



Oak CE Primary Newsletter

Friday 4th October 2024



We are now just over halfway into Term 1 and last week our look at writing lessons across schools showed that pupils are enthusiastic about their learning and have pride in their work. Pupils could talk confidently to Mrs Willmott and I about what they were learning about, and it was clear to see the progression in writing from Early Years through to Y6. Over the next few weeks, we will publish some snippets from the children's writing to give you a flavour of what your children are learning about in school. Next week we will be able to share our curriculum overviews and Long-Term Plans for each year group to give you even more information about what your child is learning in school. Just a reminder that ground works will be starting week beginning 21st October as we have new playground equipment being installed at the back and front of school. Mrs Garlick

Picture News

Every week we have a timetable of collective worship sessions which focus on teaching pupils about values, beliefs and the traits of being a good citizen who can make a positive contribution. One of the resources we use of this is Picture News. There is a separate version for EYFS as well. Some of the themes we have looked at so far this half term are - different authors and their background, Black History Month, how communities help each other in times of difficulty, paralympic values and how Artificial Intelligence could work in school and in workplaces. Each week there is also a Virtual Picture News which pupils can access. This week is Black History Month and in classrooms next week pupils will be discussing the question - "how important are human interactions?" Here is a link from one of the September Virtual Picture News offers:

<https://youtu.be/Acavb6tI0iA>

I have included further down the newsletter the newspaper and home sharing that Picture News offer. Pupils and staff enjoy these sessions, and it gives our pupils time to discuss current issues and the time and opportunity to discuss different opinions in a respectful manner.

Gate Time Reminder

The gate timings have now changed, and we open at 8am for Breakfast Club pupils and close at 8.15am. If your child attends Breakfast Club, they must arrive between these times. Gates will then reopen for all pupils and parents at 8.30am to ensure Nursery parents can access the site on time for their session. We appreciate everyone's support with this.

Clubs

These are the afterschool clubs we currently have running in school:

- Gardening Club
- KS2 Choir
- Y3 & 4 Multisports
- Y5 & 6 Multisports

Please remember that if your child does not display our Ready, Respectful and Safe rules they will not be able to attend an after school club.

Attendance Matters!



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

Young Voices

This year we have taken the opportunity to take part in [Young Voices](#). This is a national event for pupils to develop their singing talents and enjoyment in the subject. Miss Brook has sent letters out inviting pupils to take part and commit to joining the choir in preparation for the event. Please ensure your return the letters to her as choir starts next week. Thank you

Attendance

Our whole school attendance target is

96%

This week's attendance was

92.7%

The class with the highest attendance this week was

5.1 with 96.8%

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

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.



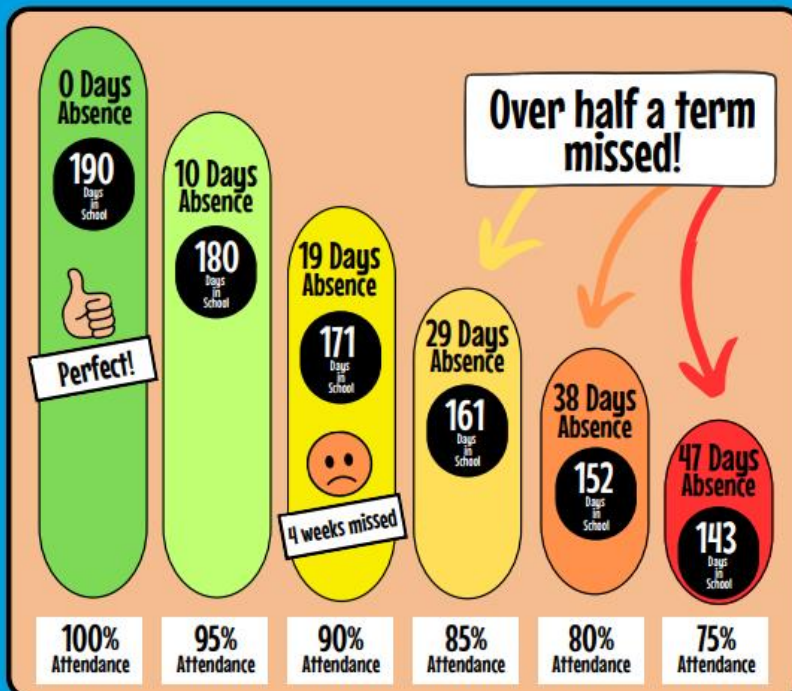
Building Confidence

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.



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 th Sept	Samina from Thornton Lodge Action Group. Whooping Cough awareness session.
12 th Sept	Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust Step By Step - advice around employment, benefits, training and skills.
19 th Sept	Tracy Kirk Fresh Futures - Healthy Start Program
26 th 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 rd Oct	My Happy Mind - Parent Launch Julia Chalmers (Kirklees Keep in Mind) Please download the app prior to the session
10 th Oct	Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust Step By Step - advice around employment, benefits, training and skills. Community Plus
17 th Oct	Tracy Kirk Fresh Futures - Healthy Start Program
24 th Oct	Anne-Marie from Paddock Community Trust

