



Ocean wave



January 2021

Message from the Principal – Mrs Quarrie

Dear Parents / Carers

Well done everyone! What a team, we have all worked together to create a fantastic on site and online learning environment. We have all mastered new skills, online in particular and this is really a fantastic lesson to show our children - we should never give up (and you are in fact, never too old to learn!)

We have had so much positive feedback from parents with regards our in school and online learning provision and I know the children really enjoy the morning meet and greet with their teachers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their Herculean efforts to ensure this happens on a daily basis. Thank you too parents – juggling remote learning, a job and home life is a challenge and you are rising to it, one day at a time!

Please do sign and return the **Acceptable Use Agreement** so that your child can join us in the live sessions within Google Classroom. My assembly this week was to remind us all about the absolute importance of safety online – if you missed it, please do take a look on Google Classroom. Parents, please be vigilant about what your child can access online and set the internet restrictions within your own household.

SAFER INTERNET DAY IS 9th FEBRUARY 2021 – look out for activities relating to this.

Please remember to let us know if you need a writing and maths book for your child to record their learning in when working at home. We have a limited stock in school, so please email us if you need this resource (2 books per household only) and we will post these to you.

Please remember to send in your emails of support to oceanconsultation@ocean-aspirations.org to support the proposal for Ocean Academy to become a Primary school – your support really does count.

**Our Learning Skill for this half term is INDEPENDENCE.
How independent have you been this week?**

Take care and stay safe!

Best wishes

Mrs J Quarrie

Principal



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RECOMMEND OCEAN ACADEMY !

The application window for the new year 3 cohort in September 2021 is ending...please recommend us to your friends – we are a fantastic school and with having no TRUST feeder school as most of the other local schools have, word of mouth goes a long way to support us.



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SPREAD THE WORD – COME AND JOIN OCEAN ACADEMY !

Thank you for your support



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Year 3 Updates

Welcome back to our spring term of learning... virtually! Despite the current lockdown rules and most children now working from home, it has been fantastic to see the children show their resilience and positive Growth Mindset. The children have embraced the home learning immediately and are impressing us with their technology skills! I would like to thank parents for supporting us with any technical issues and being patient whilst we resolved the initial problems.

In maths we are working hard on learning to multiply and divide; in our writing and reading we are looking at extracts from *The Twits* and writing our own character descriptions; in science we are comparing living and non-living things; in art we are exploring different mark-making techniques. On Google Classroom we have also provided a wealth of additional home learning links for all subjects, including PE, DT and Spanish –take a look!

We have loved seeing the children for the daily morning live greet and they have had fun completing scavenger hunts and changing their appearance within the time limit!

A final message from Miss Damon to Dolphins parents: *Thank you for your kindness and understanding during my absence last half term. Your children were phenomenally well-behaved and worked so hard in my absence. The adults who worked with them were so impressed. Well done!*

Keep working hard with the home learning Year 3 - we love seeing photos of your work each day! 😊



Using marks to create a colourful picture.

(Example of google classroom work)



A drawing of Mrs Twit.

Year 3 Team

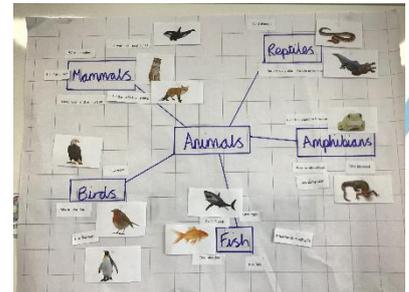
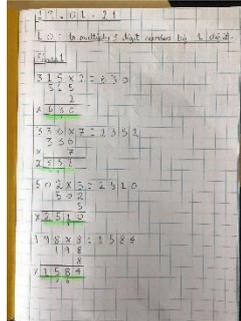
Year 4 Updates

What a different start to the spring term it has been! We are so proud of how the children have adapted to online learning so quickly and positively. It is brilliant to see the children, both in school and at home, continue to challenge themselves in all areas of their learning. Keep it up, Year 4! We love seeing so many smiling faces on the Google Meet each day - it really brightens our morning.

A big thank you to parents for your support during the initial technical difficulties and your patience as we worked to solve them as quickly as we could. If you do have any questions or worries, no matter how small. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Year 4 – you continue to amaze us every day with the photos of your work that you send in. You really are working your socks off! We love hearing about what you are getting up to and what you are reading so please keep us updated.

Google classroom work from year 4 – well done!



Year 4 Team

Year 5 Updates

Hi Year 5 and parents.

