



Oak Class Newsletter Autumn Term 2025

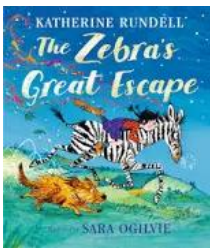
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Dear Children, Parents and Carers

Welcome back to our new Year 6 and welcome to our new Year 5 children for their first term in Oak Class. We hope you all had an enjoyable summer holiday and that you are now ready for another term of learning. The class letter is aimed at giving you an overview of our plans for the next term as well as detailing some of the housekeeping details that help the class run smoothly.

There are already lots of exciting learning opportunities planned, including the whole class three day Residential (22, 23, 24 October), Bikeability for Year 5 (week beginning 17 November), Reading Ambassadors working with our younger children, visits from Honiton Library, a variety of sports activities arranged by HLC and a possible new after school club for Year 6 based on The News.

ENGLISH



Writing Roots: Our first book will be 'The Zebra's Great Escape' by Katherine Rundell. Mink doesn't believe in rules. She loves running wild and free. So, when a zebra appears in the square where she lives and she finds out that his parents have been captured by the evil Mr Spit, she knows that it's up to her to help. So begins a grand adventure to rescue a whole menagerie of animals - an adventure that will take all of Mink's courage and determination. This is a timeless picture book about bravery, friendship and the importance of taking action.

MATHEMATICS

We will start our learning by once more looking at Arithmetic and Number and Place Value (including decimals). Fluency in these areas will embed the learning and enable children to cope with most of the other mathematical strands (fractions, geometry, statistics etc).



SCIENCE

Science teaching in Upper Key Stage 2 is geared towards enabling children to develop a deeper understanding of a wide range of scientific ideas. The first area for study is around Animals including Humans. We will look at:



- Describe the changes as humans develop to old age. Look at the gestation periods of other animals and compare them to humans
- Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the function of the heart, blood vessels and blood
- Recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function
- Describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals including humans

FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

Art	Collage
Computing	Computer Systems and Networks
D&T	Automata
Geography	Rivers
History	Ancient civilisations – The Indus Valley
MFL	All About Ourselves; Family and Friends
Music	Jazz
PE	Netball; Gymnastics; Dance
PSHE	Health and Wellbeing
RE	Concepts of Hinduism. Incarnation – was Jesus the Messiah?

HOUSEKEEPING:

- School gates open at 08:35. We will be starting learning from 08:45, so punctuality is important.
- Any drinks bottles kept in class or taken to PE lessons should contain only water (at lunch your child can have whatever you provide). In Oak the children often have a Chromebook on the desk so we keep bottles on the floor to avoid damage.
- Packed Lunches: We encourage children to take home any uneaten food and packaging so parents have a clear indication of how much is being eaten. It also helps to keep the classroom free from wasps and other insects.
- PE is on Monday and Tuesday each week and children should come to school in PE Kit on those days only (unless we have said otherwise). PE Kit is green T Shirt, plain black shorts/joggers, Offwell PE hoodie or school jumper/fleece and suitable trainers.
- Children should not bring mobile phones or SMART watches into school. If these are needed after school the staff will keep them safe during the school day and they will be handed back at home time. Many of the watches light up at inappropriate moments and can be distracting.
- Seating Arrangements. Children have been allocated a space in class for the start of the term. We monitor children's seating regularly to ensure each child is in the best position for their, and the rest of the class's, learning needs. With that in mind we may change positions every half term and also for different lessons.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be sent home as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily
Spelling	Daily Practice	Daily Practice	Daily Practice	Daily Practice	Daily Practice Spelling Test – Return books and books given out
Mathematics		Given out		Return	
Reading Comprehension	Given out		Return		
General Knowledge		Return (from previous week)		Given out (return following week)	

Please feel free to help your child if they want their work checked or are unsure what to do. We will aim to give fuller details with the first piece of homework under each heading. If there are any problems please email or send a message into school in the Home/School Book or organiser.

Please remember that we welcome positive feedback and information and are happy to create a dialogue with parents/carers. Email us direct and we can arrange a time to catch up – we often prefer after school as we like to be available and accessible to each child in the class to welcome them in the morning individually.