



Oak Cottage Primary School

Information for Parents/Carers,

September 2025

CLASS LETTER FOR YEAR FOUR

This letter introduces you to the expectations and procedures for the new academic year. It also explains the activities and topics to be covered during this half term. Parental support is greatly valued and we hope that this information is of benefit to you. If you have any concerns or questions at any time regarding school life, please do feel free to speak to me.

General Procedures

Welcome back and welcome to Year 4. I hope you have all had a restful Summer and are ready for a new year.

Independence

The children should ensure they have their reading diaries with them each day and they should also ensure they have their book bags and homework in school where stated.

Children will come into school in their PE kits on the days they have PE. For Year 4 these days will be **Wednesday and Thursday**. Please could you remind them that they should be ensuring they are wearing the correct PE kit on these days.

Reminder: Please can you please ensure no earrings are worn on PE days as children will not be able to participate in PE lessons if they still have earrings in even if they are tapped up.

During this academic year I hope to see increasingly high levels of personal organisation from the children and greater independence.

Homework Procedures

Homework tasks are directly linked to school activities and provide opportunities for revision and consolidation.

This year homework books will be handed out for the children to complete their homework in. Please could they ensure they use either a blue/black pen or pencil to complete their homework. They should ensure they are focussing on their handwriting while completing their work. They should be encouraged to take pride in their homework books as they do with their school books.

English and Maths

Each week, English homework will be set that will be either have a grammar or reading comprehension focus. Once this task has been completed they may wish to complete a task from the grid also. There will also be a piece of Maths homework that will focus on a topic we have covered.

A homework grid with additional tasks has been uploaded to the Year 3 class page on the Oak Cottage website. These activities are optional, but if your child chooses to complete them, please ensure the work is done on separate paper (not in books) so it can be displayed.

English homework is set every Monday and is due in on the following Monday and Maths homework is set on a Wednesday and due back on the following Wednesday.

Reading

The children should read to someone or independently every day and enter their reading into their diaries at least **four** times a week. When completing their reading diaries, I would like the children to use the comments section to accurately describe what they have read.

Multiplication Tables Practise

Please could you ensure 10 minutes each week is spent on TTRS practising their times tables up to 12x12.

Topic	Vicious Volcanoes
This half term, we're diving into the explosive world of volcanoes, exploring how these powerful natural wonders shape our planet. We will discover the different types of volcanoes, from towering stratovolcanoes to wide shield volcanoes, and learn how their structure affects the way they erupt. We'll journey beneath the Earth's surface to investigate the layers of the Earth and understand how tectonic boundaries cause dramatic geological activity. Through exciting lessons, hands-on activities, and awe-inspiring facts, we will uncover the dangerous and ferocious nature of natural disasters. From lava flows to ash clouds, we'll learn how volcanoes impact people and places around the world, sparking curiosity and wonder. This topic promises to ignite our imaginations and deepen our understanding of the dynamic forces that shape our Earth!	
Subject / Topic	Description of the work to be covered
Computing	During this half term, we will be exploring the internet using computer systems and networks.
English	During reading this half term Year 4 will be focusing on the Demon Dentist by David Walliams which links very closely to our topic of teeth. We will be asking questions about the text and using our inference, visualisation and prediction skills throughout. Pupils will also create a fact file based on teeth, an explanatory text on looking after your teeth and body, a narrative based on a journey through the digestive system and will also explore and create poetry.
Science	Science will be linked to our topic of the human body and digestion. In particular, we will be looking at teeth and the stomach. We will investigate what happens to food within different parts of the body using scientific vocabulary and explore each organ involved in the digestion of the food that they eat. The children will also investigate how to brush their teeth effectively and look at what happens to the teeth when faced with a variety of drinks- lots of which contain a vast amount of sugar.
French Mrs Donkin	French will be taught through games and practical activities. In our unit 'All Around Town', children will learn to develop their intercultural understanding by being introduced to the sights of some typical French cities. They will also learn to describe places in a town, count to 100 and give their address in French.

Maths	We will be focusing on number and place value. The children will work their way to recalling and practising the formal written methods of the 4 operations with confidence. The concepts will be broken down into small steps to ensure that the children gain a deeper understanding of a variety of mathematical methods.
Humanities	This half term, children will explore how volcanoes form and the different types, including stratovolcanoes and shield volcanoes. They will investigate the layers of the Earth and learn how tectonic plates cause volcanic eruptions and other natural disasters. Pupils will discover how volcanoes impact people and places around the world, developing their understanding of geography and natural forces.
Physical Education	Hockey – developing the skills and techniques when passing and dribbling with a stick and ball. We will teach them to keep and use rules and show a greater consistency and control in small games. Dance – Pupils will focus on creating characters and narrative through movement and gesture.
PSHE	Being me in my world - Understanding the importance of being an individual. The children will also be exploring rights and responsibilities.
RE	We will be focusing on learning about Buddhism this half term.
Music Mrs Donkin	Our unit will be 'Ancient China'. We will focus on pitch and reading and writing notation. The children will learn about the pentatonic scale and harmonious sounds through composing, performing and singing tasks. We will begin combining rhythm and pitch notation to record their music. All of this is inspired through the exploration of ancient Chinese music, philosophy, myths, and rituals.

Mrs Boyce
Year Four Teacher