mon 12.05.25 to Thurs 15.05.25 Year 6 SATS Week

Mon 12.05.25 to Fri 16.05.25 Mental Health Awareness Week

Thurs 15.05.25 Year 3 - Cherry Class visit the Brighton Museum

Mon 19.05.25 to Fri 23.05.25 Walk/Scoot to School Week

Mon 19.05.25 Year 6 Murder Mystery Walk - Chestnut Class

Tues 20.05.25 Year 6 Murder Mystery Walk - Sycamore Class

Tues 20.05.25 Little Oaks Nursery Stay & Play - Forest School

Wed 21.05.25 Year 4 Assembly for Parents 2:30pm

Thurs 22.05.25 Year 6 Murder Mystery Walk - Blackthorn Class

Thurs 22.05.25 Year 2 Assembly for Parents 2:30pm

Thurs 22.05.25 Little Oaks Nursery Stay & Play - Forest School

Fri 23.05.25 Culture Day

Fri 23.05.25 Last Day of Term

MILE OAK SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Mile Oak Primary School

"THINK BIG"

Safeguarding Team



*Mr Loring,
Headteacher (DSL)*



*Mr Cosgrove,
Deputy Headteacher (DSL)*



*Mrs Larter,
Family Champion (DSL)*



*Ms Wilks,
Assistant Headteacher
(DDSL)*

In the unlikely event that none of the safeguarding team are available, please contact:

Front Doors for Families

Telephone: 01273 290400 (9am-5pm, Monday to Thursday and 9am-4.30pm, Fridays).

Emergency Duty Service (outside working hours): 01273 335 905 or 01273 335 906

Email: FrontDoorforFamilies@brighton-hove.gov.uk

COMMUNICATION

We have received excellent feedback regarding our new communication protocol for staff and parents. All communication is logged by the admin team and tracked for a response.

Whilst it can sometimes feel simpler to grab a teacher at the end of the day, this means staff are not able to supervise children who they are releasing to parents. Before school, it is vital that teachers can fully prepare for the day ahead and many of them run early morning interventions. In addition, our wonderful admin team track communication which means it does not get lost in a busy email inbox or become a forgotten question at the end of the school day.

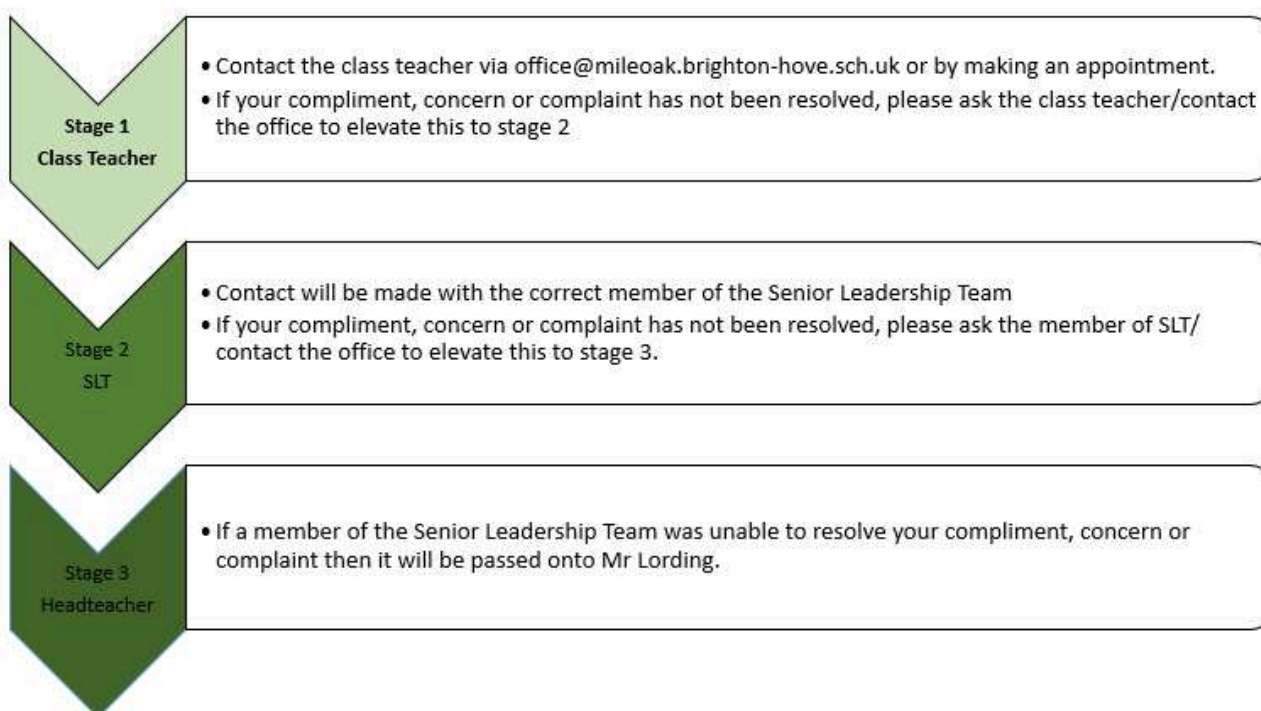
Once initial communication has been made, staff will respond within 2 working days. If a face-to-face meeting is required, the relevant member of staff will make an appointment for a mutually convenient time.

The Admin team are very happy to take calls, emails or even messages in the postbox out side of the reception area and will ensure your query, concern or compliment is passed on to the correct members of staff.

For further information on our communication protocol, please visit our website.

Communications Protocol

To ensure swift responses, equitable access and careful tracking of communication, we have asked the administration team to adhere to the following communication protocol. All communication will be directed to the correct stage.



Mile Oak Primary School, Graham Avenue,
Portslade, BN41 2WN



01273 077114



office@mileoak.brighton-hove.sch.uk



<http://www.mileoakschool.co.uk>