



NEW STREET, BRETFORTON
EVESHAM
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'Learning at its heart'

8th January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers of Oak class children,

I would like to wish you all a happy new year and a warm welcome for the Spring term. I hope that you had a restful and enjoyable Christmas and are looking forward to all the fantastic opportunities the new year is going to bring. I would like to say a big thank you to all the children who worked so hard last half-term and the effort shown in the work they produced. We are continuing to have a big focus on attendance and the importance of making every minute of classroom time count.

Our School Week

I will be teaching Oak class during the week. However, we are very lucky to have Miss Ellis and Mrs Glass who will be taking the class for Forest School sessions every Monday afternoon. Mrs Townsin will be supporting the children on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and Thursday and Friday afternoons. On Tuesday afternoons, Miss Kay will be leading PE lessons as before. Please can we ask that children continue to have full PE kit in school, including appropriate footwear.

Each morning, teachers will be settling their children in class from 8.45am so if you need to speak to one of us, please come in before that time or speak to Mrs Eckersley in the school office to pass on any messages. We are usually available after school for a chat if you need us. Can we also take this chance to remind all parents that any medication should be given to the school office and a medical form completed (this includes inhalers, and cough sweets).

We are continuing to focus on presentation of work and the children having pride in what they produce; good presentation is a vital aspect of learning. We are also having a big focus on the importance of teamwork and how we need to work together to achieve our best, as well as being inspirational learners and aiming for the best for Oak class.

Star of the Week

Just before the end of the half-term, I introduced 'Star of the Week' where I choose one child every week who has shown that 'little bit extra' in the classroom in all aspects, including teamwork, presentation, effort. The chosen person will be rewarded with a certificate and will have their name displayed in the classroom.

Homework

A piece of homework linked to our topic, English or Maths work will be sent home on a Friday, to be returned to school by the following Wednesday. Sometimes, children will be given two shorter pieces of homework rather than one longer piece. Please listen to your child read as much as possible, preferably daily, and please encourage your child to practise their spellings daily in preparation for their tests on a Friday morning.

Spellings

Spelling lists are sent home at the start of each half term. A copy of your child's spelling list will be attached to the back cover of their reading record. Following their spellings tests on a Friday (unless otherwise indicated in the 'test date' column on the spelling list sheet), children will highlight any incorrect spellings on their copy, so that you are aware of which spellings your child still needs to practise.

The children have spellings lists in their English books and are encouraged to correctly use their spelling words in their own writing. They will then cross off any words that they have used and if used correctly and spelt correctly, they will receive a house point.





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Multiplication Tables

The children complete their 'times tables' challenge every day, where they try and beat the 5-minute timer to complete between 40-60 questions. They have enjoyed doing this and always rise to the challenge, but they need to remember my times tables catchphrase – 'it's about accuracy not quantity'!

We are looking forward to a productive half term with the children. If you have any questions about our learning, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

Mr Skelton, Mrs Townsin and Mrs Glass





'Learning at its heart'

Spring Term – First Half

Oak

Writing We will learn more about narrative writing and the features of letter writing. We will be looking at journals, non-fiction texts and newspaper reports.	Maths We will learn more about number and rounding, counting up in powers of 10 from any given number to 1,000,000. We will be learning about regular and irregular polygons and comparing measurements. We will continue to work on our multiplication facts. We will be collecting and representing data in various forms.	Reading We will be having a focus on non-fiction texts and increasing our familiarity with a wide range of books. A key focus will be looking at the diary of Captain Scott and how newspapers reported the events of the time.
Art and DT We will be using paints, chalk, pastel and other media to create different effects in the work we produce.	 Explorers	Religious Education We will be looking at why and how people take inspiration from Jesus in the Christian faith.
PE We will be working on our gymnastic skills working on our own and in teams to produce gymnastic phrases. We will be attending swimming sessions every week.		Music We will be using the sounds we find in nature to compose a simple piece of music. We will then look at the written notation for this piece.
Science We will be looking at the simple digestive system of a human and what we need to survive on an expedition. We will be making our own shelters that need to survive the harsh winter conditions!	History We will be learning about significant people in history, focusing on Cpt. Scott and his crew. We will learn about his expedition and the terrible conditions that they faced. Geography We will be learning about the Antarctic, the climate and the wildlife.	Computing We will be using software to create stop motion animation and learning the process of doing this. As always, we will focus on using technology safely both on and off line.