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Headteacher: Mr William Neighbour

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Dear Oak Class,

Thank you all for such a positive start to the new school year! The children have taken all of the changes (e.g. system changes and playtime alterations) in their stride and it has been great to see their happy faces as they have been reunited with their class friends! I am really enjoying getting to know the class!

In Year 2, myself and Mrs Moor-Bardell are aiming to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum covering all subjects. It means that there are some things we can do as normal, and some that we have to change and adapt. The children are working on their literacy and mathematics as usual, however foundation subjects are blocked weekly, so that the children can use resources necessary to achieve key learning goals and we can clean these appropriately before releasing them from our bubble for others to use.

The children are washing hands regularly throughout the day, as are myself and Mrs Moor-Bardell and we have a regular, thorough cleaning system in place to keep the classroom and wider school areas clean.

This is my second year in Year 2 (although I have been teaching for 19 years) and I am thoroughly enjoying it! There are so many super learning opportunities for the children and we have worked hard to develop engaging and interesting topics for the children. There is more emphasis on independence in Year 2, it is a key year to consolidate the wonderful learning children have done up to this point, but also important to prepare children to Year 3. The expectation is that children take responsibility for being their best and making their best efforts so that they make great achievements across the year.

As part of our English units of work we are reading 'Out of the Blue' which is a wordless book and provides the children a really good opportunity to use their imaginations and write their own versions of the story. We will move on to read 'George's Marvellous Medicine' before half term. The children love this unit of work. It really appeals to their sense of humour and they love to develop their own medicines and storylines for who will be taking the medicine. Within Mathematics, we are working towards developing our grasp of place value to 100 and solving problems involving numbers. Later this term we will be building on the children's prior learning to add and subtract.

Over the last week or two we have been assessing the children on their phonics and have started Read Write Inc phonic sessions. Children are currently doing in-class phonic sessions and this is being appropriately differentiated to children's individual needs. Each child will bring home 3 new reading books each week in their book bags. The children will also bring home a RWI that is matched to their level. We will be collecting in the books each Friday so that they can be quarantined before being issued to other children/classes. **Please keep these books in your child's reading bag as we will use them most days.**

I really look forward to meeting with you all soon and if in the meantime you have any questions or queries please feel free to contact me via Mr Neighbour and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Having seen the super start the children have made in Year 2 I am sure we will all continue to have a great year together.

With best wishes,
Mrs Furzland