

## Oak Class Newsletter - Term 1 2025

Dear Parents & Pupils,

Welcome warm back after a very lovely summer holiday away with long spells of sunshine; I hope you are feeling well-rested and are settling back into the school routine again. Below, you can find a brief and useful explanation of various structures, routines and expectations for the coming term.

### READING

We expect children to read aloud, at least 5 days a week, at home for around 10 minutes. This might fit into your bedtime routine, whilst supper is being prepared or even before coming to school in the morning. Reading regularly can help increase your child's achievements in many subject areas. Please continue to support this by recording your signature in their reading records every time your children read – comments need only be made if you feel necessary. Reading diaries are checked weekly - every Friday. I understand that this can be difficult for the best of us, especially as your child gets older, so just a page or two aloud would be sufficient then they can read to themselves for the remaining time. Reading is important for developing language skills, encouraging a thirst for knowledge and enhancing a child's concentration, which are all vital skills. If any book is lost or damaged, the school will ask for financial compensation. As in national libraries, we expect all of our school books to be cared for. If you have any of our school books, please return them when they are no longer in use. I have many books in Oak class as well as the Wraxall school library with many different genres to choose from.

### SPELLING

We are excited to be trialling a new spelling scheme from the LSP Trust this school year, which is in line with the ULS phonics scheme, which we have been using for a couple of years now. We will be completing 3-4 short sessions per week in class. There will also be a spelling task sent home weekly when homework books are given out and this is to be completed by the children, independently outside of school hours. We will also continue to practise and learn words from the Y3-6 statutory spelling lists.

There won't be a list of ten words coming home to be learnt weekly, as in previous years, but there may be a linked homework task.

## PE

Sessions will be held on Monday afternoon each week this term. Pupils need to wear their PE kit to school on a Monday only please. We appreciate that we are heading towards the Autumn and Winter seasons, so we will welcome black tracksuit bottoms/sweatshirt or hoodies when temperatures drop. Can we remind you that children should wear the school PE kit with trainers (no football kits please). I would like to take this opportunity to suggest that some children may be ready to wear antiperspirant deodorant, particularly on PE days. I will leave this to your discretion; they will not be able to spray after PE sessions. Earrings should be covered and/ or **ideally** removed on PE days for safety reasons and hair always tied back.

## HOMEWORK

This is a useful part of pupils' home learning, and it helps to reinforce the work we do in class. The children will receive a maths homework book, following the maths scheme we look at in lessons, as well as short reading and SPAG tasks. We recommend to spread it out throughout the week rather than attempting to complete it all at once – little and often is key. Parents can support their children with homework; however, this should only be a little support – if children are unable to complete homework, then please record a note for me in their books. Together with reading records, homework is due in each **Friday**.

Thank you for your anticipated support. I look forward to working with you all this academic year. If you need to speak with me outside of school hours regarding your child's education, please can I ask that you send me a message on my Wraxall email address or contact the school office by telephone or email. I look forward to this exciting year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Middleton 😊

