



Ocean wave

March/April 2024

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have made it to the end of the Spring term and what a great term it has been!

This term, I want to use our Newsletter as a chance to share some thank yous and successes...clearly the beautiful sunshine I am sitting in as I write this is putting me in a positive mood!

Charity Work

Across the country, and also here at Ocean Academy, there are many children classed as 'Young Carers'. On Friday 23rd February, our Ocean children wore their own clothes to school to raise money for 'MyTime Young Carers' and we raised over £300! Thank you to everyone for selflessly donating to a charity that is so close to our hearts!

CPTA

Our CPTA have been busy bees this term. Between the fun-filled Palentine's Disco (that included a foam machine and an inflatable unicorn), a delicious Cake Sale and the Easter Bunny Bingo, our school really has been brought together by this team. Thank you to everyone who has supported the fun and to the entire CPTA for their tireless hard work!

Poetry Day

Wow! Just wow! I think we can all agree that the poems were superb. I may be biased but we really do have such talented children. Not only was the morning fun, whilst giving our children the chance to practise their oracy and skills of presentation, we raised £257.65 for books for our library - thank you all!

Attendance

Although I am sure many of you look forward to my nags about attendance and punctuality, you won't find a nag here! Our attendance is creeping up and punctuality is improving so thank you all very much for your persistence and support here. We were also just informed that we received the FFT National Attendance Award for the Autumn term as we were in the top 10% of FFT schools nationally!



Updates

Uniform - We are getting there! Please continue to ensure your child comes to school wearing our correct school uniform. The link is below and includes information on what the children should be wearing including summer term adjustments.

[Uniform Policy](#)

Staffing - Just a little reminder to read my staffing email as there are quite a few changes for the summer term.

I hope you all have a relaxing Easter break and I look forward to seeing you all in the summer term, hopefully with some beautiful weather.

Kind regards,

Mrs Duggan



School Office reminders

If your child is unwell or not coming in to school please call before 9.30am and let us know why. We will call/text if your child is not at school. If your child has an appointment during the school day please let us have proof of this in the form of letter, card or show us the text/email. Thanks for your support!

Do not forget we have a small stock of uniform if you wish to purchase new uniform for September 2024 or order from - <https://www.brigade.uk.com/parents/school/OC7810DS/>.

A second hand sale will be held during the Summer term – date to follow!

Have a lovely break!



Year 3 Updates

What a brilliant half term we have had in Year 3! In English, we have been reading Roald Dahl's 'The Twits' and have used this to inspire our descriptive writing. We learnt about prepositions, apostrophes for possession and consolidated our learning on simple and multi-clauses sentences. Our writing culminated in us writing amazing character descriptions of Mr Twit. The children enjoyed being creative and truly came up with some imaginative ideas.

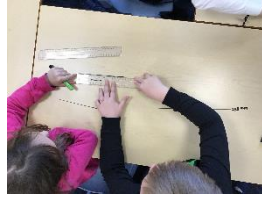
This half term in maths we have continued to consolidate our learning on the four operations and place value through our daily arithmetic, which we are getting better and better at.

Our phase learning has been focused on length. The children have measured and converted a range of lengths in m, cm and mm. Although at times we have found it difficult to convert from one unit to another, we have demonstrated our Growth Mindset and the children should be proud of themselves for not giving up! We have also continued daily times tables speed tests, the children have been brilliant at persevering through the tests and their times table knowledge is rapidly improving. Keep up the good work and remember to practise daily!

This half term we were very excited about starting our creative rotation on a Thursday afternoon. We have loved learning the Ukulele, trying out the green screen, cooking flatbread and using charcoal and pastels in art. In Geography we have been learning about the seven continents and five oceans of the world and used an atlas to locate and label these on a world map. We have also used an atlas and Digimaps to locate Poole and Dorset. We enjoyed using compasses to navigate around the school grounds and looking at the results of our parent survey to learn about how tourism impacts our local area.

Well done on another super half term Year 3! Enjoy the Easter holidays.
The Year 3 team.

