

# Oak Class NEWSLETTER



Spring 2026

## Welcome Back

I hope that you have had an enjoyable Christmas break, and Santa was kind to you (if you were on the good list!) The New Year brings new challenges and plenty to cover.

This newsletter will hopefully give you more information about the Spring Term and what the children are going to be learning.

If you have any more questions, please feel free to get in contact with me through the office or email: [oak@newstead.notts.sch.uk](mailto:oak@newstead.notts.sch.uk)

## Curriculum

Our topic this term is '**How does that heart work and why is it so important?**'

The children will have the opportunity to further their learning about the human body and the systems that work to keep us alive. Our work in **Science** will look specifically at the circulatory system, learning knowledge about the heart, lungs and blood vessels. We will study the effect of exercise and design and perform some science experiments to measure the impact of exercise and the circulatory system. The second half of the Spring Term then focuses on mapping skills in **Geography** and looking at the water cycle and how it links with rivers and the area of Newstead and how it has changed over the years.

In **Art**, we will study famous artists, including Katsushika Hokusai and learn new skills and techniques to reproduce works of art using block-printing and over-printing. Following on from that we move onto **Design & Technology**. We will be designing, making and evaluating a toy for a younger child that uses cams to make it move.

Our **English** will focus on suspense writing and we will be reading a couple of books, including: Trash by Andy Mulligan and Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman. These books also link to different areas of our topic work and will also provide the children more detail about how lucky we are to live where we do and how developments in technology and medicine allow us to live a better life. The **Music** sessions will begin with appraisal of music from different genres, then we will be linking our music work with our English work to compose our own lyrics, possibly followed by creating the music to go with the lyrics.

In **PSHRE**, we revisit keeping myself safe and looking at rights and responsibilities. Then, in **Computing**, we will continue to develop our programming skills including learning formulas in Microsoft Excel and Kodu. In **French** we will develop our French vocabulary and how to read, write and say sentences relating to time and hobbies. In **R.E.** we will look at religion, world-views, family and community, especially around Nottinghamshire. Finally, in **P.E.** we will learn skills and techniques for gymnastics and dance and develop rounders and tennis skills and knowledge.

## **DAaRT Programme**

As a school, preparing our pupils for their life ahead is paramount. We have invested in this course for many years now as it offers a valuable insight and opportunities into dealing with issues surrounding drugs, alcohol, anti-social behaviour and peer pressure, that may trouble them in the future. I will be delivering the programme this year for each session. After completing all of the sessions, we would like to share our learning with you at a DAaRT Graduation Ceremony. I will send you more information with a date and time nearer the time.

## **PE**

PE will take place every Tuesday and Friday afternoons and will be taught by Miss Martin on Tuesday and by myself, Mr Oldfield on Friday. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit in school on these days and earrings can be removed for safety reasons.

**Reading at home** – For the children to be ready for secondary school, reading is so important, and regular practise is actively encouraged. The children should be reading at least four times each week. Please encourage your child to read at home, by making it part of their evening routine. I understand that it is not always possible to sit and listen, so the children know that they can read on their own and this can be acknowledged by you signing their reading diary.

**Spellings** – The children should continue to work their way through spelling challenge, that can be found in their reading diary, and they will be given new spellings.

**Maths** – The children are learning the Year 6 curriculum and working through topics, some they have already studied, others are completely new. Each topic is pushed forward so that they have had the opportunity to learn methods and strategies to help them in the up-and-coming SATs papers but also preparing them for maths at secondary school. I would hope that the children become more independent with their learning, taking time to practise topics that they are unsure about, in their own time. We can always follow this up in the weekly booster sessions or during the week, when appropriate. They should also be practising their times tables each week.

Thank you for taking the time to read about our Spring term. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Can I also thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

J Oldfield