



Olive AP Academy Suffolk - Newsletter

Spring Term 2021-22

Edition No. 4

Headteacher's Update

Dear Families,

As another very busy term ends at Olive AP Academy Suffolk, I want to thank families for your continued support. I would like to praise our pupils for their great efforts throughout the term, particularly in the work they have completed in their books and their efforts in reading.

I am delighted this term that we have appointed the ever positive and cheerful Mrs Emms to the Senior Team where she will be overseeing our new reading strategy, which is such important work. We say farewell to Mr Thurston who leaves us after three years supporting Maple class; we wish him the very best of luck in the big smoke of London. We also wish Mrs Crane well on her road to recovery from her recent operation, and thank Mrs Spencer for agreeing to organise and run the hub of our academy, the Olive Teaching Kitchen.

Particular highlights and developments this term have included;

- An inspiring Red Nose Day
- Painting, decorating and vocational success
- The academy's rewards shop
- Improvements in reading
- The development of friendships across the academy
- Pupils learning to embroider
- The development of the academy council

We look forward to the new term, where we hope for sunny weather to aid outdoor learning. I am looking forward to us all reading 'Journey to Jo'burg' or 'Noughts and Crosses'. We will be helping Year 11 move towards their new destinations for next year and there will of course be lots of cooking.

In the meantime, I wish you all an enjoyable, peaceful and restful Easter break.

Alastair Burnett
Headteacher

A Reminder of Key Dates for Your Diary

Easter Break

Monday 11th - Friday 22nd April 2022

Pupils Return: Monday 25th April 2022

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Early May Bank Holiday

Monday 2nd May 2022

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Summer Half-Term Break

Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June 2022

Pupils Return: Monday 6th June 2022

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End of Term:

Tuesday 19th July 2022

Wednesday 20th July 2022 (Inset Day
previously noted at 24th June)

Additional Holiday for Queens Platinum

Jubilee - Thursday 21st July

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Your Feedback is Important

This is the 4th edition of our Newsletter for families and we would really welcome your feedback on whether you are finding the information we are sharing valuable.

We aim to keep you up to date with important information, such as calendar dates and changes to statutory guidelines as well as sharing with your details of some of the great work our pupils are involved in and the activities which they get to participate in.

If there are other areas and topics which you would like us to include or would like to provide your feedback please email us at info.suffolk@oliveacademies.org.uk

Activities in ELM Class

Elm Class has had a busy actioned packed half-term!

We have continued our work on 'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom', exploring comic strips and retelling the story through them.

In Maths, we have started Geometry, working on ordering numbers and working out the median of dice we've rolled.

Lots of energy spent in PE, developing cricket skills, and target shooting.

We have explored different Biomes and renewable energy, earning points for hard work and reward time for their achievements.

Cooking lessons were messy, making smoothies, some very interesting combinations!



RED NOSE DAY at OA Suffolk

On Friday 18th March 2022, at Olive AP Academy – Suffolk, there was fun, games, laughter, creativity, sweat and tears of joy. This was our first ever Personal Development Day that focused purely on having fun and raising funds for a national charity (Comic Relief). What a day was had by all, we had non-uniform, but staff and pupils were required to wear something red, we had voluntary donations and we combined East and West based pupils for some really supportive physical activities.

The day started with a mile run for every member of staff and every pupil. Whether they could manage a mile, or simply tried their best, this was a fantastic event that brought out the best in every pupil. Year 11s were encouraging and cheering on Year 5s, sporting peers helping out the less able and overall they all achieved a great deal.



There were classrooms filled with children making Red Nose artefacts, playing Red Nose themed games and laughing out loud to cheesy jokes recited by Mr Burnett, Headteacher.

Year 11 pupils from the East planned a jamboree of sporting activities for West based pupils to participate in; Kwik Cricket, Dance Off, Curling and Football. Each class entered the Sports Barn to find staff dressed in bright clothes and sporting Red Curly Wigs. All pupils gave their all, they learned new skills, worked with others and demonstrated real community spirit throughout.



RED NOSE DAY at OA Suffolk cont.

The afternoon saw West based pupils watch the new Disney film, Turning Red, whilst the East based pupils and Birch Class went to the Rugby Club to play a game of Red Nose Day Rounders. Teams were evenly matched, staff and pupils swinging the bat as hard as they could and then running as fast as their legs would carry them. This was not a game for the faint hearted, it was fast paced, well supported and thoroughly enjoyed by all.



The day saw the whole school come together for one purpose, to raise money for disadvantaged people in the UK, Europe and the wider world.

Our pupils were fantastic, our staff super supportive and overall we raised **£168.82** for Comic Relief. This was a fantastic achievement for everyone, bringing together the whole school community, raising awareness of the plight of others and all whilst developing our SMSC learning.



