

Weekly Newsletter 6th July 2026



Right of the Fortnight: Article 3:

All adults should do what is best for you.



Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the past two weeks, our Year 6 children have enjoyed visits to their new secondary schools, meeting staff and experiencing life beyond Oakdene. They have represented the school brilliantly and demonstrated that they are truly **secondary-ready**.

This week, all children will spend time with their new **teaching team** as part of our **transition** programme. You will also notice some **new faces** joining our teaching teams and we are pleased to confirm our staffing arrangements in the table below.

CLASS	CLASS TEACHER/ROOM LEAD	TEACHING ASSISTANT
LITTLE SYCAMORES	Miss Sharon Willmott	Miss Lucy Anderson
NURSERY	Mrs Fiona Guest	Mrs Clare Jackson
RECEPTION	Miss Chloe Dixon & Mr Stephen McConnell	Mrs Lindsey Wardle
YEAR 1B	Mrs Melissa Brown	Mrs Emily Thompson
YEAR 1D	Miss Isabelle Duffey	Mrs Emily Thompson
YEAR 2D	Mrs Stacey Durham	Miss Jodi Walker
YEAR 3H	Mr Michael Horkan	Mrs Kelly Hunter
YEAR 3C	Mr Jack Cochrane	Miss Emma Lambert
YEAR 4R	Miss Georgina Robinson (Autumn & Spring term) Miss Robinson (0.6) & Mrs Wilson (0.4) Summer term	Mrs Nathalie McCartie
YEAR 5R	Miss Niamh Richardson	Mrs Samantha Robson
YEAR 6C	Mrs Lauren Cowan	Mrs Sharon Robson

At a time when many schools, both locally and nationally, are having to reorganise classes into mixed-age groups and reduce teaching assistant support, we are proud to have maintained our strong staffing structure and **high levels of support for pupils** across the school. This continued investment ensures that children benefit from the high **quality provision, care** and individual attention they deserve.

We are delighted to announce that **Mrs Brown** and **Mrs Cowan** have been successfully promoted to **Assistant Principal**, effective from **1st September**. Both have made a **significant contribution** to Oakdene and are **passionate** about securing the very best outcomes for our children. We **congratulate** them on their well-deserved promotions and look forward to seeing them thrive in their new roles.

Enjoy the week ahead!

Mrs Bramley & Mrs Osborne

Dates For Your Diary - Summer

Mon 6 July- 17 July	Y6 Swimming Block (targeting those who cannot swim 25m)
Mon 6 July	Transition Day 1 St Michael's
Tues 7 July	Transition Day 2 St Michael's
	Meet my new teacher morning (new date)
	4.00pm - Meeting for Parents and Carers of September 2026 New Reception Pupils
Wed 8th July	Y5 visit Eden Camp
Thurs 9th July	Y1 visit Saltburn-By-The-Sea
Fri 10th July	KS1 Workshops
Tues 14th July	Y6 Silent Disco
Wed 15th July	Y2 visit North York Moors, Danby 'Lost Words'
	ELT Northern Hub 20 pupils from Y3 Singing Event at Yarm School Auditorium
	2pm Sports Day for Pupils in Y4 - Y6
Thurs 16th July	Y4 visit Sunderland Winter Garden Museum
	6.00pm Y6 Leavers' Performance (Tickets only - available via MCAS under the 'Products' tab)
Fri 17th July	Y5 VE day
Mon 20th —Wed 22nd July	Y6 Northfield Pupils Attend Summer School
Tues 21st July	2.15pm Sports Day for Pupils in Y1-Y3
Wed 22nd July	AM - Reception Pupils' Olympic Celebratory Event
	3.30pm Friends of Oakdene Summer Fayre
Fri 24th July	Little Sycamores and Nursery Teddy Bears' Picnic
Mon 27th July	Fun Day - LAST DAY OF THE SUMMER TERM
Tues 28th July	PD Day

Dates For Your Diary - September 2026 to July 2027

PD Days

1 September 2026
2 October 2026
30 November 2026
29 January 2027
28 July 2027



Y4 pupils Theo Plimmer and Kian Jewson enjoyed a fantastic football season playing for Billingham Synthonia U9s. Both boys were presented with medals and trophies to celebrate their amazing achievements, with Theo especially proud to receive the Energetic Player Award. They also thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a football tournament with their team.



Very well done to Caleb Jefferies in Year 2, Stage 2 Certificate and Medal from the Borocudā Swim School.

Caleb has demonstrated fantastic commitment and determination in developing his swimming skills.

