



# Oak CE Primary Newsletter

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024



This week we welcomed Learning Accord Multi Academy Trust join us to look at Maths learning from Nursery through to Year 6. This including looking at lessons, speaking to staff and looking at pupils' work. They found that children in all year groups are making good progress with their maths learning, especially those children SEND. Adults are skilfully adapting learning to support pupils at all levels. Our new behaviour approach was also clear to see with positive language being used and focusing first on pupils who are making good choices first. We will be running another day like this in November where the focus will be reading across school. On the next page you will find a welcome and introduction from our Interim Executive Board who govern over the school and provide strategic support.

Mrs Garlick

## **Shed and Storage for OPAL Programme**

We have just started the Outdoor Play and Learning programme for school to give all our pupils opportunities for focused play. This is going to need school to provide more resources and equipment at social times which in turn means more storage will be needed! If anyone had a contact or a discount for school to acquire large storage such as a shed, we would appreciate your help!



## **Parents Evening Bookings**

Before half term, the class teachers will be contacting you to book a slot for parents evening sessions. It is important that you can speak to your child's teacher and understand how they have settled into this new academic year and what they are working on with their learning and how we are supporting them to develop and demonstrate their strengths.

## **School Council**

Congratulations to all those who have been voted as their class School Council representative. We will be asking the pupils to write a section for our newsletter after their next meeting! I am sure they will have a lot to tell us.

## **Attendance Letters**

Before half term we will be reviewing the attendance for every child in school and reminder letters will be sent out for those families where attendance is dropping or below 94.9%. We do recognise that in this first half term attendance figures can be impacted by just half a day and we will take this into account when sending the letters out. Remember registers are taken by 9am and after this your child may receive a U code which gives them an absence mark. Please contact us if you have any questions.



## **Give Racism The Red Card**

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October we are asking all pupils to change one part of their uniform to something red to support this [charity](#)'s 10-year anniversary in demonstrating that racism is never tolerated.

It would be great if parents wanted to join in and wear something red too. Take a photo of yourself and your child in red and share it with your teacher through ClassDojo.

**Attendance matters.**  
Please send your child to school every day.

We would be grateful for donations of wellies which your child has outgrown.

**At Oak we are Ready, Respectful & Safe**

# **Oak CE Primary School's**

## **Interim Executive Board**

The Interim Executive Board is a group of people appointed by the Local Authority to support school by providing high quality governance and expertise to support our continued improvements. IEB members come into school frequently to meet pupils and work alongside staff, and we wanted to introduce them to you properly in case you see them out and about! We have five members of the group: Jennifer Ryan (Chair of the IEB), Debra Ryan (Vice Chair), Matthew Ambler, Margaret Shaw and Pat Barker.

### **Debra Knowles: Vice Chair of the IEB**

My name is Debra Knowles, and I am delighted to be a member of the Governing Board. Oak is a wonderful school, with delightful children and a strong team. My background is firmly rooted in education, and I have taught all age groups - primary, secondary and University students. I retired from Headship recently but still support schools. I live locally and live walking my dog Tex in the fields and in Beaumont Park. I have two grown up daughters and family life is my priority. However, I do find time to sing in a choir, go to concerts and to attend a local gym. Please do say hello if you see me.



### **Debra's visit to school this week**

It has been lovely to be in school this week, seeing first-hand how well the children have settled into the new school year. School was calm and orderly and I received the warmest of welcome as always. I can see how much behaviour has improved at Oak.

I have been speaking to Years 3-6 and they were all a credit to the school and to their families. They listened well, behaved beautifully and showed respect to each other. We talked about behaviour in school and they were able to tell me all clearly about the rewards in school including Friday Assembly and the use of Dojo. They could tell me about the 'stepped consequences' which I know has also been communicated to families.

Having a good understanding of expectations of behaviour is so important in our school and the children that I spoke to showed good understanding of this. We talked about the need to always tell an adult if there is an issue at school and I know as a parent that you will want this to happen. Every time I am in school I see adults supporting the children positively.

### **Matthew Ambler**

I joined the Interim Executive Board in July 2022 as the representative of the Anglican Diocese of Leeds. Oak Primary is a Church of England school. I have been part of the worshipping community at St Barnabas church (opposite David Brown Santasalo Gears on Park Road) since the early 2000s. Our links with Oak go back before the merger of the Infant and Junior Schools. I sit on several Diocesan bodies: the Diocesan Synod (chairing the House of Laity), the Leeds Diocesan Board of Finance, the Leeds Diocesan Board of Education; and, since 2022, as an Honorary Lay Canon of Ripon Cathedral. I was installed in the Cathedral's 1,350<sup>th</sup> year – the Cathedral is one of the earliest Christian foundations in the country, first established in 672AD. By background, I am a lawyer, focused on pensions law at one of the large business law firms based in Leeds. At school and university (some years ago now...) I was very involved with music groups – I played the Bassoon. I am very supportive of team building activities (music, sport, etc). I escape from work by travelling – having visited Ghana, Guatemala, Myanmar, North Korea and Sudan among other places.



