



Oak Cottage Primary School

Information for Parents/Carers,

October 2025

CLASS LETTER FOR YEAR 2 – 2nd HALF OF AUTUMN TERM

This letter explains the activities and topics to be covered during the forthcoming half-term, together with a reminder of the expectations and procedures that will continue to apply in Year 2 this year.

General Procedures

In Year 2, we work on developing your child's independence and confidence. The children are expected to take on more responsibilities. They need to look after their own property, take home their homework, letters and verbal messages from school, return letters and money from parents and remember their PE kits and reading diaries. The children will always receive encouragement and support to achieve these goals.

Activity Timetable

Monday – Homework is expected in.

Tuesday – English homework is set.

Thursday – Maths homework is set.

PE – Tuesday and Friday

On PE days, children should come to school in their PE kit and trainers. School PE kit expectations are as follows:

- Maroon P.E. shorts / plain black or burgundy track-suit bottoms
- White polo shirt, plain or with school crest
- Sweatshirt, plain or with school crest
- White socks
- No earrings or jewellery are allowed.

The children only need to come to school with **book bags**, coats and sandwich boxes. No other bags or pencil cases are needed. This will help with congestion in the cloakroom and keep lost property to a minimum. Fruit will be available every day and children are welcome to bring their own fruit snack as an alternative. Please send in a bottle of water for your child which can be refilled at school during break times. Please note that other fruit drinks should be kept for lunchtime only.

Homework Procedures

Year 2 children are encouraged to change their book band reading book whenever they need a new one. This should be done when they arrive in the morning, or when they get ready to go home in the afternoon. Please take the time to write in your child's reading diary and encourage your child to make their own short comments about what they have read. If the children read at least three times each week (separate days!) and have recorded this in their reading record, they will receive a merit. Home reading can include stories, information books, recipes, menus, instructions, comics, etc.

Theme	Towers, Tunnels and Turrets
It's time to explore castles! We will be learning all about the features of a castle, how and why castles were built and what life was like for those living inside their walls. We will research famous castles in the UK and look at other important landmarks around the world, including towers and tunnels.	
Subject/Topic	Description of the work to be covered
English	We will be looking at a range of traditional tales. Children will experience how authors can write the same story from different viewpoints. They will retell stories, justify their likes and dislikes of different characters and will write their own version of a traditional tale. We will also be studying 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne and investigating how illustrations and use of language can inspire different feelings. In phonics lessons, we will be learning new spelling patterns and how to add a range of suffixes to root words. Guided and independent reading will continue on a weekly basis allowing the children to develop their comprehension skills as well as learning to read with fluency and expression, taking note of punctuation as appropriate.
Mathematics	Children will complete work on addition and subtraction this half-term. They will learn several different strategies to add and subtract and apply these to reasoning and problem-solving questions. We will also be exploring the properties of 2D and 3D shape, which will include recognising and naming a range of shapes and sorting them according to their properties. The children will identify sides, vertices, and lines of symmetry of 2D shapes and edges, as well as vertices and faces of 3D shapes.
History	Children will understand why castles were built and how they offered protection to those living within their walls. We will explore the different parts of a castle, how castles changed over time and what life was like in a castle.
D&T	Children will design and make a castle with a working drawbridge.
Computing	Children will learn to recognise that different devices can be used to capture photographs and will gain experience capturing, editing, and improving photos. Finally, they will use this knowledge to recognise that images they see may not be real.
Music	As well as rehearsing songs for the Christmas play, the children will be developing their pulse and rhythm using a range of percussion instruments.
PE	In our 'fundamentals' PE unit, we will be developing balance, stability and landing safely through a range of activities. Our gymnastics unit will also focus on balance and movement, using a range of low and high-apparatus.
PSHE	We will understand how to celebrate the differences that exist in our classroom and our school. The children will be exploring stereotypes and standing up for what is right.



Religious Education	In R.E., our unit will called 'Light and Dark'. The children will explore the importance of light in Christianity, Hinduism and Judaism through learning about Advent, Diwali and Hanukkah.
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Mr Swain
Year 2 Teacher