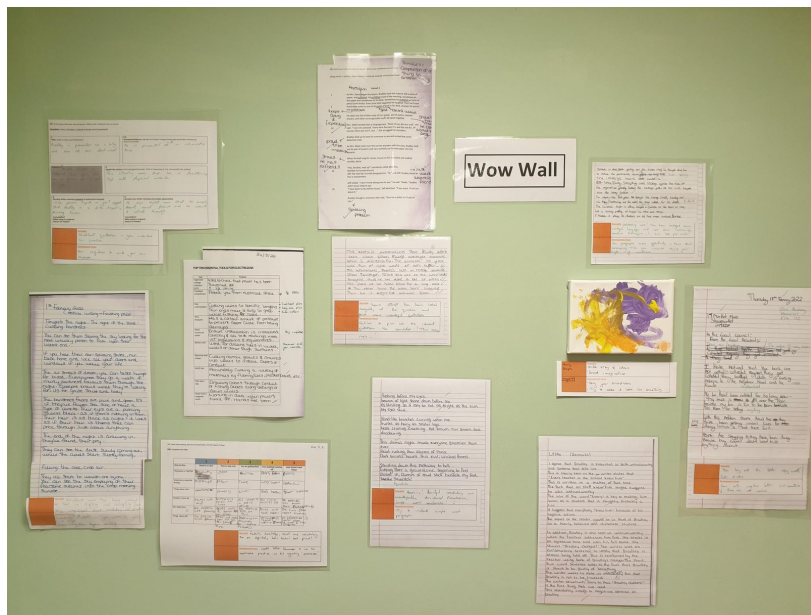
English Curriculum Updates

It has been an exciting term.

We have had a number of wonderful presentations completed for the speaking aspect of the functional skills exam. The topics have ranged from pit bike riding to ska music. An extract from one presentation, focused on the Taliban, is below:

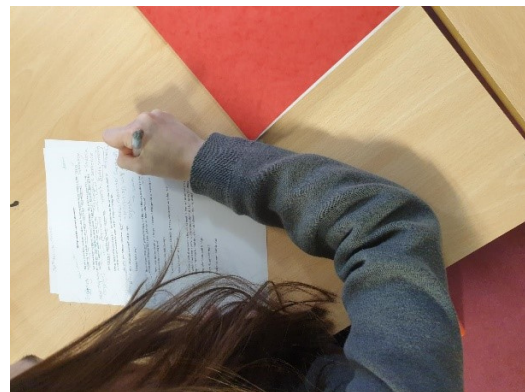
"In the year 1979 the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. It was late in the year, December in fact. The Soviet Union invaded in order to support the Afghan communist government. They wanted to help to deal with the anti-communist Muslim guerilla fighters."

A number of pupils sat their functional skills exams and eagerly await their results. More pupils will sit functional skills exams in May.



