

Overdale Junior School

A note from Mr Evans



As we approach the Easter break, I want to take a moment to celebrate the wonderful children in our school community. Their kindness, hard work, and respect towards one another have truly brightened our days and made our school a better place for everyone. A huge thank you to all parents and carers for your unwavering support—it plays an essential role in nurturing these values in our children and strengthening our school family. Thank you so much to all of the parents who came along to our Bingo night – it was great to see such a great turn out. Thank you to the Parents association who organised this for us. Congratulations also to Addison Macdonald for winning the heat of the Master Chef competition and Max Read for his outstanding achievements in the world of Cross Country. We are so proud! Wishing you all a restful and joyful Easter holiday!

A note from Mrs Cross

The days are growing brighter now and spring is breathing new energy into our school. There's a wonderful buzz of enthusiasm for learning all around and it is fantastic to see everybody working so hard. Our children have shown such resilience this term, embracing every challenge with determination. A special mention goes to Year 5 for their impressive achievements in the Bikeability programme and to all our pupils for their fantastic use of iPads to enhance their learning. Additionally, we're incredibly proud of the Anti-Bullying Alliance, who held a democratic election to give everyone a voice in shaping our caring school community. Well done to all for such a positive and inspiring term—here's to a refreshing Easter break!



A note from Mrs Perryman

This term, our school community has truly embraced the value of responsibility. A special congratulations goes to Year 6 for their dedication and perseverance as they prepare for their SATs—we are so proud of their hard work and commitment. Across the school, it has been heartening to see pupils showing kindness and consideration towards one another, fostering a positive and supportive environment. Together, these acts of responsibility and care remind us of the strength of our school values. Wishing everyone a well-deserved and joyful Easter break!



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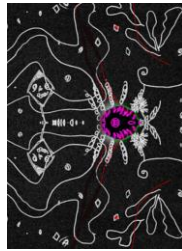
Gudwara trip

Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Gudwara, immersing themselves in Sikh culture and traditions. The children were warmly welcomed and gained valuable insights into the significance of the Gurdwara in the Sikh faith. It was a fantastic experience and we are so happy that we were able to provide this for the children.



Digital artwork

We are proud to be able to share with you some of the fantastic digital artwork that the children have been exploring over the last few weeks. These were all created by layering, filtering and editing pieces from their art books which have been created by hand.



Science Week

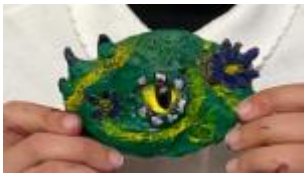
We had the great privilege of taking part in some science activities. The focus in Year 3 was to investigate whether or not the shape or design affects how an object travels through the air.

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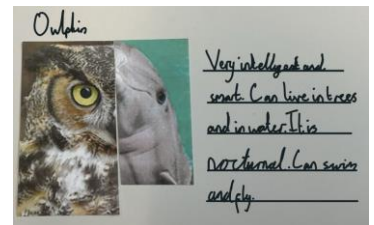
Art

In art, we focused our learning on Gothic art and looked at some work by Paulo Uccello - a famous Italian Medieval painter. We used inspiration from his Saint George and the Dragon artwork and used different pencil techniques to show line, tone and texture before sculpting our dragon eye from clay.



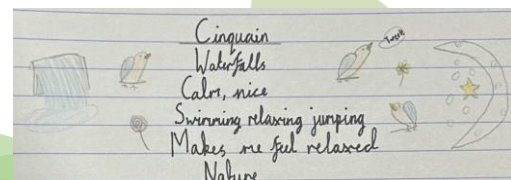
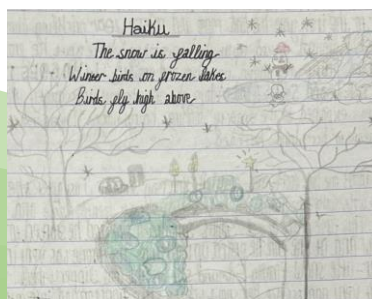
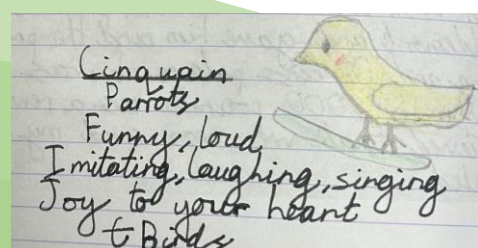
Science

This year's British Science Week theme was 'adapt and change'. Year 4 joined a live lesson about adapting to life beneath the waves as well as a science afternoon involving a carousel of different activities. Children explored some of the remarkable adaptations that allows animals to thrive in different habitats around the world, created their own hybrid animals and made and adapted rockets for a mission to the moon.