The Year 3 Team



Year 4 Updates

We cannot believe that we have almost reached the Easter holidays already! In English, we have used the text 'Ice Trap: Shackleton's Incredible Expedition' to inspire diary writing with a focus on subordinate clauses, adjectives to create emotion and the use of different tenses. In reading, the children enjoyed developing their oracy when learning their poems for the poetry busk. It was great to see the children perform so confidently to an audience.

In maths, the children have been learning about the difference between proper and improper fractions. They have learned how to convert between improper fractions, proper fractions and mixed numbers and more recently, how to subtract fractions from whole amounts. The children are continuing to make great progress with their times tables. We would be grateful if you could encourage your child to log into TTRockstars as often as possible when at home - thank you!

In geography, our mountain topic was welcomed with great enthusiasm. The children enjoyed learning about plate tectonics and how these create mountains. The children were able to discuss why people might visit mountainous areas and how increased tourism can impact these areas. As part of their Applied Learning project, the children used their understanding of climate and environment to create their own mountain survival toolkit.

More recently, Year 4 enjoyed a visit from Reverend Mike and Elaine from St Peter's Church and learned more about Good Friday and the festival of Easter. The children embraced the opportunity to ask questions around this. Another highlight of the half term has been the continuation of samba sessions during music.

What a great term, Year 4!

Year 4 Team



Year 5 Updates

It has been a great half term for year 5, with lots of good learning going on, and it has been lovely to see the children continuing to develop as the weeks have progressed.

In English we have been enjoying our class text 'The Nowhere Emporium' and all its various mysteries! It has given us a good context too for our model write, and for our focus areas of relative clauses and figurative language such as similes, metaphors and personification, all leading up to our independent writes where we had the chance to develop our very own rooms for the Emporium in detailed setting descriptions. The children showed some lovely creativity and imagination! They have also enjoyed World Book Day and preparing our poems in each class to perform during our Poetry Day celebration!

Maths saw us starting with the tricky subject of adding and subtracting fractions, including doing this with mixed numbers! So many steps to remember, such as converting between mixed and improper fractions where needed. We have also done some useful work around multiplying fractions and sequences, before moving onto further work with decimals, exploring thousandths and how to record them as decimals and fractions, and then starting to explore units of measure, including converting between them and reading them accurately from scales. This is a really important skill for the children to develop, and just like times tables, any work you can do on supporting your child in learning the key conversions (e.g. how many grams in $2\frac{1}{4}$ kilograms, or how many metres is 364 centimetres) will be hugely valuable and much appreciated! All in all, the children's maths really is going from strength to strength, which is great to see.

We have also been thoroughly enjoying our space topic and the variety of activities we have taken part in, from our initial hook, creating a human solar system with giant inflatable planets, to our experiment on the playground exploring the length and direction of shadows (during a rare sunny day!). At the time of writing, we are just finalising the television programmes we are creating about the various planets, and looking forward to our fantastic finale of an exciting planetarium experience in the hall!

Thank you all for your continuing support. We hope you have a lovely Easter break and as ever, if you have any queries about anything, do please catch us at the end of the day.



Year 5 Team

Year 6 Updates

As we venture into the latter half of Year 6, the enthusiasm among our students is palpable! With our SATs exams just a few teaching weeks away (May 13th - 16th), it's a crucial time for us. These national exams assess students' proficiency in reading, maths, and grammar, offering them vital knowledge and skills for the future. While individual SATs scores aren't paramount, they can influence projections for GCSE outcomes in some secondary schools. Additionally, we use SATs data to reflect on our teaching methods. Nonetheless, what truly matters is the learning process itself.

Recently, we conducted mock exams, emphasising to students that effort is paramount, regardless of the outcome. Please reiterate this message at home.

While some schools may narrow their curriculum to prioritise SATs performance, at Ocean, we do not! We strive to maintain a broad and balanced curriculum for our pupils. This half term, our focus in science has been evolution and inheritance. PE remains a weekly highlight for many. Spanish, PSHE, computing, and music continue and in English, students are crafting their anthologies, showcasing their creativity through various genres such as setting descriptions, newspaper reports, TV scripts, and even crafting their adventurous sandwich recipes.

