

Oak Trees Newsletter Autumn 1 2022

Dear families,

We hope you have had a fantastic Summer break, making the most of the wonderful weather and our beautiful county.

The new academic year sees the launch of a new topic '**Evolution**'. Our **Launch day** took place with a visit to The Dig in York, where the children had great fun taking part in archaeological workshops and learnt so much to springboard our topic. For the **Landing** of the topic, the children will take part in a drama workshop '**Darwin Rocks**'.

Our approach to homework has changed. Tasks are based upon using the attached (age-specific) Topic Knowledge Organisers. We will be using these same Knowledge Organisers in class with the children, across all subjects, since they are a useful tool in supporting the children with their recall of essential knowledge. Please get your child to complete their tasks in their home-learning books - these will be sent home next week. We look forward to seeing their work and greatly appreciate your support with this.

This half term **Years 3 and 4** will be attending weekly **swimming lessons** (Tuesdays), at Pickering pool. We will continue with **our Hawkes PE lessons on a Monday** for all year groups and Years 5 and 6 will have a second PE lesson on Tuesday afternoons. All children should wear PE kit to school on both days (Although Y3/4 will be swimming on Tuesdays, they can wear their sweatshirt/hoody and joggers to school).

Many thanks for your continued support and if you have any questions, please do send a message via ClassDojo or the school office.

Dates for your diary

8th Sept: Conkers and Oak Trees Trip to **The Dig** -Packed lunch and raincoat required.

13th Sept: Y3 & 4 swimming lessons start until half term.

19th Sept. Topic landing: **Darwin Rocks** drama workshop.

PE

We expect children to be coming to school in their PE kit on Monday and Tuesdays. Please can you ensure this is in line with our uniform policy (see email sent on 15.07.22).

Times tables and spelling homework

Children are sent home new **spellings** to learn each week for their **test on Monday**. They will bring their red spelling book home with their new spellings stuck in (on Monday) and you will be able to see the scores from their tests in the back. Please help your child to also practise any incorrect spellings.

Children will also bring home a **times table** practise book. Please could you help them to learn these for their **test on a Friday**. They need to know these inside out, back to front and out of order! We do practise in school but the 'little and often' approach helps these to secure and embed their knowledge/recall.

Water bottles/snacks

Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school on a daily basis. Children are able to bring a healthy snack for break time- please fruit/veg only.

Reading

In class, children can choose a book from the class library to read for pleasure. They also have a reading book to read with an adult which is matched to their reading level - please read with your child at least three times a week to boost confidence and support progress with their reading skills.

Curriculum coverage for this half term

The following list outlines the area of the curriculum we will be studying for each subject. KO indicates that there is a knowledge organiser for this topic, where you can find additional details about the key information the children will be learning about:

- **Maths:** place value (KO), addition and subtraction (KO to follow later)
- **English:** fiction – alternative story starter; non-fiction – non-chronological reports (KO); poetry – narrative.
- **Science:** Earth and Space (KO)
- **Computing:** On-line safety (KO)
- **History:** Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age (KO)
- **DT:** Global Food
- **PSHE:** Being me in my world
- **RE:** Beliefs: Christianity, Hinduism and Humanist views about God (KO to follow)
- **PE:** swimming (Y3/4), gymnastics (Y5/6), ball skills
- **Music:** use voices expressively and creatively; play tuned and untuned instruments; use staff and other musical notations; and compose and perform music.
- **French:** greetings; Alphabet; Me and my family; Numbers; Face and body parts; Christmas presents.