**Next week I will share some information about Jennifer Ryan, Pat Barker and Margaret Shaw.**

# Oak CE Primary: Behaviour Approach



## We are Ready, Respectful & Safe

### Adults at Oak will:



- Display calm, consistent behaviour
- Establish effective routines
- Maintain a positive learning environment
- Give first attention to best conduct
- Build emotional currency and relationships
- React constructively and respectfully
- Restore and rebuild relationships
- Communicate and be available

### Children at Oak will:

- Be ready to learn and take responsibility for learning
- Be respectful to everybody
- Value and celebrate difference
- Appreciate and look after our school
- Be accountable for their choices
- Keep themselves and each other safe



### Parents and carers will:



- Ensure their child is present and punctual
- Treat everyone with courtesy and respect
- Establish good routines  
(For example: bedtime, breakfast and home reading)
- Make sure their child has what they need for school
- Celebrate success and share concerns with school staff

All staff receive regular training to support the consistent application of our behaviour approach.

### How we support our children

We use our Oak Behaviour Approach consistently. We are Ready, Respectful and Safe and take a positive approach to relationships and behaviour. We support our children to make positive choices and reflect upon their own behaviour.

We use a range of strategies to improve our children's wellbeing and support their mental health, such as: daily meet and greet, Kirklees Keeping in Mind, My Happy Mind, Emotion Coaching, a Zones of Regulation approach and we have a Pastoral Wellbeing Team. We also use the OPAL programme to facilitate positive play.

### Positive Recognition



- ★ Verbal praise
- ★ Dojo points, rewards and positive messages home
- ★ Achievement awards
- ★ School leadership roles
- ★ Lunch time awards

### Restoring and Rebuilding

We take a **WARM** approach.

**What**- What happened? What were you thinking and feeling at the time?

**Affect**- Who was affected? What was the impact?

**Rebuild**- What do you need to do to rebuild this? How will this put things right?

**Move forward**- How can we do things differently next time? How can we help you do that?



### Stepped Support

Think

Verbal and non-verbal reminders



**Think** - You need to think about your behaviour and the impact it is having on yourself and others.



**Stop** - You need to stop what you are doing and make a positive choice to change your behaviour.



**Consequence** - You need to spend some of your own time reflecting on your behaviour and putting it right.

**Time Away** - You need some time away from the situation so you and others can learn successfully.

### Monitoring

Parents will be informed of any behaviour that resulted in a consequence by the class teacher and this will be recorded. For more serious behaviour incidents, parents will be informed by a member of the senior leadership team.

Additional support for children can be facilitated. Please share any concerns with your child's teacher.

# School Attendance

Every day counts...



## Good attendance helps with...



### Academic Achievement

Regular attendance helps children keep up with the curriculum and perform better academically.



### Social Skills

Attending school regularly helps children develop friendships, social skills and learning how to interact with others.



### Routine & Responsibility

Good attendance teaches the importance of commitment, routine, and responsibility, which are all valuable life skills.



### Focus & Engagement

Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop a positive attitude towards education.



### Building Confidence

Regular attendance can boost a child's self-esteem and confidence, as they see their progress and achievements over time.



### Enhanced Learning Opportunities

School provides not just academic instruction, but also extra-curricular activities and enrichment opportunities.

0 Days Absence

190 Days in School



Perfect!

10 Days Absence

180 Days in School

19 Days Absence

171 Days in School

4 weeks missed

29 Days Absence

161 Days in School



Over half a term missed!

38 Days Absence

152 Days in School

47 Days Absence

143 Days in School

100% Attendance

95% Attendance

90% Attendance

85% Attendance

80% Attendance

75% Attendance

Having 90% over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed!

Did you know there are...

- 365 Days in a Year
- 190 School Days
- 175 Non School Days

Silly School Education



Come and join us at Oak Primary School for our parent / carer coffee mornings.



Autumn Term timetable.

Every Thursday, 8.45am-9.45am.

