

5TH SEPT 2017

# The Oaks Community Primary School

“Make a difference”

*Aspire. Achieve. Appreciate.*

## Welcome back to a new and exciting school year...

A warm welcome to you, your family and your child to this new school year. To those who are new to the school, a warm welcome to our wonderful school community.

I hope that you had an enjoyable Summer break and are looking forward to this exciting school year ahead. This year is our school's 50th Celebratory Year - look out for an event later in the year where we be celebrating 50 years of the school building.

### Homework

Research into the impact of homework on student success is unable to prove that homework improves student learning.

As a result of this in order to ensure that homework is worthwhile, as well as workable for you at home, homework will now focus purely on the basic skills of reading and learning basic maths facts such as times tables.



**Reading** - Research does show that reading just 10 minutes a day can improve pupil literacy. Therefore, I ask that your child reads at least 10 minutes a day at home or if you prefer reads for a longer time at least twice a week. Teachers will take in pupil reading records weekly on a Tuesday and record a comment in them. You or your child must write in your child's reading record to say when they have read at home.



**Maths** - In maths, being able to recall number facts and times tables can really support pupils success in other areas of maths. In KS2 teachers will send home times tables for your child to learn and they will be tested on this every Tuesday. In KS1 teachers will send home basic number facts, such as number bonds to 10, 20 or 100, for your child to learn at home.

On top of this, to provide additional learning time for pupils we will be running 'fun learning clubs' in replace of homework club for years 1 to 6. Fun learning clubs will provide pupils with the chance to get involved with many different activities aimed at consolidating and stretching their learning.

The extra time gained through not completing additional homework tasks, is great time for your child to enjoy being a child - playing out with their friends, going on bike rides and enjoying family time.



**September**

**5th Sept**

Return to school

**WB 11th Sept**

PE & Art lessons begin

**WB 18th Sept**

Clubs begin

## **PE & Art**

As part of our extensive curriculum, we offer expert PE and Art lessons to pupils weekly. Qualified sports coaches deliver PE lessons and Miss Martin with her wealth of expertise and experience in Art delivers Art lessons.

This term your child's PE and art afternoon is on the following days:

Monday - Y1 & Y3

Tuesday - Y2 & Y4

Wednesday - YR & Y4

Thursday - Y5 & Y6

Friday - Y1 & Y3 & Y4

For PE your child will require a school PE kit with black pumps or trainers - PE kits can be purchased from the school office. For Art your child will need some old clothes that they can wear to get messy in. For ease, we advise that pupils keep these kits in school either all week and take them home at the weekend or for half a term and then take them home for the holiday.

### **School uniform** - just a reminder...

Pupils are expected to attend school everyday wearing school uniform, and this includes smart black, flat school shoes.

### **Check it out...**

**Twitter** - for all the latest information and updates on learning in school, don't forget to follow the school on Twitter @TheOaksCP

**School website** - Check out your child's class webpage to see what they will be learning about this Autumn term.

*Many thanks for reading this newsletter. I hope you've found it informative as we begin the new academic year. If you have any questions, then please do come and ask Miss McGuinness in the school office or speak to your child's class teacher at the end of the school day. The newsletter will be sent out to you on a fortnightly basis. As well as this, our school governors will be sending out a governors newsletter once a term to you. Miss McCaffery*