These are really important life skills!

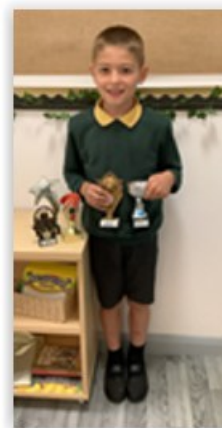
We were proud to host our first face-to-face RISE event last week, welcoming school leaders and Reception teachers from across the Tees Valley local authorities. As a designated **RISE Reception Network Lead School**, Oakdene is helping to support and shape **high-quality Reception practice** across the region through collaboration, **professional learning** and the sharing of effective approaches. The event provided an **excellent** opportunity for colleagues to learn from one another, **strengthen partnerships** and work together to improve outcomes for children. We are grateful to our **dedicated staff**, whose **expertise** and commitment have made this exciting opportunity possible.



Congratulations to Year 3 pupils **Malachi Worth, Rosie Daniel and Riley Titlestad**, who represented **Billingham United U9s** at a football tournament in Saltburn-By-The-Sea. The team played eight matches and reached **the final**, narrowly losing 3–1 to a team four divisions above them. An **excellent achievement**, with all three pupils playing superbly and representing their club with pride. Special mention to **Malachi**, who captained the team and proudly brought the runners-up trophy into school to share with everyone.



Y2 pupil **Hallie Richardson** and Y5 pupils **Evie Richardson** and **Daisy Thompson** have all been recognised for their **dedication** and **hard work** in **martial arts**, earning **belts** and **certificates** for their **outstanding** achievements. Well done to all three girls on their **fantastic progress** and unwavering **commitment** to developing their skills further.



Congratulations to **Altay Arslan** in Year 2, who celebrated a fantastic season with Stockton by winning an incredible **five trophies**.

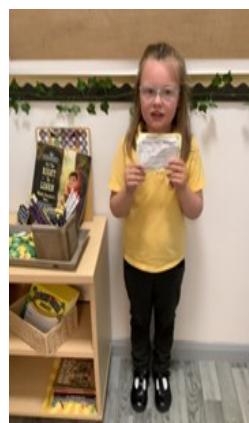
What a **wonderful achievement** and a testament to his **hard work, dedication** and **talent** throughout the year.



Congratulations to **Y6 pupil Finley Orley**, who had an outstanding season with **Billingham Under 12s Hornets**.

Finley was presented with **three trophies**, including the prestigious **Player of the Year Award** and the **Coaches' Bravery Award**, recognising both his footballing talent and determination.

Well done, Finley – a **fantastic achievement!**



Congratulations to Y1 pupil **Aubree Kitchin**, who was awarded a **certificate** in recognition of her efforts to support people experiencing **homelessness**.

We are incredibly proud of Aubree for demonstrating such **kindness, compassion** and **commitment** to helping others in her community.

Week Ending 3rd July 2026

Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs Guest	Ivy-Grace Parkinson Lumley	Damon Cunningham	Rosie Ferguson	Rita-Denise Irving
YRC Miss Dixon	Archer Dixon	Ruban Gilbey	Willow Watts	Harrison Howdle
YRK Miss Dignen	Theo Bell	Ruby Bunn	Zac Love	Aaliyah Sanchez Godt
YIB Mrs Brown	Coen Beadle	Dexter Dobson	Elsie Balogun	Harriet Smith
Y2D Mrs Durham	Olivia-Jane Midgley	Bonnie-Rae Ferguson	Jason Adekunle	Lucas Lee
Mrs Thompson	Jack Bourne	Michael Smith	Isla Featherstone	Caleb Jefferies
Y3H Mr Horkan	William Nimmo	Aria Dugdale	Henry Brown	Yasmeen Awan
Y4R Miss Robinson	Isla O'Hare	Elena Hold	Junior Hindmarsh	Freddie McQuilling
Y5SW Mrs Smith	Albert Balanescu	Edward Gardiner-Jukes	Alyza Bateman	Gracie Dale
Mrs Wilson	Megan Squires	Jessica Dunn	Lewis Harris	Jake Marshall
Y6C Mrs Cowan	Dolly Rogers	Ava Hammond	Jake Atkinson	Sophie-Alysa Minter
Y6M Mr McConnell	Archie Purvis	George Reeve	Amber Hammond	Harry Laws



YR & KS1
Annie Tunney

Y3 & Y4
Oliver Hall

Y5 & Y6
Jake Marshall