KS1: Oak – Weekly Newsletter

Oak Class (Mrs Morrell) Fir class: Mrs Lewis and Miss Brownly Supporting Adults: Mrs Gilbert, Mr Cruse and Mrs Atkinson	Date: Friday 16th October 2026

What a great half term we have had! We are extremely proud of how well the children have settled into school and of the amazing work they have produced. Their achievements are a reflection of how hard they have worked throughout the term.

We have had lots of fun learning all about childhood in the 1950s. Newspaper toilet paper caused a lot of hilarity, and it was lovely to see the enjoyment on the children's faces as they played games with toys from the era. Not a battery in sight! The children also enjoyed inventing their own stories based on The Three Little Pigs.

This week, we have been using our imaginations during Talk for Writing. As lovely as this unseasonably warm weather has been, it has made finding signs of autumn a little trickier, with many of the trees in the school grounds still mostly green. Nevertheless, the children have enthusiastically engaged with our autumn-themed hooks, including squirrel puppets, leaves, pumpkins and the many conkers that have been brought in. These inspired them to create their own imaginative stories based on an autumn theme.

Thank you for all your support this half term. It has been a pleasure to work with your children and watch them grow in confidence and independence.

We hope you all have a wonderful half-term break and enjoy a well-deserved rest. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another exciting term.

In English:

This week in English, we have been using Autumn as a hook for our free-writing week. We have focused on sentence structure and explored different ways to improve our writing by adding more detail and interesting vocabulary.

The end results were a wonderful collection of imaginative stories based on an autumnal theme. The children came up with fantastic ideas, including squirrels losing their nuts, leaves blowing in the wind and leading characters to hidden treasures, and discovering tiny magical doors in the trunks of trees, to name but a few. We were so impressed with their creativity and enthusiasm, and it was lovely to see how confidently they applied the skills they have been learning in their writing.

Topics:

Science: This week, we have completed our topic on investigating materials. The children have been exploring the properties of a range of different materials and thinking carefully about their suitability for different purposes. As part of this work, they investigated which materials would be best for making bunting, considering factors such as strength, flexibility and whether the material could withstand different weather conditions.

Computing: We are still practicing logging on and painting pictures.

RE: This week we having been thinking about Harvest festival and reflecting on the things we are thankful for.

Music: This week we have been singing, the children have enjoyed singing songs about the harvest.

History: We have finished our topic on Childhood in the 1950s, and the children have produced some lovely work about the things they have learnt.

Art: In Art, we have been using collage techniques to create our own funny faces. The children have produced some amazing pieces of work, and no two creations were the same! It has been wonderful to see their creativity shine through as they selected, arranged and combined different materials to create unique designs. The children thoroughly enjoyed experimenting with textures, colours and shapes, resulting in a fantastic gallery of expressive and imaginative faces.

In Maths:

Year 1

This week in Maths, we have been focusing on addition and subtraction within 10. The children have been exploring number bonds and developing their understanding of the different ways numbers can be made. We have used practical resources, pictures and number sentences to help us find related addition and subtraction facts and strengthen our fluency with numbers to 10.

Year 2

Number bonds to 100, adding and subtracting 1's, add by making 10 and adding 3 1 digit numbers.

Important Messages/Dates:

YEAR 1

We have thoroughly enjoyed the Show and Tell sessions in Year 1 this half term. Oracy is a valuable part of our day, helping children to build confidence in speaking, listening and sharing their ideas with others. We certainly do not want to discourage this wonderful opportunity for children to tell us about the exciting things they do outside of school.

For next half term, however, I have encouraged the children to bring in just one item each week and to think carefully about what they would like to share. This might be a memorable day out, something they have made, an achievement they are proud of, or an item that is special to them. The children will then have the opportunity to talk about their chosen item with the class and answer questions from their friends. We hope this will help to develop their speaking and listening skills.

In Year 2, Wilfred's diary has gone home with Harry over the half term break. Please can it be returned by Nov 6th.

A polite reminder to please inform either the class teacher or the school office if your child is going to be collected by a different adult. Fir class have started Wilford's diary and the first person to take it home is Lottie (to be returned Friday 18th Sept).
Thank you for your cooperation.
Thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.