



# Framework Federation Schools

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## Oaks Autumn Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another academic year at Tansley. I am excited to be welcoming both parents and children back to our Reception/Year 1/Year 2 mixed class. We have a fun year ahead of us with numerous off site opportunities and exciting new experiences. There are a few changes regarding the Oak's timetable so please read carefully and if you have any questions then please let me know.

### Staff in Oak class this year

I will be delivering the majority of the teaching to the children in Oaks this year  
Miss Hampson- Wednesday afternoon for PE and PSHE lessons  
Miss Hill- every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday afternoon delivering enrichment curriculum  
Mrs Pearson- classroom TA  
Miss Farmer- classroom TA (part time)

### The main changes in Oak class

Welly Wednesday is now moving to a **Tuesday morning** in the form of 'Muddy Morning'. This is in keeping with the rest of the school's outdoor learning timetable. Muddy Morning will run exactly the same as before with children coming to school in their outdoor wear and bringing their uniform to change into. Muddy Morning will continue to run on a biweekly timetable with the first outdoor session being on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September**.

PE will be taking place on a **Wednesday** afternoon and will be taught by Miss Hampson. Children are to come to school in their PE kits on Wednesdays. PE will take place every week.

I will be placing a notice board on the Oak outdoor window, which will have any events/ the next Muddy Morning date on it so it is clear what is happening each week.

Year 2 children can access their spellings through Spelling Shed and children will be beginning to use Times Table Rockstars in the coming weeks (more information below).

### Our topics

This term we will be focusing on the topics 'Into the Woods' with a sub topic of 'This is Me'. Our class texts will revolve around traditional tales, exploring characters, settings, themes and structures of these stories. As part of our This is Me topic, we will be exploring changes involving the past and present, and we will be exploring how traditional tales have changed over time and how these themes appear differently over older and more modern texts and film. The children will be creating a character of themselves and creating a character profile based on their own experiences and locality.

### Literacy, phonics and SPaG

Reception children will be beginning their phonics journey next week by identifying the first single letter sounds.

Reception children will be exploring new vocabulary based on our class texts and joining in with discussions while they practise their letter formation and pencil grip.

Year 1 and 2 will be exploring genres including diary entries, non-chronological reports, detailed character descriptions and narratives throughout the term. All children will be working on a narrative at the end of the half term based on Jack and the Beanstalk, with Year 1's changing some key features of the story and Year 2 producing an extended piece of writing.

Year 1 children are focusing on writing fundamentals such as recognising and using capital letters and full stops; to include finger spaces between words; to sit letters on the line; and to form letters correctly.

Year 2 will be consolidating grammar and punctuation taught at year 1; using commas; exploring expanded noun phrases and using different types of conjunctions.

### Reading

All children are heard read at least once a week by a member of staff. Children are continuing with our phonics reading system in that they will read their phonics storybook three times in class before bringing it home to read to you. We aim to make reading at home as enjoyable as possible for children, so reading should not be a struggle or something that your child is finding difficult. This means that children may bring up to 2 different storybooks home per week. I am asking that children continue to aim to read at home at least 4 times a week and that this is signed in their diaries. We will continue to stamp the diaries to show that we have checked them. The reading raffle will no longer be taking place; however, Miss Hampson is working on a more frequent reading prize for children.

Reception children will be bringing home a small green speed sounds book once they have learnt the first few sounds at school. We will date up to the sound they have learnt so you can practise these sounds 4 times a week at home. You are welcome to look at sounds past the current date, but your child may not have been taught these sounds in school. Once children know enough sounds in order to begin blending, they will bring home either a set of white word cards or a sound blending book to practise their oral sounding out and word reading.

Once Year 2 children have completed the phonics programme, they will be benchmarked and placed on the Oxford Reading Tree scheme, where choosing a book to read will be more about choice and interest, it is, however, important that we continue to build speed, fluency and comprehension before this happens.

### Spellings

Year 1 will begin to bring home spellings this half term. These will consist of 5 words following a sound they have been taught and one red word (words that cannot be sounded out). Spellings will be stapled inside your child's reading diary. Your child does not need to write in the boxes on the sheet (as I know they are very small) and you can use the spelling sheet how you see fit.

Year 2 spellings will be set through Spelling Shed this year where your child will be able to play games and practise their weekly spellings at home. Spelling Shed logins can be found in the back of your child's reading diary. This is my first time using this system, so please don't worry if things go wrong to begin with.

The amount of spellings is doubling for Year 2, so they will be bringing home 10 spellings this year. The spelling rules your child will be practising at home will have been taught in school beforehand in order to make learning the new spellings easier. Year 2 children will also have a hard copy of their weekly spellings stapled into their reading diary as before.

A parent support guide will be coming home to help you when getting started with Spelling Shed.

