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Oak Class Newsletter – Autumn Term 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to another busy school year. The summer holidays now seem like a distant memory, but we hope you managed to find some time to relax and enjoy the weather. Oak Class have already started their year with lots of hard work, and we are sure there will be more in store over the coming months. We are looking forward to a fantastic term with the children and, of course, sharing their learning experiences with you.

Curriculum

Topic across the Autumn Term will be **Encryption**. During the first term, we will focus on the history of the Ancient Egyptians, including the expedition led by Howard Carter and the significance of the discovery of Tutankhamun's burial chamber. We will also look at the importance of the River Nile in ancient and modern Egyptian civilisations, and how beliefs and religion have changed over time. Term Two will see the children complete a variety of coding activities in Computing. In addition to this, RE will continue to answer ultimate and ethical questions, starting with "Can we know what God looks like?"

For more information, you can view our Topic Wheels, which will be displayed on the school website.

Homework and Spellings

Homework and spelling lists for the term will be posted on the school website, as in previous terms, with the expectation that it is returned to school, completed, on a **Wednesday**. Children will also be encouraged to use the websites provided to practise basic skills in both English and Maths; however, please note, these will not be marked.

PE

This term the children will have a PE session on a Thursday morning, along with a swimming lesson on Monday mornings (for this term only). However, following the winter half term, children will have a further PE session on a Monday afternoon. It is helpful if the children have their kit in school every day. All children should have indoor and outdoor kit, such as shorts and a t-shirt for indoor, and tracksuit bottoms, a long sleeved top and trainers for outdoor. Please ensure that your child's PE kit is clearly named.

Outdoor Learning

Although Outdoor Learning sessions are not included on this term's timetable, learning outside of the classroom will happen, where appropriate. It is therefore vital that children have an Outdoor Learning kit in school for such occasions. They will need: trousers/tracksuit bottoms, a warm jumper, waterproof coat and wellingtons (plus hats and

gloves for cold weather). These clothes need to be in a separate bag from PE clothes as they are likely to get wet and muddy. Please send the appropriate clothing in a named bag.

Staffing

Miss Regan will continue to teach Oak Class four days a week, Monday-Thursday. On Friday, the class will be taught by Mrs Whybrow.

Parents' Evening

There will be formal parent / teacher meetings on **Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th November**, where we will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress so far and targets for the year. An appointment sheet will be sent out nearer to the date.

Important Dates

Cycling Proficiency – Group 1 started their cycle training course on **Wednesday 14th September**. Please ensure that helmets and bicycles are in school each Wednesday.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon – Please join us for a coffee and a cake to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support from 2pm on **Thursday 29th September**.

IMPS – Year 6 will be visiting the JR Hospital for their IMPS session on **Tuesday 4th October** (letter to follow).

Harvest Celebration – Join us for our annual harvest celebration at St Mary's Church at 11am on Thursday 6th October.

Celebration Worship – Oak Class will be sharing some of their learning from this term on **Friday 25th November**. It would be lovely to see as many familiar faces as possible – we hope you can make it.

Contact

Should you need to contact us about any matter arising, you may email us directly on the following email address:

GReg9188@chesterton.oxon.sch.uk

nicolaw@chesterton.oxon.sch.uk

Please be aware that any messages sent may not be seen until later in the school day or after school as we are often busy with classroom duties or teaching earlier in the day. In all cases, we will endeavour to reply to you within three working days. Obviously if the matter is more urgent, for example about attendance or changes to the routine of collecting your child, then you should contact the school office or speak to us at the start or end of the day.

Reminders

- School Dinner Money – Please send in School Dinner Money and the appropriate order form by a Wednesday for all meals required the following week. Enclose cash or cheques in a named envelope.
- Packed Lunches – Please can we remind you that the school requests that packed lunches **do not contain nuts** – as we do have children in school who have severe allergic reactions to them. We also ask that grapes and cherry tomatoes included in lunch boxes are cut in half to help prevent choking.
- Water Bottles – Please make sure children have a water bottle with them every day (separate from any drink in their lunchbox) as this allows access to water as and when they require it. Please note we only want water in these bottles (not squash, juice or flavoured water).
- Outdoor Shoes – All children should be prepared for outdoor play by keeping outdoor shoes such as wellies and a warm waterproof coat in school.

Kind regards,
Miss Regan and Mrs Whybrow