Thank you so much for your help and support with our online learning. It has been so lovely to see the children's faces on the Google Live Stream. The uptake of work has been phenomenal and the children are making sure they are challenging themselves with their learning which is super. It is also great to see that those children who are in school are equally as focused with their work - well done! As ever, any worries or queries, please get in contact with us and we will do our best to help.

Year 5 - we are so proud of the way you have adapted to online learning and how you continue to be the light in these challenging times! 😊

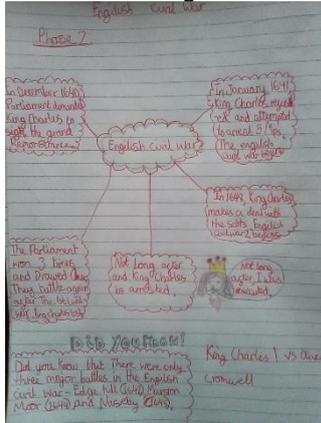


Year 5 Team

Year 6 Updates

Happy New Year! It has been a difficult start for all but Year 6 pupils have risen to the challenge. The pupils' willingness to adapt and engage is inspiring. Change can be unsettling but Year 6 have been role models for all.

I would like to thank adults for supporting your child's education at this time. It is a new way of working for all of us and we have seen some phenomenal work on Google Classroom in the last few weeks. It is important to remember that the phases of learning are there to scaffold your child's understanding. If they spend the entire lesson on the first phase, this is absolutely fine. As long as pupils are engaging with the learning, focusing and trying their best, they will make good progress. Finally, thank you to the parents who have sent kind messages in over the past few weeks. Staff are working flat-out at school to provide the best possible outcome for pupils and positive feedback from home goes a long way in lifting the spirits of school staff. Stay safe and (as I have typed 2,138 times this week on Google Classroom) keep up the good work!



Some good examples of recent English Civil War work from Year 6!



Year 6 Team

Inclement weather



School opening and closure procedures in the event of snow

At Ocean Academy we have a robust process in place in the event of very inclement weather and this is a good time to remind students and their parents of the procedures for informing you about a possible school closure.

We are very keen that the school should remain open as we do not want to disrupt learning wherever possible. School will close if:

- It is dangerous for staff/children to get to/from school or it is dangerous at school
- A majority of staff are unable to get to school
- Roads are unsafe

Procedures that will be used to keep parents and students informed:

- By far the best way to keep yourself up to date is check the Ocean Academy website. Our website is updated regularly. It will not only say if the school is closed but, on days where there is any doubt, will confirm that the school is open if this is the case. The advantage of the school website is that specific staff can update it, even when they cannot get to school themselves. Information will be posted onto the website by 7.30am
- We will send a text and email by Teachers 2 Parents informing you if the school is closed
- Wave 105 will broadcast a list of any schools that are closed; taken directly from 'Dorset for You' to ensure accuracy

- If parents or students phone the school, we will try to answer the phone but the website and Teachers 2 Parents is the most reliable method as staff may not have been able to get to school
- If during the school day, the weather causes us to make a decision to close the school early, our website will have up to date information. You will be sent a text/email as soon as the decision has been made
- The Aspirations South Coast District CEO will be informed to ensure all decisions are in the best interests of all staff and students

It is essential during these winter months that children have their coats at school please, so children can wrap up before they go outside at break and lunchtime.

Office reminders

From the week beginning 18 January (for those pupils who qualify for the free school meal scheme) you should have been able to access the food voucher scheme. Initially this will be for four weeks pending guidance and further lockdown arrangements. If you have not been able to access your vouchers, please do get in touch and we will endeavour to help you.



For the children who are coming into school, please do not forget your PE day will be as usual. Please come into school dressed ready for PE –you will be wearing your PE kit all day.

Any questions or any further support you need we are here! Please email office@ocean-aspirations.org or ring 01202 606888.

Staff News

This term Mrs Coasby Smart has started her new role with Dorset Council's education team. We wish her all the best and would like to thank her for all of her hard work as Vice Principal at Ocean. Good luck!

Some more baby news... Miss Pell's baby has arrived! Baby Sophie is happy and healthy and Miss Pell loves being a mummy! Congratulations from us all.

Diary Dates

15-19 February	Half term
8 March	Class Photos tbc
19 March	Inset day – school closed
1 April	End of spring term – 1.00pm finish
19 April	Start of the summer term – welcome back!
3 May	Bank Holiday – school closed
31 May	Half term
25 June	Inset day – school closed
23 July	End of Summer term – 1.00pm finish