Date	Guest / Theme
5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Samina from Thornton Lodge Action Group. Whooping Cough awareness session.
12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust Step By Step - advice around employment, benefits, training and skills.
19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Tracy Kirk Fresh Futures - Healthy Start Program
26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Kirsty Dickinson PCAN PINS (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) Meeting Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust Step By Step - advice around employment, benefits, training and skills.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	My Happy Mind - Parent Launch Julia Chalmers (Kirklees Keep in Mind) Please download the app prior to the session
10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust Step By Step - advice around employment, benefits, training and skills. Community Plus
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Tracy Kirk Fresh Futures - Healthy Start Program
24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust

	<p><b>Step By Step - advice around employment, benefits, training and skills.</b>  <b>Samina from TAG</b>  <b>Whooping cough awareness session</b></p>
	<b>HALF TERM BREAK</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	<p><b>Tracy Kirk</b>  <b>Fresh Futures - Healthy Start Program</b></p>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	<p><b>Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust</b>  <b>Step By Step - advice around employment, benefits, training and skills.</b></p>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Nov</b>	<p><b>Tracy Kirk</b>  <b>Fresh Futures - Healthy Start Program</b></p>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	<p><b>Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust</b>  <b>Step By Step - advice around employment, benefits, training and skills.</b>  <b>Kirsty from PCAN</b></p>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<p><b>West Yorkshire Police - Neighbourhood Watch</b>  <b>Safety during the darker nights</b></p>
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<p><b>Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust</b>  <b>Step By Step - advice around employment, benefits, training and skills.</b></p>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<p><b>Tracy Kirk</b>  <b>Fresh Futures - Healthy Start Program</b></p>

Step By Step – Paddock Community Trust are visiting our coffee morning regularly. They offer:

- Support to access financial assistance in times of crisis such as food banks and welfare services.
- Advice on benefits and housing support.
- Advice on training and volunteering opportunities.
- CV's and offering help with interview skills.



## Dates for your Diary

**8<sup>th</sup> October: Reception Phonics Parents Session**

**8<sup>th</sup> October: Y1 visit to Beaumont Park**

**7<sup>th</sup> October: 5.2 University Trip**

**15<sup>th</sup> October: 5.1 University Trip**

**15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> October: Bikeability**

**21<sup>st</sup> October: Gym equipment and Trim Trail installation**

**22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October: Bikeability for Y6**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October: School Closed for INSET**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November: School Reopens**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November: School Nurses – Flu Vaccinations**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November: Parent Evenings**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November: School Photo Day**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December: Reception Nativity**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December: Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December: Y3 & Y5 Christingle**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December: School Closes for Christmas**

**Don't forget every Thursday is Coffee Morning**

**8.45-9.45am**



**Changing childhoods.  
Changing lives.**

## **Sessions for Parents and Carers with a focus on Neurodiversity**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 2pm: Behaviour**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 2pm: Boundaries and demands**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 1.30pm: Food**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 at 1.30pm: Sleep**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 at 2pm: Executive Function**

**All sessions are completely free of charge and are led by experts from Barnardo's Children's Charity.**



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# MINECRAFT

Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been utilised for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public network (called a server) lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing – encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public server IP addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.

### GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposefully damaging or destroying another player's creation. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying: it intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

### ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome (when a child has built something new, for instance) can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are lots of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.

### ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation – limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.

### Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

### CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of moaning zombies or creepers damaging your build.

### TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan in place for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

### HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given the necessary joining details. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – to ban someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.



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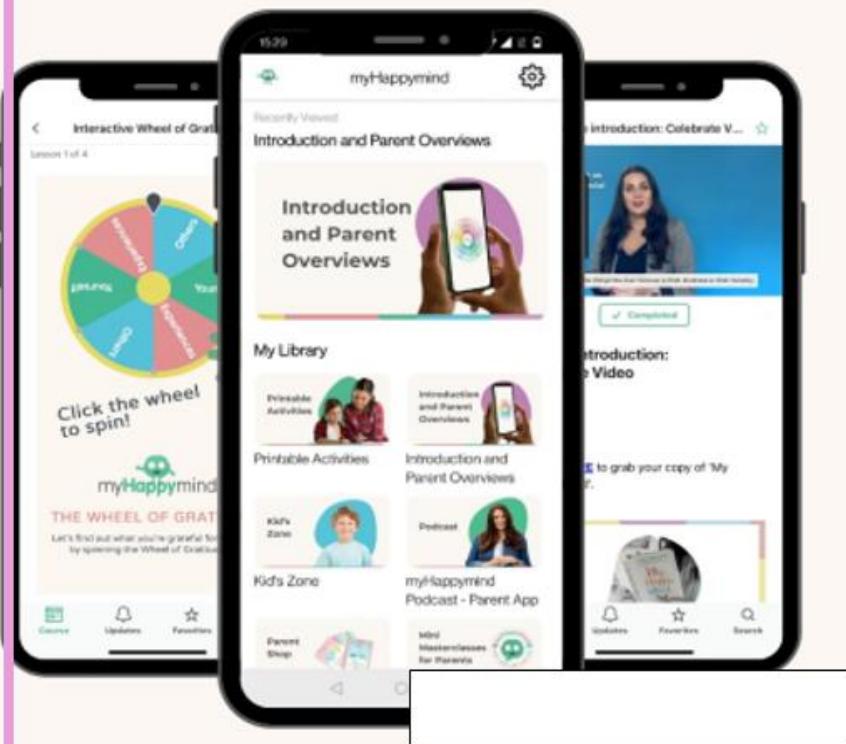
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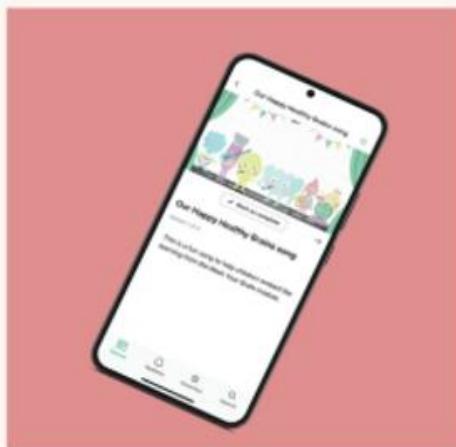


