

Oak Class, January 2020



I hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break and enjoyed listening to the radio performance on Christmas Day.

We have a shorter, but just as packed, spring term ahead. We have a couple of sporting trips coming up and more big projects planned for Creative Week. All upcoming dates and details will be on the newsletter as usual.

Spellings

Spellings are tested every Monday afternoon and the new spellings are handed out afterwards. Each child is given differentiated spellings and the pass mark is 8/10 for all children. Any child who is unable to gain 8/10 is given the opportunity to practise and retest the next day.

Times tables

As I explained at Parents Evening, the children will be taking part in the new statutory Year 4 multiplication tables check in June of this year. Your child will take a short online test to make sure their times tables knowledge is at the expected level.

Children are asked to answer 25 questions on times tables from two to twelve. They are given six seconds per question, with three seconds rest between each question, so the test should last less than five minutes.

It is believed that questions about the six, seven, eight, nine, and 12 times tables are most likely to come up more often, as these are the hardest for most children to learn. It's a good idea to focus on these tricky times tables with your child. However, please make sure that your child practises all of the tables from two to twelve in order to help them with recall.

If you would like more details about the test then you can visit

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/multiplication-tables-check-development-process>

If you are looking for another way to help them practise, then I highly recommend:

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

Reading

I wish to give a big thank you to everyone for your support with reading. It is important that your child practises reading at home. They will cope better with the challenges ahead as their confidence increases with reading.

Remember that when your child reads, please make a note of their reading in their reading record. If you forget to do it each individual time, then you could make a note each weekend of their total reading for the week. If you think that, your child is ready for the next level up or you find that they are struggling with their current book then please also let me know in their Reading Record.

If you have any questions about anything that we will be covering this term, don't hesitate to come and ask.

Best wishes for the Spring Term,
Jennie Owen