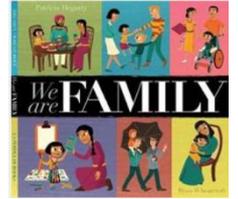


Oak Class – Autumn term 1

Reception and Year 1



Hello Parents and Carers and welcome to Oak class!

I'm looking forward to getting to know you and your children and continuing to work with some of the children and parents I already know. I'm sure some of you will be wondering how a mixed age class will work. Apart from being a very busy, productive and exciting classroom there are huge benefits for both the reception and Year 1 children.

Social Skills: Mixed-age classes provide children with the opportunity to *interact with peers of different ages*, which can help to develop their social skills and increase their empathy and understanding of others.

Collaboration: Older children in mixed-age classes can serve as *mentors and leaders for younger children*, helping them to develop leadership and collaboration skills.

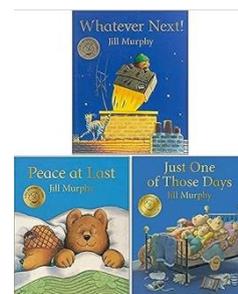
I have already talked to the new year 1 children about how important their job is to help the new Reception children settle into their classroom and St James' school and they are really excited for the challenge of being good mentors. We have Mrs Woodward working alongside me in Oak Class and this will enable all children to receive adult support as and when needed and will allow me to teach both the Reception and Year 1 curriculum.

Our overarching theme will be "Home sweet Home" where we will be talking about different types of families and homes and children will be telling us and each other all about themselves.

Phonics sessions will be planned around the Red rose planning document. We begin teaching phonics straight away in week 1. Reception children will begin learning the first sets of sounds and tricky words and will be using these to begin reading simple words.

Year 1 children will be working on alternative graphemes such as ay, ea, ou, ie and using these to read and spell new words and sentences.

We will be reading a wide range of texts linked to our English lessons and other subjects. We will be reading books linked to our topic of families and homes and a selection of those written by Jill Murphy; such as Peace at last, on the way home.



Reception children will be doing lots of fine motor skills activities and mark making in preparation for writing letters and words. Year 1 children will continue to work on good sentence composition and begin to add detail to their sentences. The children will be comparing and describing the characters, settings and events and they will continue to work on good letter formation.

Maths sessions and activities for Reception children will be focused on matching, sorting and comparing amounts, measuring and patterns and the wholeness of 1,2 and 3.

Year 1 children will be working on place value, addition and subtraction during their maths lessons.

We will look at changes within living memory and similarities and differences between past and present in our History sessions.

In science we will look at the human body and the senses and we will begin to look at seasonal changes and plants in our environment.

PSHE lessons will focus on our Health and wellbeing. We will be talking about the importance of physical health, our mental wellbeing and how to keep safe.

RE this term will focus on Creation and Harvest.

I will look forward to working together with you on the rest of your child's learning journey this term. Please don't hesitate to come and say hello and ask me any questions or to discuss your child's progress and development. Thank you for your support!

Mrs Butterworth and the Oak Class team.