

Dear Parents/Carers

# Oak Class Newsletter, Term 1

Welcome to the first term of Oak class! It has been fantastic to meet the children and get to know them a little better. I am excited for the journey we are going to take together this year. This newsletter will give you an overview of some of the key things happening this term. Please also download our App as this gives you updates and reminders of all the key things happening and any important changes. Pop into the front office if you would like any help with this.

If you have any queries or questions about how your child is getting on, please feel free to make an appointment with the front office.

Ms Belcher, Oak Class Teacher

**Reading:** Developing a love of reading is such a valuable part of children's lives and we really focus on developing this during the Reception year. Please share books at home with your child, even if they are not yet reading words – it all helps. We expect adults to read at home with their children at least three times a week. Children will soon be coming home with a levelled reading book which will be matched to your child's current level. If your child starts with a wordless picture book, please discuss what is happening in the pictures with them as they develop a sense of narrative. These books will be changed weekly, but are accessible to parents/carers who would like to change their child's book more regularly.

**Snacks and drinks:** Every child is issued with a water bottle in school which they will have access to at all times. They also have a snack, which is a piece of fruit or vegetables, every morning. There is no need, therefore, to send additional snacks in for your child.

**Book bags:** Your child will soon be given a Kingfisher school book bag. This will be given free of charge. Please check your child's book bag every day, as there may be messages about upcoming events.

**High Frequency Words:** Your child will soon be issued a list of 100 high frequency words. Please practice these with your child as we would like them to be able to read them by sight. As many are tricky words, they need to be memorised. We will have a copy of these in school also and the children will colour in the words as they learn them confidently.

**Phonics:** There will be a workshop taking place soon for parents about the teaching of Phonics at The Kingfisher School so parents can best support their children to develop phonetical knowledge. Details of this will come out via the school App.

**PE:** In Reception, children do not need a PE kit. Physical Development is a significant part of the Early Years' curriculum and we deliver this through our high quality provision in our area as well as frequent movement, dance and yoga sessions.

**School Dinners:** Reception, all children are entitled to a free school lunch. These healthy and nutritious lunches are cooked fresh every day on site and you can choose from meat, fish, vegetarian or salad bar. Lunches needed to be selected in advance via your child's Parent Pay account. If you have any problems doing this, please see the front office.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns please make an appointment with the school office and we will be more than happy to meet with you.

Yours sincerely Ms Belcher

## Oak Class - What different skills do we need for our 'States of Being?'



Authors: This term as authors we will be learning and revisiting our phase two phonics. We will be practising our letter formations and starting to write simple sentences. Throughout our exploring time, there will be many opportunities for mark making and letter formation practice. In order to get our fingers and brains ready for our fantastic writing, we also do a popular finger gym session where children undertake a range of tasks to develop their fine motor skills.

### Enquiry:

Throughout our carpet time and exploring, we will be investigating some of our states of being, and thinking about what are the skills needed for each. For example, when we thinking 'What is an artist?', we will be mark making, colour mixing, sculpting and looking at the work of different artists.

Mathematicians: This term as Mathematicians we will be getting a solid understanding of numbers, counting and one to one correspondence. We will be comparing groups of objects to see which have more and fewer. Throughout our exploring time, we will also be weighing, measuring, comparing and sorting.

### Home Learning Task:

As one of our 'states of being', we will be thinking about 'What is a musician?' Can your child make a simple musical instrument out of recycled materials that you can add to our Musician area? Alternatively, as artists, your child could make a colourful piece of artwork or a tree hanging for our outside provision.

### Key Dates:

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September -  
Smoothie Bike in school  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September - School  
photos  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Bouncy  
Castle  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October - Halloween  
Themed lunch