...An online resource to support you and your family to learn more about how you can use myHappymind to support your child.



## myHappymind for Parents

Exclusively for parents with children at a myHappymind School or Nursery.



Learn all about what your children are learning in school

myHappymind  
Parent App

YOU WILL NEED THIS AUTHENTICATION CODE TO SIGN UP

**142418**

Don't miss our forthcoming Family Support Information Sessions for parents and carers! We'll be taking some popular topics and sharing information advice and ideas, we have some external specialists joining some of the sessions too. If you're a practitioner, please share these with parents you feel they would be helpful for.

Contact your Dingley's Promise Family Support Worker, or email [info@dingley.org.uk](mailto:info@dingley.org.uk) to book a space.



Transforming the Early Years for children with SEND



## Parent and Carer Information Sessions

Join us online to discuss strategies and information to support your child in the following areas:

October 17th 10.30am Transitions - Part 1

November 21st 10.30am Transitions - Part 2

December 19th 10:30am Sensory Processing

January 16th 10:30am Supporting Sleep with Michelle Cyril

Contact your centre or email [info@dingley.org.uk](mailto:info@dingley.org.uk) to sign up





Kirklees  
COUNCIL

Kirklees  
Families Together

Autumn

SUPPORTED BY LOCAL  
WARD COUNCILLORS

# EXTRAVAGANZA

28TH OCTOBER 2024  
12.30PM-3PM

FAMILY FUN DAY AT THE  
JUBILEE CENTRE, PADDOCK

FREE ENTRY  
FREE HOT MEAL  
FREE RAFFLE  
FREE REFRESHMENTS  
GAMES-ACTIVITIES



EVERYONE WELCOME

COMMISSIONED BY  
KIRKLEES COUNCIL



## PROVISION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Packed full of sport, games and enriching activities to provide your child with the ultimate fun and safe experience.

Meal included. Food menu will be uploaded on our booking system. Please book on <https://bookwhen.com/sportworksyorks>



play games

make friends

inclusive

Have Fun

**OCTOBER HALF TERM, STARTING 28TH OCTOBER  
TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 8-13 YEAR OLDS  
WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS 14-17 YEAR OLDS  
ALL SESSIONS 12-4PM AT HECKMONDWIKE CENTRE**



Inclusive programme, designed for children and young people with SEND.

For more information please contact:

[craig.holcroft@sportworksLtd.co.uk](mailto:craig.holcroft@sportworksLtd.co.uk) or phone on 07734349121

# Energise

by Endorphins

## October Half Term



Join us at our **fun and inclusive holiday sessions** for young people with **SEND!**



**South Kirklees** - Cliffe House, 140 Lane Head Rd, HD8 8DB

**Day 1: 28th October**

09:00 - 13:00 (8 - 12 years) **Pumpkin Carving, & potion making**

1.30pm - 5.30pm (12 - 18 years) **Pumpkin Carving/decorating & VR**

**Day 2: 29th October**

09:00 - 13:00 (8 - 12 years) **Firework decorations & Lantern making**

1.30pm - 5.30pm (12 - 18 years) **Science experiments & smores making**

**Booking is essential!**

For more information or to book a place today  
please contact our team:

E: [bookings@endorphins.uk](mailto:bookings@endorphins.uk) P: 0330 1332642





## FOOTBALL & MULTISPORTS HOLIDAY CAMP



**TUESDAY 29TH & WEDNESDAY 30TH OCTOBER, 10AM - 2PM**



**LEEDS ROAD SPORTS COMPLEX, HD2 1YY**



**TO BOOK ON, CONTACT [HELP@HTAFCFOUNDATION.COM](mailto:HELP@HTAFCFOUNDATION.COM)  
OR CALL 01484 503 773**

**£ FREE TO ATTEND**

**INCLUSIVE SPORTS CAMP FOR CHILDREN AGED 8-17 WITH  
DISABILITIES AND LEARNING DISABILITIES**

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