Have a great Easter break with your child and see you in the summer term!

Year 6 Team

CPTA news

Last month, Ocean CPTA had a bustling bake sale, thanks to the fantastic turnout from our community. With the generous support of our families and staff, we raised significant funds to benefit various school programs and resources. Looking ahead, we're excited for our upcoming Bunny Bingo event, promising an evening of fun and togetherness for Ocean families. Plus, don't miss our movie nights on April 17th for Year 3-4 students and April 18th for Year 5-6 students—a fantastic opportunity for students to enjoy some entertainment with classmates and friends. Join us for these exciting events!

Additionally, we're eager to update our sensory garden on the school premises. If you're a keen gardener or have specific skills to help out, please get in touch with the CPTA. You can reach us via email at

cpta.oceanacademy@gmail.com

Your contribution will help enhance the learning environment for our students and beautify our school grounds.



Summer Uniform

As the weather gets hotter and the days longer children can wear dresses and shorts if they have not already. Please put sunscreen on the children before they come to school. Sun hats/caps should come in to school so that children can wear them at play and lunch times. Please also send your child in with a water bottle.



Attendance

<u>Year</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance %</u>
Year 3	Dolphins	98.15
	Seahorses	97.26
	Sharks	98.1
Year 4	Penguins	94.59
	Turtles	96.43
	Jellyfish	94.82
Year 5	Orcas	94.58
	Seals	93.6
	Piranhas	92.73
Year 6	Barracudas	94.58
	Swordfish	95.89

Congratulations to all pupils and parents at Ocean. Let us keep it up and thank you for your continued support!

Please ring in and let us know why your child is absent. These figures represent the data from 1 February to 18 March to 23 March.

Late arrivals and non-contact by parents really affect the figures!

Thank you for your continued support!



Job vacancy

Do you know anyone who is looking for a role as a Learning Support Assistant at our school. We have an advert out so do have a look on BCP jobs. The details are below:

Teaching and Learning Support Assistant

- Division: Ocean Academy, Poole
- Salary details: Point 5-6 NJC Actual salary £17,676- £17,971 (£23,500-£23,893 FTE)
- Employment Status: Part time (Term Time only)
- Hours: 8.30-3.30pm (32.5 hours with an unpaid 30 minute lunch break)
- Contract Type: Permanent after successful completion of probationary period
- Starting date: ASAP
- Contact detail : Jane Burry (Office Manager)

Diary Dates

- 15 April Summer term commences
- 17 April Years 5/6 Movie Night 3.30-5.15pm
- 18 April Years 3/4 Movie Night 3.30-5.15pm
- 22 April Clubs and squads start
- 23 April Learning Links – 3.30-4.45pm – all welcome
- 24 April Year 4 swimming starts group 1A
- 29 April Year 4 trip to St Peters church
- 13-17 May SATs week Year 6
- 22-24 May Year 6 residential
- 27-31 May Half term
- 3 June Summer term 2 commences
- 1 July Last week for clubs and squads
- 19 July End of summer term 1.00pm

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2024-2025

Autumn Term 2024

INSET Day – School Closed	Monday 2 September 2024
INSET Day – School Closed	Tuesday 3 September 2024
First Day of School Term	Wednesday 4 September 2024
Half Term	Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November 2024

Return to school after Half term	Monday 4 November 2024
INSET Day – School Closed	Friday 29 November 2024
Last Day of Term for Christmas	Friday 20 December 2024 (1pm finish)

Spring Term 2025

INSET Day – School Closed	Monday 6 January 2025
First Day of Term	Tuesday 7 January 2025
Half term Holiday	Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February 2025
Return to school after Half term	Monday 24 February 2025
Last Day of term for Easter	Friday 4 April 2025 (1pm finish)

Summer Term 2025

INSET Day – School Closed	Tuesday 22 April 2025
First day of Term	Wednesday 23 April 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 May 2025
Half term Holiday	Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025
Return to school after Half Term	Monday 2 June 2025
Last Day of term for Summer Holidays	Friday 18 July 2025 (1pm finish)