

Oak Class Information Sheet: Autumn 2017

Class Teacher: Miss Warren

Teaching Assistants: Mrs McCullough (am) Miss Grylls (pm)



Welcome to a new term and a new start in the Oak Class, the children have all settled really well and I appreciate your support during this time. I plan to provide fun, hands-on activities within a safe and stimulating learning environment which will promote your child's learning. Your child will have time to initiate their own learning through play. They will take part in whole class, small group and individual activities.

Topic

This half term our topic is 'All about me' where the children will be talking about themselves, why they are special, what they are good at, their families and the five senses. This will be taught through a range of adult directed activities such as carpet times and group activities as well as child initiated activities during 'play and learn'. Within the foundation stage we work very closely with the children's interest so the topic is loose and is likely to change. The children within the class are all learning at very different rates and so activities are differentiated to ensure progression at their individual level.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term we will be focusing on class expectations, good learning behaviours and what makes us special. We will also be discussing how to stay safe online.

Communication and Language

Our focus for this term is increasing attention and listening in a range of situations, such as on the carpet, in the hall and outside on the playground. We will be helping children to develop understanding of a range of simple and more complex directions that we give in relation to the school day and the routines they are learning.

Physical Development

To help develop the children's gross motor skills sporting world will look at a range of large movements and control. Within the classroom we will be encouraging the children to develop their fine motor skills in various activities and in writing. The children will be learning how to hold a pencil and other manipulative objects correctly and effectively. We use a program called Write Dance that is an exciting music and dance approach to develop the skills needed for writing. It provides movement opportunities so children can develop the physical skills needed to develop their handwriting skills. The movement is driven by the music and the underlying principle is enjoyment to build confidence.

Literacy

During the first weeks of school our focus is ensuring the children have an interest and enjoyment in stories and mark making activities. We have just started our phonics program called Read, Write Inc where children are taught letters and their corresponding sounds which we will apply to reading and writing.

Mathematics

Similar to literacy, the first weeks of term will be sharing a love for numbers and shapes. We will be developing our knowledge of numbers and numeral recognition through circle time, daily counting activities, songs, rhymes and games. The children can also access number activities throughout the day that help to develop this knowledge.

Understanding the World

Much of this term we will be focusing on the routines of the school and the immediate classroom environment. We will be getting to know each other, making friends and beginning to share and talk about things they like and their weekend news.

Religious Education

In RE focus this term we will look at Creation, Prayers, Saints and Feasts, Islam, Sacraments and Advent. The children will attend daily Acts of Worship in Assembly and in class.

Expressive Art and Design

This term we will be encouraging the children through their play and learn sessions to explore various opportunities such as painting, creating models, engaging in role play and small world play.

Learning at home

As the first educator of your child, there are many ways that you can support your child's learning. Encouraging them to talk when you are taking part in activities together will really develop their language. You don't have to be going on expensive trips; this talk can happen on the way to school or the shops.

Numeracy at home.

It is important that your child can say the numbers in order to 10 and then to 20. Please encourage your child to count objects - can they count how many chairs are around the table or how many apples are in a bag? Ask them to find you 8 pencils, if they find one more how many would they have? Can they add two piles of objects by grouping them together and then counting them all? Can they find a number 2 on a door or a number 7 on the bus? What shapes can they see on the way to school?

Literacy at home

Please read lots of different stories to your child at home as it is a good for developing language and imagination skills. Ask them questions about what is happening in the story. Can they guess what might happen next? Can they re-tell the story to you? Can they tell you who the characters in the story are? Joining the library can be a great way to encourage a love of story.

Whilst out and about please look for letters and words in the environment - can they find the letters on signs, packets, products etc? It is important that children know the letter sound, the letter name and that they practise reading and writing the letters at the same time.

Reading books - We start on picture books where the children can describe what they see and tell their own stories. Please read as often as possible and use the reading record books as they are a brilliant way to keep in touch about your child's reading and to communicate any problems that may arise. Books will be changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Tapestry and Wow slips

Tapestry is a fantastic resource for you to see observations of your child. We love to celebrate learning at home, you can add your own observations or photos onto Tapestry. You can also fill in a wow slip which we share during circle time – these slips are found by the lunch options.

Snacks, Toast and Lunch

Children are provided with a fruit/vegetable snack during the morning. You can purchase toast for your child at morning play at 20p. Children can also a bottle of water with their toast for 50p. Please can you give any money to myself or Mrs McCullough in the morning.

As part of the universal school meals programme children are currently provided with free school meals for Reception, Year One and Year Two. You can order school dinners online, registration forms are available from the school office. Alternatively you can select their lunch in the morning.

Uniform and PE kits

PE is led by Mr Ashworth from Primary Sports and is held on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Please ensure that your child's uniform and PE kit is labelled – I am sure you can imagine the difficulties we face when the whole class gets changed for PE at the same time! Please can you also provide a change of clothing in case your child has an accident – we do have spare clothing, however it is much more comforting for them to wear their own clothes.

Mornings

Children can come in to the classroom from 8.45am and settle into an activity. Please support your child to come in to the classroom with increasing independence. The morning is a busy time in the classroom. It is not possible to meet with individual parents at length, as we need to be available for the children. You are very welcome to arrange a meeting with me after school to discuss any queries or concerns you may have.