



Oak Class Newsletter

Autumn 2026

Welcome to Oak Class.

I am really looking forward to a term packed full of exciting learning and lots of fun. Continuing with our new inquiry-based learning, we have some great questions we will be exploring this term which will allow us to delve into wonders of mountains and volcanoes, which will be very exciting!

During the week, the children will be taught by myself and supported by Miss Hart. On a Friday Mr Shilabber and Miss Hart will teach the class in the morning. In the afternoon, JMC coaching will take the class for P.E. and Mrs Molinas will deliver French lessons.

I'm really looking forward to a great first term in Year 4 and working with the children and yourselves. Please do not hesitate to come and speak to me if you have any questions or want to discuss anything about your child's learning.

Many thanks

Miss Nash and the Oak Team

Overarching Inquiry

How does Nature shape Landscapes?

Inquiry 1: Are mountains and volcanoes the same?

Inquiry 2: How do humans adapt to physical landscapes?

Learning Skills

Through our inquiry approach to our curriculum, we teach the children learning skills which underpin their learning both in and outside the classroom. The skills children will be introduced to are:

Thinking, research, communication, social and self-management skills.

Writing

Strong foundations. Focusing on grammar, punctuation, handwriting, spelling

Fiction- Diary entry about escaping Pompeii

Non-fiction- Non-chronological report about Volcanoes

Maths

Recall of Multiplication Facts- daily practice (building up to MTC quiz information attached)

Roman numerals- daily on the day and date board

Review of column addition and subtraction Numbers to 10,000

Measures- reading temperature (linked to Science)

Spellings

Children have a weekly spelling quiz. New spellings are set on a **Friday morning** which children write in their books and will also be posted on Class Dojo. Children have a spelling quiz on a **Thursday afternoon**. In addition we will have a daily spelling spotlight to practise specific words.

Children will need to practice spellings at home and will be provided with a practice book which they need to bring to school each Friday

Times Tables

We will be using 'precision multiplication procedures' alongside TT Rockstars to support your child in their speed and accuracy of their multiplication facts. Multiplication facts your child is least confident with will be these facts for them to practise.

I arrange a meeting in the first couple of weeks to share all these strategies and information about the Multiplication Check your child will be assessed on in June 2027.

Reading

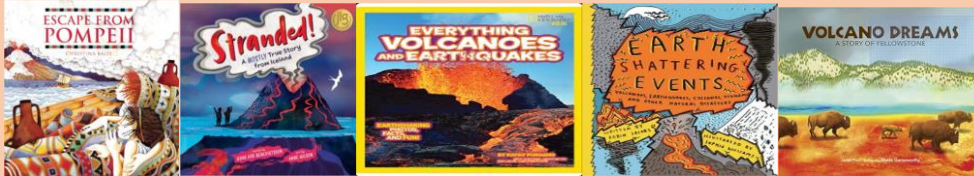
Reading Skills - Twinkl Totally Pawsome Reading Gang



Reading for pleasure (each child has a library book they choose and change regularly)

Whole class read- Read during fruit and snack time daily

Comprehension - Inquiry based investigation and responses in Geography around mountains, And volcanoes. In science Anders Celsius and states of matter.



Humanities

Geography- Europe: Recap Continents, European countries and capital cities Understanding the formation of mountains and volcanoes within Europe. How humans adapt to these physical landscapes.

History - Case study of Mount Vesuvius and the impact on Pompeii (Volcanoes-)

R.E- What kind of world did Jesus want?

Science- States of matter, understanding solids, liquids and gases.

Scientist: Anders Celsius

Art

Whole school Portrait project **Year 4 focus:** -
The whole me- To draw the whole body and focus on proportions

Painting- Choose paints and experiment with a wider range of different effects - e.g. layering, = colour blocking, dotting and splashing

Mix colours and know which prime colours make secondary colours; experiment with tone, shade and tint

Visual Literacy: Know and describe key ideas and techniques of an artist and compare artists styles and methods. **Andy Warhol** and **Gerardo Murillo Dr Atl**.

PE days: Wednesday and Friday

Hockey (JMC Coaches)

Fundamental skills

Computing

Computing systems and networks - The Internet

Creating Media- Audio production

Music

Copy and improvise short melodic phrases

Compose short structured piece of music.

PSHE

Brilliant brain and Dinosaur brain
Wellbeing activities

JIGSAW unit of work: Being in My World.

Modern Foreign Languages - French

Greetings, name and dialogue, days and colour

Further information about reading



Book change

As you already know, daily reading is a really important part of your child's education and something we encourage across the school. In Year 4, your child has a longer book to read so we focus on how often they read, rather than how many times they change their book.

We ask that the children put their books in the 'Have I read box' daily so we can check if they have read. Can you please **keep a tally** of the **number of times your child has read** by writing **it in their book** and also signing their books. This will help us ensure awards are given out efficiently. If your child finishes their book they can change it and then write the name of their new book in their reading record. All children should bring their reading book to school daily as they are regularly checked and often have the opportunity to read in school.



Reading awards

The Reading awards continue to be used to reward the children for their great effort when reading. Children start from Bronze in September and work towards the awards through the school year.

Bronze – 50 reads Silver – 100 reads **Gold – 150 reads** Platinum – 200 reads



Reading for pleasure- We love reading in Oak Class and have lots of great books for children to read during the week in our class library. We always share a book together during snack time which might be a short story book, non-fiction or a longer chapter book. I'm always on the lookout for new books to add to our class library so please encourage children to let me know any books they would like to see added.

