




# Oak Class Newsletter: Term 1



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to offer a very warm welcome to Oak Class. I hope you have had an enjoyable summer break and that your children are looking forward to the start of a new school year. I am sure that many of you are wondering where the time has gone with your children about to embark on their final year of primary education! This term we have some fascinating topics to study, and I am sure that the children will enjoy being back in school embedding and developing their skills in a range of areas. Please see the grid below for brief details for each subject.

<p>In <b>English</b>, we will be focusing on descriptive writing initially, with a particular focus on accurate sentence construction. We will use pictures, film and age-appropriate picture books as a stimulus for our writing.</p> <p>We will also begin our class reader – ‘The Nowhere Emporium’ and our reading (VIPERS) activities will be based on this.</p>	<p>Our <b>maths</b> learning will begin with consolidating our understanding of number and place value, followed by addition, subtraction, multiplication and division methods.</p>	<p>In <b>science</b>, we will be learning about the Earth and Space. This exciting topic, named ‘Cosmic’, will enable us to learn more about our solar system and our place within it. As the topic lasts for two terms, we will have time for children to choose an area to find out more about such as space travel or constellations.</p>
<p>In <b>history</b>, we will be learning about the Ancient Greeks in our topic, ‘Hellenic Heroes’. This learning will span both terms one and two and will see us learning about many different aspects of this fascinating civilization.</p>		<p>Our <b>PSHE</b> unit is called ‘Being Me in My World’ and focuses on our hopes and goals for the year, how our actions affect ourselves and others, and also learning about democracy within the context of school.</p>
<p>There will be two <b>PE*</b> lessons every week, one of which will be cricket delivered by Fortius each Monday. The other will be swimming on a Friday afternoon.</p>	<p>Our <b>RE</b> learning will focus on several religions, answering the key question: <i>Is it better to express your religion in arts and architecture or in charity and generosity?</i></p>	<p>In <b>music</b>, our learning is based on the theme of the solar system (linking to our science learning) and will focus on listening, singing and performance skills.</p>
<p>For <b>computing</b>, we will begin with some online safety learning. We will also learn how to logon to our own Chromebook accounts, and Office accounts to allow us to save our work and share in class.</p>	<p>In <b>art</b>, with Mrs Griffin, we will be designing and making our own Ancient Greeks masks.</p>	<p>For our <b>languages</b> learning this term, we will begin learning a new language – <b>Spanish</b>. Moving forward, all children in Key Stage 2 will be learning Spanish, which we are really looking forward to.</p>

\* Please remember that PE kits (trainers, white t-shirt, black or blue shorts/skort) are required to be in school every day.

On Thursday afternoons and Friday mornings, Oak class will be taught by Mrs Griffin. On a Thursday, it will be art and science learning, and on a Friday, it will be continuing with our maths learning from the week, as well as completing some handwriting practice and a written reading comprehension activity. Mrs Griffin knows the children incredibly well and so having her cover during these times will provide a seamless transition for the children.

Initially for home learning, we are prioritising reading and mental maths skills. Children are expected to practise their times tables using Times Tables Rockstars several times each week and read a minimum of three times a week at home (recording this on our new online reading diary, GoRead – more details to follow in the school newsletter). I will be checking the children’s GoRead and Times Tables Rockstars accounts every Monday to see how they are getting on with their reading and maths at home.

Thank you for supporting your children with their home learning so that they can develop positive home learning habits and independence as they prepare for Year 7 and beyond. If you have any questions or concerns, please do email or see me before or after school.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Pitman-Jones