



Oak Class Newsletter

Autumn 2023

Mrs Ryder will include all the general 'need to knows' in her first newsletter of the year so the purpose of this, is to let you know what is going on in specifically in Oak Class this term.

Oak Class is all about getting ready for the big transition ahead - developing skills and independence. There will be lots of work with high (but realistic) expectations but also plenty of fun to be had along the way!

Homework

Homework is set on a Monday and needs to be completed by the following Monday. This year, it is a mix of online activities and paper based activities.

We will continue to use TTRS and I anticipate having a class full of Rock Legends by the end of the summer! Spelling Shed will also be used and children will be set a personalised programme of spellings based on the assessments that we carried out during the first week of term.

Our PE day for the first half of the autumn term will be Tuesday with Mr Tanner and swimming on a Wednesday.

We will be doing basketball/netball this term and then health and fitness in the run up to Christmas. I will confirm our second PE day for after half term near the time.

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on a Tuesday and also be prepared for rain or shine as Mr Tanner has us out there in all weathers!

For swimming, children should come in school uniform with their swimming 'kit'. Can you please make sure all uniform is named as it will make it much easier to return 'forgotten' items.

We also have a number of sports festivals already arranged for this term including our KS2 cross country event on 19th Sept and a Year 5/6 basketball tournament on 16th Oct.



Reading is not simply the ability to read words from a page, It is the understanding and comprehension of what has been read whether explicitly stated or inferred. To understand a book, at times a child needs to become a detective searching for clues and interpreting these. Children need to learn how to read strategically building upon a range of skills; skimming, scanning, summarising, inference, prediction, explaining, asking questions – to name a few.

Reading not only opens up a world of enjoyment of reading for pleasure but is also a vital tool to access information across the curriculum and beyond. The more you read, the more you know, the more you want to know, and the wider and richer your vocabulary becomes.

Reading has a high profile in Oak Class and we support this through individual reading using our Accelerated Reader (AR) scheme, small group and 1:1 guided reading sessions where the support offered can be more personalised. We also do whole class guided reading sessions which exposes children to a wide range of texts, genres and inspiration. We encourage the children to take their AR books home but it is important that they bring it back to school every day for our reading sessions.

To support the development of reading and vocabulary at home, it would be great if you could listen to your child read regularly and discuss books they have read at home or experienced at school. If your child encounters new vocabulary, ask them what they think it might mean and if it doesn't disrupt the flow of reading, look it up together in a dictionary. All children in Oak Class will be given an ambitious vocabulary bookmark to use as they are reading to jot down words they either don't know the meaning of or words that they might like to use in their writing throughout the year.

If you have any questions about anything that is going on in Oak Class, please feel free to email me, speak to me at drop off or arrange to come in at the end of the day if you need more time.

I look forward to working with you and your children this year - it's going to be an exciting year!