



# Welcome to Oak Class!

Useful information for Oak Class pupils, parents and carers

## Staffing

Your class teachers are Mrs Bulmer and Mrs Woodward.

Mrs Bulmer will be teaching the class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday mornings.

Mrs Woodward will teach on Wednesday afternoons, Thursdays and Fridays.

At times, the children may also work with a Teaching Assistant.

## In Class

The children should bring in a water bottle daily to have in class (no juice please). Bottles should be named as they will be stored centrally.

For morning breaktime, we encourage the children to bring a healthy snack of any of the following: fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, plain popcorn, plain breadsticks, plain crackers, or plain rice cakes. **No nuts, sesame seeds or peas please as there are children in school with severe allergies.**

There is limited space in the cloakroom so large bags are discouraged - a book bag is perfect! These bags are available at a cost of £6.50 and a sample is in the office for you to view before purchasing.

Children are NOT to bring their own pencil cases from home. They will be provided with stationary in school including the following: a blue biro pen, a pencil, a rubber, a sharpener, a ruler and a pencil case. **However**, we would encourage parents to purchase a **BLUE** Pilot Frixion Erasable pen and refills for their child to use in class. They are available in most supermarkets and stationary shops. These pens help greatly with presentation but are, unfortunately, out of our price range to buy as school supplies.



## Sensory Toys

Every class has a basket of sensory aids that are accessible to all children. Therefore, children are **NOT** to bring fidget/sensory toys from home.

## Birthdays

We love to celebrate the children's birthdays with them in school; however, we politely request that you do not send in sweets or cakes for birthdays. Unfortunately, sweets or cake that are sent in will have to be returned. Instead, we suggest donating a book or game for the class. Birthday certificates will be stuck into the front of donated books.

## Punctuality

Your child needs to be entering school at **8:45am** to organise themselves ready for lessons.

## Mental Maths

It is essential that the children continue to practise and become proficient in mental skills. This includes telling the time in both analogue and digital, knowing number bonds e.g.  $8 + 5 = 13$  and times tables facts. By Year 5, children should know all their times table and corresponding division facts e.g.  $7 \times 8 = 56$  so  $56 \div 7 = 8$  and  $56 \div 8 = 7$ . They should be able to recall these fluently (meaning that they can tell you the answer within 5 seconds without the need to calculate). Please continue to work with your child to help them become, and remain, fluent in these skills. The children have access to Times Table Rock Stars to help them practise these facts.

## Reading

Reading within Oak Class will be taught through English lessons and Guided Reading groups.

In Guided Reading, the children choose a book as a group and are then set tasks on Seesaw. This will include either some reading of the text or a task based on what they have been taught in their Guided Reading session. The children have time within school to complete these tasks but may choose to do it at home if they prefer. You can see on Seesaw whether your child has completed their task.

Children in Oak class also have a book to read for pleasure. This is their own individual book which they may choose from the school library or from home. Children in Oak class no longer have a reading record book. However, we take a keen interest in hearing about the books that your child is reading for pleasure and make time to discuss this during Guided Reading. We advise that children should read their reading for pleasure book for a minimum of 20 minutes every day.

Both reading for pleasure and guided reading books **must come into school everyday.**

## Summer Reading

We expect the children to read at least two books over the summer holidays. Your child will be able to borrow books from the school library or read their own books from home. If your child is borrowing books from the school library, a photograph of the book covers will be uploaded to Seesaw. These books should be returned in September. Lost or damaged books will be charged at £5.00 per book. Your child has been asked to post on Seesaw when they have read each book. It would be fantastic if you could read at least one of these books alongside your child and share the pleasure of reading together.

We have also sent a copy of the statutory word list for Years 5 and 6. Children should be able to read and spell these words by the end of Year 6. Six of these spellings will be allocated every week for the children's Wednesday spelling tests.

## Handwriting

Our expectation is that all children will use a cursive handwriting style. Pen is used in all lessons except maths where work is completed in pencil.

## **Homework**

On the Seesaw Journal there will be a Google Classroom slide with links to the following: Maths Basic Skills sheets, Grammar Hammers and Spellings. These should be practised frequently during the week ready for the tests in school.

At least 20 minutes daily of reading for pleasure and times table practice is also encouraged.

## **PE**

In KS2 the children have 2 sessions of PE a week in which they wear their 'Blue Uniform'. This consists of a white t-shirt, blue joggers, blue sweatshirt (not a hoody) and trainers. These should be the school logo jumpers or plain with no writing, logos or pictures. If you would like more information about this sports uniform please speak to the office staff. We would recommend that earrings are not worn on 'blues' days. 'Blues' days for Oak Class will be Wednesday and Friday.

## **Uniform**

We have high expectations for uniform, and we do not allow nail varnish or logos on clothes. Long hair must be tied back. Stud earrings and a watch are the only permitted items of jewellery; however, these must be removed for P.E.

For times when we go off site, please ensure your child has one pair of **wellingtons or walking boots and a waterproof coat and pair of trousers** to leave in school. Please ensure that all items are named.

## **Communication**

Any messages regarding well-being or learning can be sent through Seesaw to Mrs Bulmer (Mon-Tues) and Mrs Woodward (Wed-Fri). All other messages, for example, absences, medical appointments etc. need to be sent to the school office.

In September, we look forward to inviting you to our 'Meet the Teacher' evening where we can tell you more about the year ahead and answer any questions that you might have.

## **A Final Word...**

We are really looking forward to welcoming the children into Oak Class on Monday 5th September and working in partnership with you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Have a lovely summer!