English – poetry

Year 4 loved creating their very own Cinquain and Haiku poetry. They were inspired by all things 'nature' and enjoyed performing them to their class mates.



This half term in Food Routes, the children learned how to make apple and blackberry crumble. Firstly, it was peeling apples and chopping them. Secondly, we made the crumble topping using the rubbing method. We layered them together and baked the dessert in the oven. We talked about how to scale up and down a recipe to suit the number of people eating eg. multiplying the ingredients by two or dividing. The crumble & custard was devoured (and enjoyed) by the children – and a handful of staff members who go in on the action!

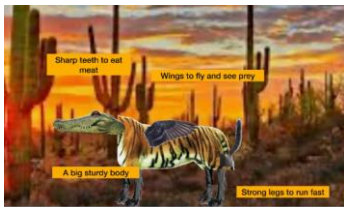
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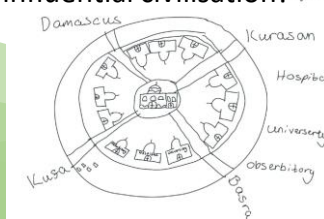
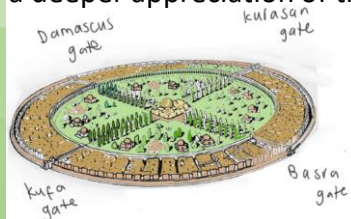
This term, Year 6 have been diving into *Macbeth*, exploring its dramatic themes and powerful language. They have stepped into the minds of key characters, crafting persuasive speeches and reflective diary entries to bring the story to life. Through this, they have developed their writing skills, deepened their understanding of Shakespeare, and had great fun embracing the intrigue and ambition of the play! This term, Year 6 have been diving into *Macbeth*, exploring its dramatic themes and powerful language. They have stepped into the minds of key characters, crafting persuasive speeches and reflective diary entries to bring the story to life. Through this, they have developed their writing skills, deepened their understanding of Shakespeare, and had great fun embracing the intrigue and ambition of the play!



During British Science Week and our focus on sustainability, Year 6 took their learning beyond the classroom, enjoying hands-on activities both indoors and in our woodlands. They explored the impact of deforestation, discussing its effects on ecosystems and climate change, and investigated ways to protect our planet for future generations. Through fieldwork, they observed local wildlife and considered how human actions influence the environment.



In Year 6, our students have been exploring the fascinating world of Ancient Islamic Civilisation, uncovering its incredible contributions to art, science, and learning. They delved into the history of the Round City of Baghdad, a remarkable centre of culture and trade, and discovered the House of Wisdom, where scholars from around the world gathered to share knowledge and make ground-breaking advancements. Inspired by Islamic artistic traditions, the children designed their own tessellated patterns, reflecting the intricate geometric designs found in Islamic art. They also experimented with fabric art, creating beautiful textile pieces that showcase the rich artistic heritage of the era. It has been a fantastic journey through history, combining creativity with a deeper appreciation of this influential civilisation!



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Thursday 10th April
Dining Hall 3.20

Cake Sale

it's back!

We need you, and your cakes!
We love a homemade cake, so we'd like to ask you to put on your aprons and get baking for the school for everyone to enjoy.

bake
Please drop off your baked goods at the **Overdale Infant School reception** between 8.45 - 9.15 on the day. The school is a **nut free zone**, please do not add nuts to your baking.

help
We'll need a handful of volunteers to help us ensure the sale runs smoothly. If you can give some time on the day between 2.15 and 4.00, we'd be really grateful.

buy
If you can't bake, please come along and buy! To help save on our take away packaging, please bring your own tupperware. We're cash only - please bring **cash in small change**.

win
All donors of cake will be entered into a prize draw to win a £5 voucher. To be entered - and to make it easy to return your cake tin - attach a label like this to your tin prior to drop off

To volunteer, please email: overdalepa@gmail.com with your name, your child's name and class, your mobile number and if you can help with the set up from 2.15, at the sale from 3.20, or both!
Thank you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Child's Name & Class:

A message from the PTA:

We are still in need of volunteers to help run the sale. If you'd like to get involved, please drop us an email at overdalepa@gmail.com - as soon as you can - so we can make sure we have a full team. We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you in advance, for any time you can give to ensure the cake sale is a raging success!

Important dates

The statutory Key Stage 2 SATs papers are timetabled from Monday 12 May to Thursday 15 May 2025.

Please see below the days for each paper.

Date	Activity
Monday 12 May 2025	English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2
Tuesday 13 May 2025	English reading
Wednesday 14 May 2025	Mathematics papers 1 and 2
Thursday 15 May 2025	Mathematics paper 3