

Dear Parents

Welcome to Oak class! We have had a great start to the term. The children have quickly adapted to the new rules and routines and are a pleasure to teach. I hope you find the following information useful.

Timetable:

As you are aware, I am the Senco in school, and Friday is my designated Senco day when I work to support children across school with any additional needs. Oak class will be taught by Mrs Worrall on a Friday morning and Mr Sheldon on a Friday afternoon.

PE:

Mr Sheldon will be teaching PE on Tuesday and Friday afternoons. Children will need a waterproof coat, as PE will take place outside even if it is raining. An outdoor PE kit should be kept in school until half term, when it can be taken home for washing.

Topics

Topics this term include a study of the Mayan civilisation. Next week we will be looking at a range of exciting resources provided for us by 'The History Van.'

English homework:

English homework is reading and spellings.

Please encourage your child to read regularly to develop fluency and reading stamina. This term we are concentrating on new vocabulary. Please check their understanding of any new words and record these words in the record book, along with a note of pages read. In line with our Covid risk assessment, we will not usually be writing in children's record books. However, we will collect them in over half term to monitor. We will also be recording books read, to encourage children to engage with reading and to change their books regularly.

Weekly spellings include spelling patterns and spelling rules, together with the statutory national curriculum words. Spellings are learnt on a Monday and will be sent home by text initially, so that you can encourage your child to practise at home. We will be working on them in school too but it really helps if it is a joint effort. They will be tested the following Monday.

Maths homework:

All children have a login for TT rock stars. Please allow your child to spend 5-10 minutes on the site most days (short, frequent sessions are much better than long, occasional ones).

Maths homework books will be sent home in the next few weeks.

Other information.

In line with our Covid risk assessment, we have all of the doors and windows open in the classroom to ensure that the room is well ventilated. Because of this, it can be quite cold. Children may put their coat on at any time if they are feeling cold, but on colder days it may be worth providing layers for children to wear underneath their school uniform.

We are all getting used to new ways of working in school, but your children have adjusted brilliantly and I have really enjoyed getting to know them during the last couple of weeks. If you do have any concerns at all, please do not hesitate to email me on oak@simmondley.derbyshire.sch.uk

Thank you for your support.

Kathy Collyer