Reading Comprehension- To support our reading comprehension, we use the Totally Pawsome Gang from Twinkl Reading Detectives. Each character has a role in helping children understand and interpret what they read.

As you can see reading continues to be an important part of everything we do so it is essential that your child continues to read and expand their sight vocabulary and understanding of words. For confident readers, regular reading at home and discussions around the text is really important and helps develop greater understanding of the book.

Life in Oak Class



Fruit for Snack Time: Can you please ensure your child brings a piece of fruit or vegetable in with them to school each day in a suitable container or bag.

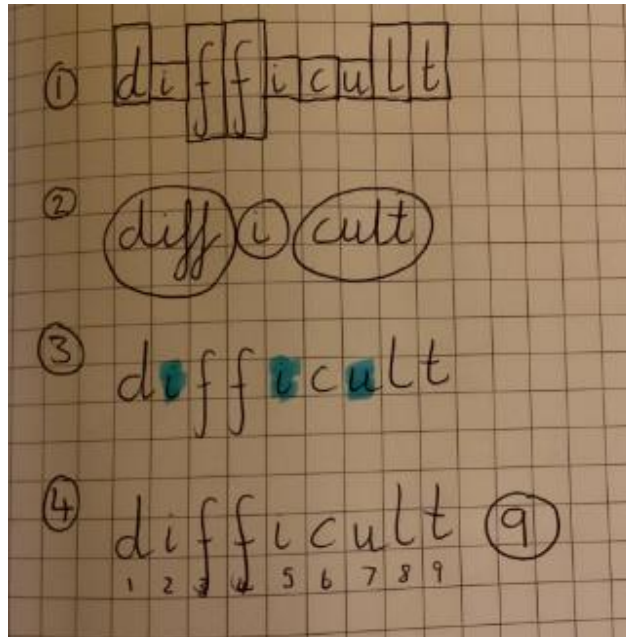


Water bottles: It is really important that children stay hydrated as it helps with their concentration. Please make sure your child has a water bottle with them each day. These can be accessed regularly during the school day.

Further information about spelling practice

Precision Spelling (Fab Four)

To help support children to learn their spellings, we have started using precision spelling methods. This focusses on practicing a few words a day in ways to help your brain remember them. Redwood Class last year called it the **Fab Four**.



Activity 1 boxes - Draw boxes around each letter to give the word a shape. Tall letters and letters that go below the line like q and g take up 2 lines, small letters take up 1 line and f takes up 3 lines (as it is tall but also goes below the line).

Activity 2 chunk it up - break up the word into 3 or 4 easy to remember chunks. These might be different for different people e.g. difficult could be diff-i-cult or di-ffi-cult depending on what they find easiest.

Activity 3 coloured vowels - highlight the vowels a different colour or use a different colour pen.

Activity 4 how many? - Count the number of letters and write it underneath.

Children choose 3 or 4 words a day from their spelling list and write each word 4 times using the different activities. Start with the words they find hardest to remember. Children will be given spelling practice books with squared paper to allow them to practice in this way. Please support and encourage them to do so as it really does help when they do their quiz on a Friday.



Homework and Learning Conversations

To support your child's learning we would like you to try a few activities at home with your child. Please don't panic, they are things you have done before and they are fun!!!

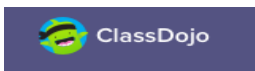
Reading: We would like your child to read daily to maintain their fluency and continue to develop their vocabulary.

Spellings: Practise their weekly spellings using the suggested games and activities.



Times table practise: TT Rockstars, Hit the button and flashcards.

Weekly learning conversations: The Learning Conversation will be posted via Class Dojo on a Friday and sent home in their Learning Conversation Book. All tasks can be completed in this book.



We will use Class Dojo to share Oak Class information, letters, learning conversations and messages. You can also send me messages. I do my best to check these daily but please be patient if I do not respond immediately. Any urgent messages should be phoned through to the school office. **Please do not use ClassDojo to alert the school of an absence, but contact the office who will pass on any messages.**

Class Jobs: In Year 4 the children do lots of jobs within the classroom and lots of jobs around the school such as music monitors, bell ringers and a new role of 'House Captains' which we will be continuing to develop this year. We will attempt to change classroom jobs every half term to ensure that your child gets to do a range of roles.

My time to shine- This is a speaking and listening activity that we do in Oak class. We have a specific focus each half term. The children are asked to share information and present it to the class. They can create PowerPoints or bring things in to show under the visualiser. The focus for this half term is **'What do I like to do outside of school'**. This can be anything they like to spend their time doing when not in school. They can bring in photos, create a PowerPoint or or just talk about it to the class. I will message you via Class Dojo to let you know if it is your child's turn. **This will be done on a Friday**



Hedge and Hoggy

Hedge and Hoggy are the Oak class mascots and comes home with a different children each weekend on a Friday. They have a diary which your child can record their weekend and what they and Hedge/Hoggy have done. The focus of this is your child's work - writing and drawings are encouraged. Your child has the **opportunity to share the diary entry with the class during the week**. This encourages speaking and listening and is something children look forward to

If you have any questions please do not hesitate in coming to see me

Here's to a fantastic first term in Oak class

Miss Nash and Miss Hart