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

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

8th October: Reception Phonics Parents Session

8th October: Y1 visit to Beaumont Park

7th October: 5.2 University Trip

15th October: 5.1 University Trip

15th – 19th October: Bikeability for Y6

21st October: Gym equipment and Trim Trail installation

22nd and 23rd October: Bikeability for Y6

Friday 25th October: School Closed for INSET

Monday 4th November: School Reopens

Wednesday 6th November: School Nurses – Flu Vaccinations

Wednesday 6th November: Parent Evenings

Wednesday 27th November: School Photo Day

Tuesday 17th December: Reception Nativity

**Wednesday 18th December: Year 1 & 2 Christmas
Performance**

Thursday 19th December: Y3 & Y5 Christingle

Friday 20th 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 17th October 2024 at 2pm: Behaviour

Monday 11th November 2024 at 2pm: Boundaries and demands

Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 1.30pm: Food

Wednesday 22nd January 2025 at 1.30pm: Sleep

Monday 3rd February 2025 at 2pm: Executive Function

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



Plant Packaging

Companies around the world are working hard to find new ways to reduce plastic waste, and one exciting solution is eco-friendly packaging made from plants! This special packaging can be made from materials like seaweed, cornstarch, or even mushrooms, and it helps keep the planet clean by breaking down quickly in nature. One company, Notpla (short for 'not plastic'), has developed packaging from seaweed that could replace the plastic we use for wrapping food. This eco-friendly packaging is not only biodegradable, but it's also safe to eat! Dr Mark Miodownik, a scientist at University College



Pictured: Seaweed growing underwater.
Source: Canva.

London, says, 'These innovations give us hope for a more sustainable future.' By using these smart alternatives, we can help protect animals, oceans, and our planet from plastic pollution. Experts believe that more and more businesses will start using eco-friendly packaging in the future, which is a big step towards a cleaner, healthier world!

Robo-Scientist!

Exciting news from Africa—scientists are using a robot to help protect endangered animals! This special robot can move around safely without disturbing wildlife, allowing scientists to study animals up close. The robot has cameras and sensors that help it watch over animals like rhinos and elephants, which are often targeted by poachers. Poachers are people who hunt endangered animals illegally, and scientists hope this robot will help stop them. One of the scientists working on the project said, 'The robot is like

an extra pair of eyes that can keep track of animals and send us important information about where they are and what they need.' This smart robot is already helping conservationists learn more about how to protect endangered animals and keep them safe in the wild.



Pictured: A rhinoceros and her calf.
Source: Canva.

How can photos shape the world?



Photos can show us the inner beauty of the world that the human eye alone may never see.

Chloe S, 10

Let us know what you think about this week's news



picture-news.co.uk/discuss



help@picture-news.co.uk



[@HelpPicture](https://twitter.com/HelpPicture)

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Crazy Cars!

A very special car museum in Hyderabad, India, has been awarded the world record for the largest collection of wacky vehicles in a museum! Car designer, Sudhakar Kanyaboyina, is fulfilling his childhood dream of hand making fully-working custom cars, designed to look like everyday objects. The museum houses 57 individual vehicles, including a vintage computer, shoe, camera, stiletto, hamburger, handbag, chessboard, wedding dress, sofa, snooker table, cricket bat, many sports balls, and even a toilet! As you might expect, Sudhakar's desk at the museum is also a car!



Pictured: Several of the custom cars at Sudha Cars Museum.
Source: Guinness World Records on YouTube.

He is working towards having 100 cars for people to go and see. 'What I love most about my work is the attention to detail on each car. I find immense joy in meticulously crafting and perfecting every aspect of my designs, ensuring each vehicle is unique and according to the object we are trying to replicate,' explained Sudhakar. 'I still feel as excited as a young child when I'm working on a new car. That same enthusiasm still drives me!'

If you were to create a custom car, what object would you choose to base it on?



Pictured: The shuttlecock car.
Source: Guinness World Records, on YouTube.

Community Conservation

Community members in New Orleans have turned a vacant, rubbish-filled 40-acre area into a thriving wetland and haven for people and birds. Local residents are working together with the Sankofa Community Development Corporation (SCDC), which was set up by Rashida Ferdinand, to restore the wildlands she grew up exploring and playing in. The area that had suffered, due to decades of damage and neglect, has been restored to its previous natural glory and is now officially known as the Sankofa Wetland Park and Nature Trail. Wildlife has returned to the site, with the SCDC reporting that there are now over 100 species of songbirds, ducks, near-shore waders, egrets, herons, otters, beavers, and a variety of amphibians and reptiles. It is hoped that restoring the wetlands will also help to protect the residents and



Pictured: A Painted Bunting bird can be seen at Sankofa Wetland Park and Nature Trail.
Source: Canva.

their properties, as they are known for their ability to absorb stormwater. Rashida said, 'Seeing butterflies, birds, and other pollinators in the park is a sign of a healthy ecosystem. All we had to do was create the right conditions.'

Do you enjoy bird watching?

Are there any community areas close to you?

How can photos shape the world?



I think pictures help to raise awareness, not just what's in the picture, but the story behind the picture.

Ethon

Let us know what you think about this week's news



picture-news.co.uk/discuss



help@picture-news.co.uk



[@HelpPicture](https://twitter.com/HelpPicture)

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MINECRAFT

AGE RATING
7+

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.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's nothing too untoward in the game. However, some of the 'baddies' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by audio – such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles – that may unnerve young ones.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play – so online gaming can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.



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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 to book a space.

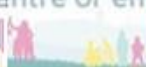


Parent and Carer Information Sessions

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 to sign up





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 WELCME



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KIRKLEES COUNCIL



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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 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

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
OR CALL 01484 503 773**

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

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