



Oak Class

Autumn Term 2026

Dear Children, Parents and Carers

Welcome back to Year 6 and welcome to our Year 5 children for their first term in Oak Class. It has been lovely to see everyone settle so well into the new school year. This letter provides an overview of our plans for the term ahead, along with some housekeeping information to help our class run smoothly.

There are already some exciting learning opportunities planned, including the whole class three day Residential at Wildside (7-9 October), Bikeability for Year 5 (23-27 November), sporting events with HLC and a visit from the mobile library.

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 smells, wasps and other insects.
- PE is on Tuesday and Thursday 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/must 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.
- 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 if we feel it is necessary.

HOMEWORK

Daily homework is to read a book/magazine and record at least 3 times a week what you have read in the home/school book. Spellings also need to be practised on a daily basis.

Weekly homework will be sent home on a Thursday for return the following Tuesday. This will be to complete one sheet of reading comprehension, one sheet of arithmetic and one sheet of general knowledge.

Homework Timetable:			
	Subject	Handed out	Return to school by
Daily	Reading	Record in home/school book	
	Spelling	Friday	The following Friday
Weekly	Reading Comprehension	Thursday	Tuesday
	Arithmetic	Thursday	Tuesday
	General Knowledge	Thursday	Tuesday

If you have any questions about homework, please email us - details at the end of the newsletter.

LEARNING IN THE AUTUMN TERM

A broad outline of learning is below. When necessary, we will send out more detailed information.

CORE	ENGLISH	Reading	Reading is at the heart of learning, and we encourage children to read regularly both at school and at home. Reading groups will take place throughout the week, with children either reading with an adult or completing independent reading and comprehension activities. We encourage families to make time for reading each day and to help foster a lifelong love of books and learning.
		Writing and SP&G	We will start with a recap of sentence structure and the essential grammar and punctuation skills needed in Years 5 and 6. Through a range of activities, children will practise these skills to build confidence and improve their writing. We will then move on to explore Rain Player by David Wisniewski, a traditional Mayan tale following the story of a young boy who must defeat the Rain God to save his people, providing an exciting stimulus for independent writing.
	MATHS	Arithmetic	We will begin the term by focusing on place value and arithmetic, helping children to develop confidence with number sense and the four operations. Through a range of activities, pupils will practise key calculation strategies and strengthen their fluency and accuracy. These essential skills will provide a strong foundation for the wider areas of mathematics that we will explore throughout the year.
	SCIENCE	Forces and Earth & Space	Over the Autumn term, we will be exploring Forces and Earth and Space. Children will investigate how objects move and the effects of gravity, friction and air resistance through a range of practical activities. Later in the term, they will learn about the Earth, Moon and planets, exploring how their movements create day and night and the changing seasons.

FOUNDATION	Art	Frida Kahlo - Portraits
	Computing	Systems and Searching
	D&T	Understand and use mechanical systems
	Geography	Explore Eastern Europe
	History	Ancient Mayan culture
	MfL	Pleased to Meet You
	Music	Singing and exploring Orchestras and Composers
	PE	Netball and Dance
	PSHE	Friendships, Stereotypes and Bullying and Mental Health and Wellbeing
	RE	What does it mean if Christians believe that God is loving and holy?

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.

Miss Kirkland, Mrs Holohan and Mrs Batten
Oak Teaching Team

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