



Oak Class Newsletter Autumn Term 2022

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Welcome back and welcome to the Year 5 children for their first term in Oak Class.

We hope your summer holidays have been restful and that parents and children are now ready for another term of learning.

The first topic we will be following is, ‘Gallery Rebels’. Colours collide, melting together on the canvas: an impression of light, a rage of red, a lobster perched on a telephone. Come and find out about the bizarre and eccentric minds of the gallery rebels. Art can be an act of



rebellion. Can you change the world with a paintbrush, a thought, or an idea? Can you express yourself without words? Well, a picture paints a thousand of them. Try your hand at a Damien Hirst sculpture, exploring the weird and wonderful to create a curious treasure for the next generation. Paintbrushes and sketchbooks at the ready.

Gallery Rebels

English	Research; Short narratives; Expressionist poetry; Surrealist narratives; Explanations
Art and Design & Technology	Creating sketchbooks; drawing; painting; sculpture with range of materials. Learn about great artists, architects and designers 19 th and 20 th century.
Geography	Locational – using maps, atlases and globes to locate countries and describe features.
Science	Light -different types of scientific enquiry controlling variables. Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them. Is green really green?
Music	Listening, improvising and composing
Other	
Maths	Number and Place Value – working towards fluency and mastery
PE	Dance and Hockey
PSHE	Health and Wellbeing
RE	God: What does it mean if God is holy and loving?

A few house-keeping notes:

- PE will be on a Monday and a Tuesday and PE Kit should be worn to school for both those days. The kit is a green T Shirt, black shorts, PE Hoodie and suitable trainers.
- Any drinks bottles kept in class or taken to PE lessons should contain only water (at lunch your child can have whatever you provide). In Oak the children have their own Chromebook on their desk so we keep bottles on the floor to avoid damage.
- An outline weekly timetable is attached – these do change but it will give you an idea of what happens
- Reading books may be sent home from the reading scheme and children can take home a book from our class library (we do ask that these are returned and kept in good condition), our librarians (see details below) will monitor any loans.

In Oak Class we have ‘positions’ we need to fill, as follows:

- House Captains (Year 6 only) – we have four House Captains, two for Anning and two for Attenborough. Your child will need to write a letter to the Oak Teaching Team setting out why they would like to be a House Captain and what they feel they can bring to the role. Closing date for this letter will be **Thursday 8 September**.
- Librarians (Year 5 and Year 6). We usually appoint four class librarians who take responsibility for replacing books on the shelves, keeping the area tidy, ordering books from the library, going on the mobile library and any other book related tasks that arise. Again, your child will need to write a short letter to the Oak Teaching Team letting us know why they would like to be a librarian (**deadline Friday 9 September**).
- Other ‘positions’ such as daily timetable organiser and art monitors we will choose from children within class time.
- Playground leaders (Year 6 only) will also be needed to devise games to play with the younger children in KS1 and the EYFS. We will explain this in class.

Torbay & Devon Civic Award

Year 6 are also able to undertake the Torbay & Devon Civic Award. This Award aims to encourage Citizenship amongst ten and eleven year olds. The inspiration behind it is Karen Thomson, a teacher from South Devon who felt compelled to create the award by a deep belief that education needs to be broader and more futures-driven. At Offwell, we agree that leaders in education have a moral responsibility to develop children’s attitudes and values as well as transferable skills to equip them for a future that has yet to be imagined. Participation in the Award also provides a healthy balance to the SATs-driven curriculum with a human, selfless aspect to help children become well-rounded, confident and caring individuals who strive to make a difference in their various communities and are prepared to take responsibility for change. The Year 6 children who undertook the Award last year reported that it was worthwhile and felt it gave them a rounded education. We will issue further information and talk to the children in more detail within the first two weeks of term – working for the Award will require parental support and we encourage all Year 6 to enter.

Homework

Attached to this newsletter is a document outlining homework for at least the first half-term.

Apologies for the length of this letter – we usually try to keep things short and sweet but at the beginning of a new academic year it is a good time to put out a few reminders to existing class children and provide information for new members. As a Teaching Team we welcome constructive conversations and interaction and are always prepared to make the time to speak to parents either by email, phone or in person.

Oak Teaching Team