A blue and yellow logo

Description automatically generatedA cartoon of a otter swimming in water

Description automatically generated Otter Class **Summer 2** Newsletter

Mrs Gould

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| Welcome back!  I hope you had a lovely half term holiday 😊  🧑‍🏫 Meet the Otter classroom Team  We are lucky to have a fantastic team supporting your child’s learning throughout the week!   * Mrs Gould teaches the class on **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday**, and **Friday,** creating a fun and engaging learning environment. * Mrs Hathaway provides classroom support on **Monday**, **Tuesday**, and **Wednesday**. * Vicky joins the team on **Thursdays** and **Fridays** to support learning and activities.   On Thursdays, the class is taught by Mr Holland, with Miss King offering support throughout the day.  Together, we aim to provide a consistent and supportive experience for every child in our classroom!  ✏️ **Literacy** This half term, we’re exploring a variety of texts and writing opportunities, tailored to support all our learners at their stage of development.  **📖 Class Literacy Focus:**  A book cover of a book  AI-generated content may be incorrect.Our main text this term is *The Last Wolf* by Mini Grey – a beautifully illustrated story that sparks discussion about the environment and how we can help protect it.  We’ll also be reading:   * *Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl – our class novel, which ties in brilliantly with our themes of persuasion and woodland habitats. * *Apes to Zebras: An A–Z of Shape Poems* by Liz Brownlee, Sue Hardy-Dawson, and Roger Stevens – to inspire creativity and explore poetic forms.   📝 **Writing Outcome:** Children will write persuasive letters in role as a character from *The Last Wolf*, urging others to help save the trees.  🌳 **Greater Depth Challenge:** Children working at greater depth will write a persuasive letter as themselves, encouraging local people to protect trees and care for the environment.  **🟣 Purple & 🟢 Green Groups – *Read Write Inc.*: Get Writing!**  Purple and Green groups will continue working through the Purple Get Writing! books, part of the Read Write Inc. Phonics programme by Ruth Miskin.  These books provide a rich variety of writing activities linked to both Storybooks and selected non-fiction texts, including:   * Simple sentences * Invitations and letters * Descriptive and non-fiction texts   Writing tasks follow a six-step process involving oral rehearsal, role play, and structured composition. Check boxes encourage children to proofread and improve their work, building independence and confidence as writers.  **🔴 Ditty Group – Red Ditty Readers**  The Ditty Group has made excellent progress and is now reading Red Ditty books, which will be sent home every Wednesday.  In class, children are practicing all the Set 1 Speed Sounds and developed sound-blending skills.  **📚 Home Support Matters:** Please try to listen to your child read their Ditty book every day. Regular reading practice at home plays a crucial role in boosting fluency and confidence.  🎥 Helpful Parent Resource: 👉 [Watch this parent video for tips](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJpl_7CVitA)  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJpl_7CVitA>  📖 **Reading at Home:**  Please continue to support your child’s reading journey by listening to them read regularly at home.  - Don’t forget to sign their yellow reading record each time they read. - In school, children read daily with their RWI partner, take part in guided sessions, and are heard 1:1 by an adult in class.  🏃‍♂️**P.E. – Summer 2**  P.E. this half term takes place on Tuesday and Friday afternoons, and is led by **Matt**, our specialist PE coach.  This term, children will be focusing on Athletics, with lots of practice for our upcoming Sports Day! (**Tuesday** **17th June)** Alongside this, they’ll develop important physical and teamwork skills through Challenge (Outdoor Adventurous Activities) and Trust & Cooperation (Games).  ⚽ *PE Learning Goals:* - Throwing underarm - Rolling equipment accurately - Hitting a ball with a bat - Moving and stopping safely - Catching with both hands - Exploring different ways to throw and kick  🌦️ **Geography – Wonderful Weather**  This half term in Geography, our topic is Wonderful Weather. The children are learning to observe, describe, and record different types of weather in their local environment, while also beginning to understand how weather varies across the world.  As part of this unit, we’ll be: - Exploring the four seasons - Learning about hot and cold areas of the world - Observing and recording real weather data - Creating and presenting our own weather forecasts  🎵 **Music – Moving and Grooving**  This half term in Music, we’re diving into our Moving and Grooving unit, which introduces the children to the fundamental concepts of pulse and rhythm.  Through a fun mix of activities, children will: - Explore and move to different beats - Use body percussion (claps, taps, and stomps!) - Develop their ability to feel and follow a steady pulse.  **➗ Maths – Summer 1**  We continue to follow the White Rose scheme of learning this half term.  🧮 EYFS: To 20 and Beyond! - Explore numbers beyond 10 - Understand number patterns and the stable order of counting - Use larger numbers in daily routines (e.g., counting children, days in the month)  📏 **Year 1/2 Focus Areas:** - Money: Recognising coins and notes - Fractions: Understanding parts and wholes - Time: Using vocabulary such as 'before', 'after', 'next', and 'finally' to order events  **🔔 Important Reminders…**  - Please send your child to school wearing their P.E. kit on Tuesdays and Fridays. - Parents should not enter the school building **unless** a meeting has been arranged in advance. - No Forest School on Tuesdays this term. - Make sure your child brings a named water bottle to school every day. - Please ensure your child is wearing sun cream and has a labelled sun hat. 📝 A Final Note from Mrs Gould It’s been a fantastic start to the summer term in Otter Class. The children continue to impress us with their enthusiasm, kindness, and curiosity. Thank you for your continued support—it truly makes a difference to your child’s progress and happiness in school.  If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything, please don’t hesitate to arrange a meeting through the school office.  Warm regards, Mrs Gould |