Year 1 and Year 2 children will be tested on a Friday and new spellings will be set. **The first set of spellings for Year 1 and Year 2 will either be next Friday: 13.09.24 or 20.09.24.** Spellings may have to be delayed a week due to the Spelling Shed site updates. I will put on the Oak's notice board the week spellings will be coming home.

## **Numeracy**

All children are beginning the Autumn term looking at place value. Reception children will be working on place value within 5 for the first half term as well as sorting, ordering and grouping different objects. Reception children will be working on their 1:1 correspondence (touching an item as they count it) and their subitising with 5 (knowing what an amount is without needing to count it). Reception children will also be exploring shape, measure, capacity and length throughout the term, focusing on building mathematical vocabulary.

Year 1 and 2 are beginning the term with place value within 20. Children will be recognising amounts, comparing numbers using 'greater than' and 'less than' to compare numbers. Children will be using number lines to order numbers as well as estimate where number belong on a number line. Later in the term, children will be moving on to addition and subtraction within 20, again using number lines as well as learning and consolidating number bonds.

All children have access to Numbots. Numbots is a programme used across EYFS and KS1 to build upon and improve children's fundamental numeracy skills. Numbots will help your child subitise (identify amount without needing to count each object), count confidently, practise number facts and more. Numbots will aid the transition to Times Table Rockstars in Year 2. Every child has a Numbots log in in the back of their reading diary. If this goes missing at any point then please let me know. If you have any specific questions about Numbots please let Mrs Holloway in Sycamores know as she is the numeracy lead for the school—I will of course help if I can!

Year 2 will be beginning their Times Table Rock Stars journey this year as well. The log in for TTRS is the same as the Numbots log in and can be found at the back of your child's diary. Mrs Holloway will be holding a Numbots and TTRs information evening where she will explain the different functions and features of the site. As Year 2 children are new to TTRS, nothing has been set on the website as of yet. Once I have explained times tables to the Year 2's and we have begun to have a practise at times tables in class, I will then begin setting up the TTRs site. Year 2 children are expected to know their 2's, 5's, 10's and mixed times tables by the end of Year 2, so once the times tables are set, it is important for children to practise at home. More information will be made available to you closer to the time of using TTRS. If there are any issues with TTRS then please let Mrs Holloway know as maths co-ordinator. All Year 2 children will be starting with their 10 times tables.

## **Science**

We are learning all about the senses of the body, what our bodies need in order to survive and the importance of diet and exercise. There may be food tasting opportunities later in the term, but specific food information will be provided before this takes place.

## **P.E.**

Our P.E session will be on Wednesday afternoons with Miss Hampson. Children will need to come to school in their P.E. kits on a Wednesday. Kit should consist of a red or white top, black shorts, and trainers of your choice. As the weather gets colder, children can wear a red jumper and black joggers. Children do not need to bring their uniforms to school on the P.E. day.

## **Additional classroom information**

If possible, at reception age, please provide us with a change of clothes in case of a toilet accident. This change of clothes can be kept at school on your child's peg or in your child's book bag. We do have spare clothes at school but we understand that children feel more comfortable in their own clothes. These clothes do not have to be spare uniform.

Please label all items of clothing, lunch boxes, fruit pots etc. to save items being lost if left on the playground or in the dinner hall.

If there are any changes to your child's dietary or medical requirements throughout the year then please let me know.

If someone different from usual is collecting your child from school, please let me know either in person or via email. Alternatively, you can also let the office know if there is a sudden change in circumstance and your child is

going home with someone else.

The Oaks Autumn homework grid is available on the class page under 'Autumn Term'. This is a document with multiple optional activities for you to try at home. The main homework expectation is that children read 4 times a week, Year 1 complete their weekly spellings either from their diaries or through Spelling Shed, and children are accessing Numbots and TTRS when appropriate.

### Workshops

I will be holding a phonics information evening explaining progress and end of year's expectation for parents of Reception and Year 1 children at 3:45 on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

While this talk is happening, Mrs Holloway will be holding a TTRS talk for Year 2 parents at 3:45. Year 2 parents do not need to attend the phonics information evening. If you have any reading or phonics questions then please let me know. The TTRS information evening will be held in Sycamore class.

Once Mrs Holloway has spoken to Year 2 parents, she will then take over from me and talk to Reception and Year 1 parents about Numbots.

As these information evenings are happening straight after school, Miss Longden will be supervising the children whose parents attend in Elm class where a snack will be provided.

Both of these talks will be taking place on: **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October from 3:45**

We have a fun filled term ahead of us in Oak class. If you have any questions or if there is anything you are unsure of please feel free to contact me:

[nwholey@tansley.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:nwholey@tansley.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Kind regards,

Miss Wholey