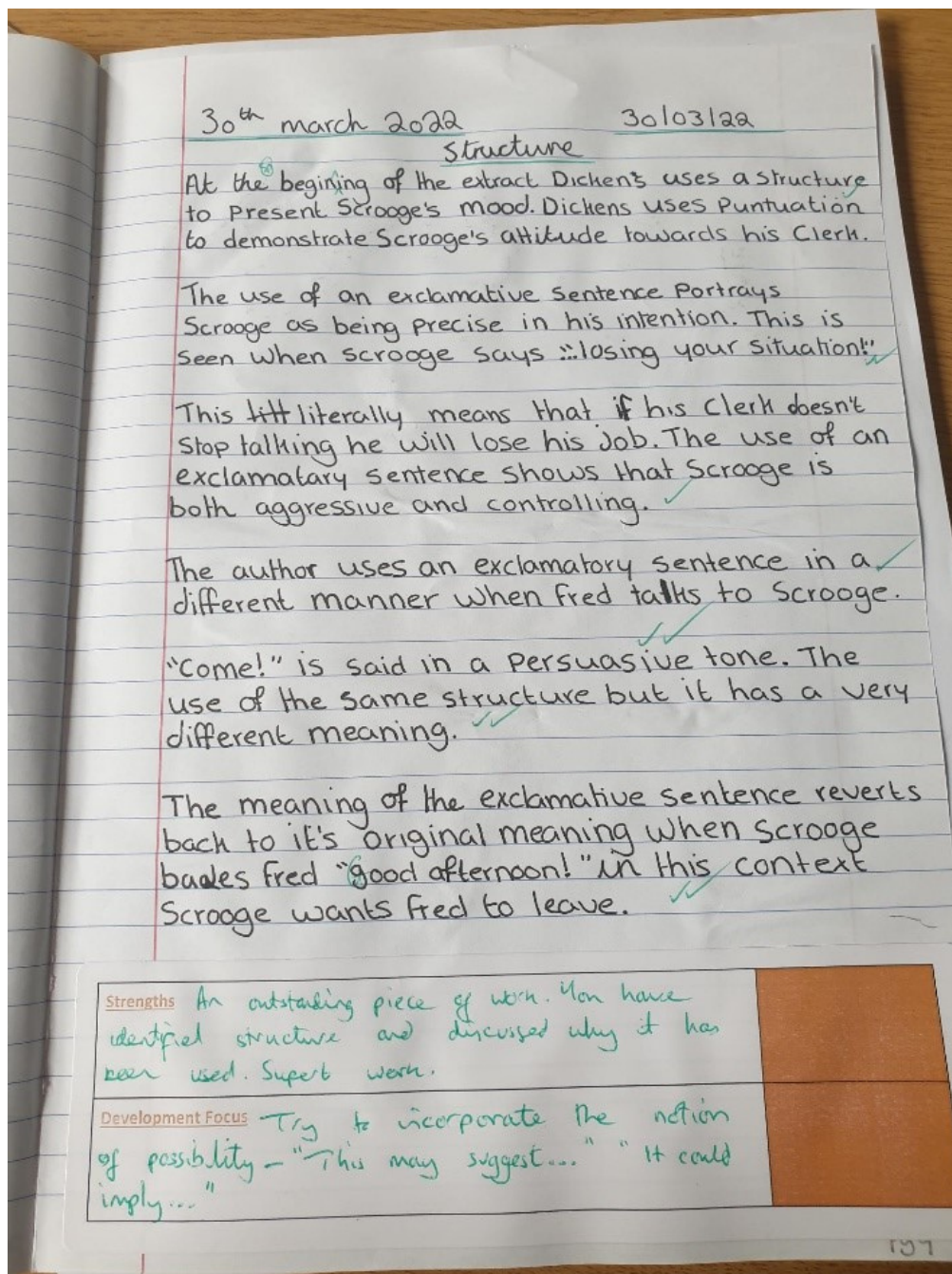
The 'Wow Wall' has been introduced into the English classroom and has been filling up rapidly, with amazing pupils' work.

Currently, we have a cohort of pupils studying for their GCSE English language qualification. They are making remarkable progress considering the short time they have been studying it. Two pupils are pictured working industriously below:



English Curriculum Updates cont.

An example of recent work is below:



As you can see, there is real talent in the cohort.

This term, pupils have been studying two different types of text. They began the term by studying *The Tempest*, which was truly magical. To have pupils discussing Prospero being usurped was a pleasure to behold. The second text was 'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom'. This wonderfully accessible book has thrown up some fascinating discussions that have linked to PSHE.

Farewell to Mr Thurston

Maple Class have taken the opportunity to interview Mr Thurston before he leaves us this Friday:

Why are you leaving?

I am finally moving out of my parents and moving to London to be with friends.

What is your most embarrassing moment?

One recently in Red Nose Day, Sonny nutmegged me and scored and I was actually trying.

What has been your favourite moment at Olive?

When Maple won the Summer Cup.

What is your biggest fear?

Jellyfish and seaweed.

What football games will you go and watch in London?

Definitely Spurs v West Ham. I don't know which end I will sit at though!

Is Sonny your favourite person? (This was Sonny's question!)

Who? Only joking - all of Maple are my favourites.

Will you miss us?

I don't know. OK - yes of course I will.



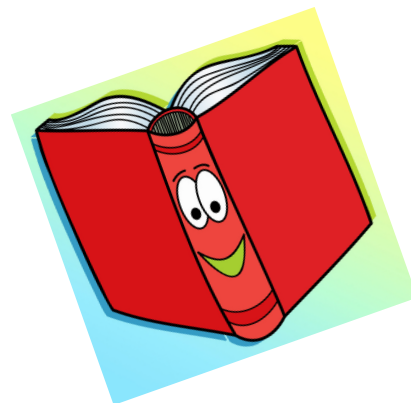
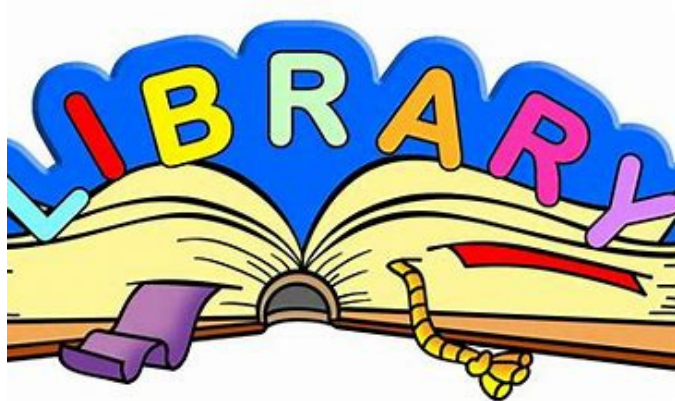
Reading Across the Academy

It's a really exciting time at Olive Academy Suffolk at moment so I was thrilled to be appointed to develop reading across the Academy. I'm passionate about reading and see it as a key that opens up the door to life-long learning.

