

Oak Class Newsletter

September 2025

Welcome to the Autumn Term! We hope that you had a lovely holiday!

This term Mrs Few will teach Monday-Wednesday and Mrs Cain on Wednesday afternoons, Thursdays and Friday mornings. We usually have two TAs in the morning and one in the afternoon. We have a super team of TAs with Mrs Lockwood, Ms Knights, Mrs Icke, Mrs Borrett, all supporting the class. Liam continues to lead the teaching of PE on Wednesday afternoons. We hope that you find the information provided here useful! If you have any queries or concerns, please speak to us.
Mrs Few and Mrs Cain.

Literacy

We start the year, focusing on sentence writing and handwriting, providing the children with lots of opportunities to write. We start by using the story, 'The Three Little Pigs' to support reading and writing skills and later in the term links will be made to our topics, for example the children will write diary entries linked to Amelia Earhart. The children complete daily spelling and reading activities to develop their skills.

Maths

Using the Power Maths scheme, we have daily lessons covering number, shape, measures and statistics. After lunch, we have another maths session where we follow the 'Mastering Number' scheme which focuses on the recall of number bonds. Each day we try to apply our learning to solve problems and to explain our reasoning. Sorting and counting coins at home is a really good way to support number skills. Also, please help your child by practising counting on and back from numbers in 1s or 10s and counting in steps of 2, 10, and 5s.

Other Curriculum Areas

Art: Art will focus on developing drawing and painting skills.

Design Technology: Towards the end of term the children will make Christmas decorations, learning a range of textile skills.

Computing: Learning how to log on to our network and to Purple Mash, the website where we have many tools to use, will be developed. Online safety will be a focus.

P.E: PE will be taught by Liam on Wednesday afternoons. During the term, lessons will focus on fundamental skills, fitness, ball skills and dance. During the term there will be whole school PE enrichment activities planned.

Music – Music lessons involve listening and appraising music, rhythm work, singing and playing accompaniments. They will focus around two units: 'Introducing Beat' and 'Adding Rhythm and Pitch.'

Topic (History/Geography): Famous People Amelia Earhart/Amy Johnson. The class will find out about their different journeys and the challenges they faced. In geography, we will study our local area, making journey sticks as we explore physical and human features in our local area.

PSHE – Relationships – Diverse Britain. Children will think about our school community. At the start of term, we will discuss the importance of our class rules and responsibilities. Discussions about relationships and our feelings is also covered in the second half term.

R.E – Christianity – Why is belonging to God and the Church family so important to Christians. The children will explore how Baptism is used to welcome members into the Christian Church. After half term we study, Judaism – Why is learning to do good deeds so important to Jewish people?

Science – Animals Including Humans – All About Animals. The children will learn to identify and name a variety of animals, comparing their structures and learning new vocabulary.

What is a day like in Oak class?

At the start of the day, the children put away their belongings and settle down to practise their spellings. After register, they split into year groups – Y2 has a maths lesson while Y1 splits into two groups of about 8 children and each group has a reading and phonics session. Then the year groups swap over – Y1s have maths while Y2 have reading and spelling in two groups. After morning break, the children have an English lesson as a whole class before getting ready for lunch. Lunch is eaten in the classroom and then children play on the school field. We begin the afternoon with each year group having a mastering number session with the teacher while the other year group completes maths activities with a TA. During the rest of the afternoon we have lessons in all the other subjects and end the day with assembly. The children work hard!

Learning at Home

Children will bring a reading book home every day to read with an adult. Please return these to school on a daily basis along with the reading record booklet. Please fill this in after listening to your child read.

Daily reading is vital. It is important at this stage in a child's reading development to ask many questions about the books they are reading and it is often a good idea to re-read a book they already know or have previously read. New phonics/sounds taught each week will be sent home each week for Year 1 children. Please support your child in reading and blending the sounds in the words to read the sentences accurately. If your child has had to sound out many of the words, try reading the page back to them. This will help them to have a better understanding of the text and improve their fluency.

On our website you will find a list of books we will be reading to the children this term. Please feel free to re-read these books at home, listen to audio versions or videos. The local libraries will stock many of these books. Each Friday the children will have the opportunity to choose a book to take home, read or listen to and discuss with you. This provides the children with an opportunity to make their own choices about what they read. The following week children tell the class about their books, perhaps reading an extract or summarising the events. They can recommend the book to the class, giving their reasons.

Please also note that we put spelling patterns being taught each half term on our website page and there are ideas for maths included in the Maths section above. Using any opportunity to count, to read and write numbers and to talk about time (days of week, months, telling the time etc.) is really helpful to your child's learning. Numbots is a really valuable App/website for practising maths facts and we will send log-in details shortly.

Reminders

- *Children need to bring their book bags to school each day – named on the outside please. Please do not send other bags into school, unless absolutely essential.*
- *Children should bring in a named water bottle. Just **water** please. It is helpful if bottles can have some form of 'sports type' lid as last year we had many accidents with screw type lids – the children find them difficult to keep firmly closed when they are not drinking from them!*
- *Please tie up long hair in order to limit the spread of head lice!*
- *We continue to provide fruit or raw vegetables for a healthy snack at break or children may bring in their own - clearly labelled please.*
- *P.E is on Wednesdays. As trainers may get muddy, please include an extra bag for these inside PE bags – a supermarket fruit/veg bag works well!*
- *At this time of year please ensure children come prepared for any sort of weather! Sun hats or coats may be needed and as we continue to work with doors and windows open whenever possible to provide ventilation, extra layers are helpful.*
- *On sunny days please ensure children apply sun cream before coming to school. Named bottles of sun cream may be brought into school but children will need to apply it themselves.*
- *We use the field on a daily basis so children will need a pair of wellies which they can leave in school on our welly rack outside the classroom. They will wear these at break times to avoid bringing mud into school.*
- *Don't forget that we love to celebrate achievements outside school – swimming certificates, badges from Beavers etc. These can be sent to school on Fridays for the weekly celebration assembly.*