

Oak Class

Autumn Term newsletter 2025

Welcome to the Autumn Term. It has been wonderful to welcome our new Year 5 children to Oak class; everyone is settling in well and becoming familiar with our routines.

We have got lots of exciting activities planned for the children. Our main text in Literacy is 'Boy in the Tower', written by Polly Ho Yen. If you would like to purchase a copy for your child to use in school, that would be great, although there is no obligation, I can provide a copy.

In Science this term, we will be learning about the earth and space in our topic, 'What do we know about the earth, sun, moon and planets?' I have booked an Educational visit at the National Space Centre in Leicestershire (further details will follow shortly.) In the second half term, we will be learning about, 'How have living things changed over time.' In Geography, we will be finding out, 'Why has Britain been an attractive place to live for many who were not born here?'

Work in Mathematics will include: Place value, Addition and subtraction, Multiplication and division, Fractions. Mathletics is an excellent curriculum resource which I would encourage you to utilise at home with the children to complement work being taught in the classroom. Children can log on wherever they have use of the internet. All children have usernames and passwords in their reading diary. Please encourage your child to practise maths topics at home. We are working through times tables, which we practise most days in school. Again, it would be helpful if you could support your child by helping them to learn these. They need to be able to answer lots of quick-fire multiplication and division questions in a short time to be able to progress to the next level. Most of us know our tables quite well but need to get much faster at recalling the answers! 'Hit the Button' is another great online free resource.




Please keep reading diaries up to date when you hear your children read daily. Reading Eggs is another highly useful resource which can be assessed at home as well as in school. There is a huge selection of books to read and quizzes to complete to help improve your child's reading ages. The children are given new spellings every Monday, to learn for a test on the following Monday. These are the Y5 and Y6 recommended words, which the children all have a copy of in their spelling books and Reading Diaries. Please support the children by helping them to practise these at home. (Copies are available on the Class Pages on the website).

PE will be on Tuesdays (with Mr Mitchell) and Thursdays (with Miss Bateman). Please ensure earrings are removed on PE days and children are dressed in PE kit that is appropriate for the weather.

Please see our 'Sticky Knowledge' grids below containing the main themes of learning so that you can support your children at home.

Science Years 5/6 Knowledge Organiser

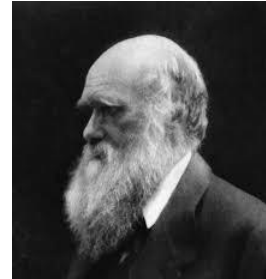
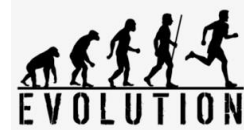
Main Learning: Earth and Space

Key knowledge	Vocabulary		
Know about the Sun, Earth, Moon and the planets	solar system	Is made of the eight planets that orbit our sun; it also includes asteroids, moons, comets and lots more	 
Know about and explain the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun	planet	There are 8 planets in our solar system, they are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune	
Know about and explain the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth	spherical	Something spherical is like a sphere in being round, or more or less round, in three dimensions	
Know and demonstrate how night and day are created	crescent moon	It is a slither of the Moon that is lit up and can be seen and is less than half the Moon	
Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon (using the term spherical)	gibbous moon	A gibbous moon occurs when the Moon is three-quarters lit up	
Know information about the planets	eclipse	This occurs when an astronomical object is temporarily obscured. A lunar eclipse happens when the Earth moves between the Sun and the Moon and blocks the Sun's rays from striking the Moon	
	Prior Knowledge-		

Science Years 5/6 Knowledge Organiser

Main Learning: Evolution and inheritance

Key knowledge	Vocabulary
Know how living things on Earth have changed over time	off-spring When living things reproduce, they pass on characteristics to their offspring. All living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring are not identical to their parents
Know that living things have changed over time	adaptation Is the process by which animals, plants and other living things have changed so that they better suit their habitat
Know the part fossils play in helping us understand more about living things that inhabited our Earth millions of years ago	evolution Is the theory that all the kinds of living things that exist today developed from earlier types
Know that living things produce off-spring of the same kind	inheritance When living things reproduce, they pass on characteristics to their offspring. This is known as inheritance
Know that off-spring vary and are not normally identical to their parents	palaeontologist A palaeontologist is someone studying the life of past geological periods, as known from fossil remains
Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution	genotype A genotype refers to a particular gene or set of genes carried by an individual



	Prior Knowledge–
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Geography Years 5/6 Knowledge Organiser

Main Learning: Immigration to the UK

Key knowledge	Vocabulary
Know why Britain has been an attractive place to live for many who were not born here	The Commonwealth An international association consisting of the UK and states previously part of the British Empire and dependencies
Know about the impact of the British Empire on immigration to Britain	immigration The action of coming to live permanently in a foreign country
Know which jobs many of the immigrants came for	Empire Windrush One of the first ships that brought workers from the Caribbean to Britain
Know how immigration to Britain has changed over the years	Indian subcontinent The Indian subcontinent is a physiographical region in Southern Asia, situated on the Indian Plate, projecting southwards into the Indian Ocean from the Himalayas
Know the impact that Brexit has had on our country	Afro-Caribbean A person of African descent living in or coming from the Caribbean
Know why many British people are anti-immigration	Brexit The withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union



	Prior Knowledge–
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If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs T. Francis