We have been doing some work on building up our reading resources and, over the holidays, our new library area will be further developed ready for our book based murals to be painted creating a peaceful and beautiful environment for all our pupils to relax and read in.

Next term, we will be working with our pupils, especially our two newly appointed pupil librarians from Oak Class, to ensure that everyone has books in our library that we know they will enjoy from fantasy fiction to the latest cookery books.

Mrs Emms



Changes to Guidance for Measuring Covid-19

On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the next steps for living with COVID-19 in England from **Friday 1 April**.

Updated guidance advised:

- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- children and young people aged 18 and under with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for **3 days**, which is when they are most infectious.

Easter Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers

The holiday Free School Meal voucher scheme which was set up as a result of the Covid 19 Pandemic and continues nationally due to pressure brought by Marcus Rashford is now in its second year. The scheme is managed and operated by the Local Authority through a voucher company called Edenred and as a result of funding received from the DFE. In Suffolk the Academy is only responsible for supplying information to the Local Authority and for the issue of some of the vouchers.

Vouchers for eligible parents and carer's can be received in two ways namely:

- you can elect to receive redeemable vouchers directly from Edenred , or
- you can be issued with paper copies of the voucher by post from the Academy

In the main, eligible parents and carer's from our Academy choose to receive vouchers directly from Edenred, as this is often quicker. Vouchers for eligible parents/carers have already been issued for the forthcoming Easter holiday period but if you wish to amend the way you receive your voucher then please contact the Academy office and we can ensure that your preference is applied to future distribution. Additionally, if those eligible parents/carers currently receiving postal vouchers wish to amend their chosen supermarket then this can also be changed if you contact the office. Vouchers are available for most of the major supermarket chains operating within the UK such as Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, and Aldi.

Some of you may be experiencing hardship due to a change in your financial circumstance and your child may now be eligible to receive Free School Meals, to check your eligibility please go to the following website:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals>

If you have any queries at all regarding the above then please do not hesitate to contact us.



Easter Holiday Activities

Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme

The Holiday Activity Food Programme is a £200 million country wide programme funded by the Department for Education. The programme aims to provide activities and food for children eligible for benefit related Free School Meals during the holidays. Activities are available across Suffolk that provide fun filled days for kids, lots of physical activity, enrichment, and some delicious and nutritious food!

Places will be free of charge for children and young people who are age 4 -16 (reception-year 11) and are eligible for benefits related free school meals. For more details see the Suffolk website:

<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/advice.page?id=Zj4vWQtEbvA&msclkid=a52a69cfb4bc11ecbc14245ba9382142>

SUFFOLK ARCHIVES

Suffolk Archives have a range of activities planned over the Easter break including:

- Let's Get Crafty
- Art Workshops
- Family Friendly Tour and Craft Workshop

See their website for full details of their programme: www.suffolkarchives.co.uk/whats-on/

ABBEYCROFT LEISURE

Abbeycroft Leisure also have a varied programme of school activities available, for full details see their website:

www.acleisure.com/schoolholidays/

PREMIER EDUCATION

Premier Education have again teamed up with Suffolk County Council to offer pupils who are eligible to the Free School Meal benefit free places on their Holiday Camps at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre during the Easter Holidays.

Venue: Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre

Dates: Monday 11th - Thursday 14th April & Tuesday 19th - Friday 22nd April

Times: 9.00-3.00pm

What to bring: A refillable water bottle, Sporting clothes appropriate for all weather & lots of energy!

Booking Links:

Week 1: <https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/755206>

Week 2: <https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/755209>

**Please note each child is only eligible to attend for 4 days of the Holiday Period, so please only book on for one of the weeks.*

Easter

11TH APRIL – 24TH APRIL

**Depending on location*

FREE

FREE ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS OR MEET OUR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

FAMILY *park* **COOKING**

Fun Family Day Out including cooking lesson, lunch and 5 day take home ingredients box

ADVENTURE *Days*

Outdoor activity days for children aged 8-12 years

TEEN CHALLENGE *Day*

Multi activity days and lunch for 11-16 year olds- "Challenge yourself"

FAMILY SWIM

Free fun family swimming experience and lunch

JUNIOR SWIM

Free swimming and lunch for 11-16 year olds.

BOOK VIA HAF@acleisure.com

BURY ST EDMUNDS, HAVERHILL, BRANDON, NEWMARKET, MILDENHALL, SUDBURY, HADLEIGH, STOWMARKET, EYE*



Department
for Education



Suffolk
County Council

West Suffolk
Council



Abbeycroft Leisure
INSPIRING A HEALTHIER YOU