

Oak Class

Autumn Term newsletter 2026

Welcome to the Autumn Term. It has been wonderful to welcome all our new Year 5 and 6 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 links with 'Goodnight Mr Tom', written by Michelle Magorian. This relates also to our history topic, 'What was the impact of World War 2 on Britain?' 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 have booked a visit to the National Holocaust Museum, further details will follow shortly.

Other links will be made across our Science topics. This term, we will be learning lifecycles in our topic, 'What do we know about the life cycles of humans and various animals?' Our geography topic in the second half term is South America. We will be finding out about Brazil's landscape and economy.

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 Jenkins) and Thursdays (with Miss Bateman). Children wearing suitable PE kits to school on both of those days is working well. Remember that lessons will take place outside wherever possible, so children need to be dressed appropriately for the weather. Please ensure earrings are removed on PE days.

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

History Years 5/6 Knowledge Organiser

Main Learning: Significance – Impact of World Wars

Key knowledge	Vocabulary
Impact of the World Wars on ordinary people	Axis Countries which fought on the German side, including Italy, Germany and Japan
Know how lives of ordinary people started to change after WW1	Allies Countries which fought on the British side during WW2 (including the USA, France and Russia)
Make use of evidence to find out why WW2 happened	propaganda Controlling news media (such as radio) to depict the war effort
Know the impact of Chamberlain's speech on the country	No Man's Land The area between the two sides during battle.
Make use of local evidence to find out about the impact of the wars on local people's lives	Armistice Day The day the agreement was signed between the Allies and Germany to end the WW1 on 11 th November
Know about the issues people faced after WW2 ended	conscription A rule that said all healthy men aged 18-41 had to fight



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Science Years 5/6 Knowledge Organiser

Main Learning: Life cycle, including humans

Key knowledge	Vocabulary
Know about the life cycles of humans and various animals	puberty Is the name for the time when your body begins to develop and change as you move from childhood to adulthood
Know about the life cycle of a human being	gestation Is the time between conception and birth, during which the embryo develops in the uterus
Know what the terms puberty, gestation and reproduction mean	reproduction Is the way different plants and animals make new plants and animals. The reproduction system differs in plants and animals
Know the life cycle of different living things, e.g. mammal, amphibian, insect and bird	embryo Fertilisation happens when an egg cell meets with a sperm cell and joins with it. The fertilised egg divides to form a ball of cells called an embryo
Know about the process of reproduction in plants	obese Obesity is the condition of being much too heavy for one's height so that one's health is affected
Know about the process of reproduction in animals	teenager The age between thirteen and nineteen



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Geography Years 5/6 Knowledge Organiser

Main Learning: South America

Key knowledge	Vocabulary
Know where South America is and what its main geographical features are	pampas The pampas are fertile South American lowlands that cover more than 750,000 km ²
Know and locate several South American countries	Incas The Incas, an American indigenous people, were originally from the southern highlands of Peru
Find out about Brazil's key features, including human and physical issues	street children Groups of children with no homes or parents, who are forced to beg for a living
Know about the fruits and natural resources that South American countries have	anaconda snake Semiaquatic snakes found in tropical South America
Know what is meant by the term 'street children'	Andes The world's longest continental mountain range
Know key physical and human characteristics of a chosen location in South America	I am Somebody Poem which was used in a campaign to bring attention to the street children of Brazil



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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