Oakdene Primary

Newsletter

Oakdene Primary Academy
Learning for Life

Autumn Term — 12th October 2026

From orchard to oven

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now fully immersed into the academic year and I can't believe that we are already nearly at the end of the first half term. It has been wonderful to see the progress the children have made and the enthusiasm that they are putting into their learning. I have been particularly impressed by our youngest children in Nursery and Reception who are already demonstrating an excellent aptitude for learning.

Our autumn harvest has provided some wonderful learning opportunities across Key Stage 1. In Year 1, children enjoyed making delicious Gruffalo Crumble using freshly harvested plums, while Y2 explored Victorian traditions by baking a traditional pear pie. Most days we've been blessed with beautiful autumn sunshine, even when we're not, pupils made the most of the season by taking their learning outdoors, exploring nature and celebrating the fruits of our harvest in meaningful and memorable ways.

Have a wonderful week and keep warm!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne









Y4 Open Morning

It was wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers to our Year 4 Open Morning. Families enjoyed a range of activities, including rugby and creating papier-mâché helmets, providing a real immersion into the Year 4 curriculum. Mrs Osborne shared our approach to reading in Year 4, while Miss Robinson showcased the engaging strategies we use to prepare pupils for the Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term.









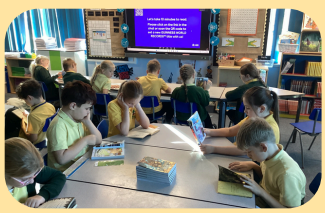
Take 10 to Read 2026 – A Record-Breaking Reading Celebration

Pupils and staff across Oakdene took part in Take 10 to Read to mark World Mental Health Day, joining schools and readers from across the country in an attempt to set a new GUINNESS WORLD RECORD for the most people reading online in a 12-hour period.

Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils enjoyed a live reading of Super Uma by Rashmi Sirdeshpande, followed by a fun draw-along session with illustrator Nakul P. Meanwhile, Key Stage 2 pupils were inspired by author Frank Cottrell-Boyce, who shared extracts from The Blockbusters and explored themes of cinema, creativity and culture.

A special thank you goes to Mrs Osborne for organising this fantastic opportunity and helping our pupils be part of such a memorable national celebration.





HALLOWE'EN POP UP SHOP

Do you have any Halloween costumes at home that your children have outgrown? We'd love to give them a new lease of life while helping other families prepare for Halloween.

We would be very grateful for donations of clean, good-quality Halloween costumes. These will be available at our Halloween Pop-Up Shop on Wednesday at 3.20 p.m.

Families are warmly invited to come along to the Dining Hall, entering via the KS2 yard doors, to browse our selection and pick up a costume for a small cost.

If you have any costumes to donate, please send them into school by Wednesday morning.

Thank you for your support in helping us make Halloween more sustainable and affordable for everyone.

WHAT'S ON?

13 OCT	Y4 VISIT BINCHESTER ROMAN FORT
14 OCT	Y3 OPEN MORNING Y5 ROALD DAHL DAY
15 OCT	Y6 VISIT BEAMISH Y5 STEM VISITOR
15 OCT	REC TASTER SESSION WITH STOCKTON FC

PERFECT PUNCTUALITY

We know that busy mornings can sometimes be a challenge, but arriving on time really does make a difference. The school day begins at 8.50am, and being in line with friends at the start of the day helps children feel settled, included and ready to learn. Punctuality supports a strong sense of belonging, ensures children don't miss important instructions or learning opportunities, and helps build positive habits that will benefit them throughout their lives. Thank you for your support in helping your child make a positive start to every school day.



Halloween Disco - Thursday, 22nd October 2026

The Halloween Disco has been planned for Thursday, 22nd October. The DJ is booked!

Tickets will be available from the class teachers from Monday, 12th October to Friday, 16th October for £4.00 in CASH. This includes the price of a hot dog or pizza a drink and sweets.

As usual, this event will be organised as two separate discos.
KS1 (Y1, Y2) and Y3's disco will be 4.00-4.50pm and
Y4-Y6 will be 5.00-6.00pm.

We have tried to invite reception and nursery pupils historically, however, they became too distressed.

All children will need to be dropped off at the main entrance, KS1 at 4.00pm and KS2 at 5.00pm. KS1 (Year 1 and 2) & Y3s pupils should be collected at 4.50pm from the dining hall (KS2 yard) to avoid congestion as the KS2 pupils arrive.

Pupils in Y4-Y6 should be collected from the main entrance at 6.00pm.

It's going to be frighteningly fantastic!

Get in Touch
01642 560768
oakdene@oakdeneprimary.org.uk
www.oakdeneprimary.org.uk
Learning for Life



Dates For Your Diary

October

Oracy October

Tues 13th Oct	Y4 visit Binchester Roman Fort
Wed 14th Oct	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y3 Pupils
	Y5 Roald Dahl Day Adventure at Hardwick ParkPM Y6 Rugby Festival
	3:20pm Hallowe'en Costume Shop
Thurs 15th Oct	Y6 Visit Beamish Museum
	AM Reception Taster Session Stockton FC
	Y5 STEM Morning
	Peer Mentor Training Week 2
Fri 16th Oct	Fire Brigade visit Reception
Wed 21st Oct	AM Y5 Sports Festival
Thurs 22nd Oct	Peer Mentor Training Week 3
	Hallowe'en Disco (No extra-curriculur clubs)
	4-4.50pm - Y1-Y3
	5-6pm - Y4-Y6



We hope that our Year 6 pupils and their families have enjoyed visiting secondary school open evenings over the past few weeks and have had the opportunity to explore the exciting options available.
A gentle reminder that the deadline for submitting secondary school applications is 31st October 2026.

HALF TERM

Monday, 26th Oct – Friday, 30th Oct



Dates For Your Diary

November

Non-Fiction November

Mon 2nd Nov	Y3 visit to Danelaw Viking Village
Wed 4th Nov	PM Y1 Sports Festival
Thur 5th Nov	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y1 Pupils
Week Commencing 9th Nov: Parent Consultation Evenings	
Wed 12th Nov	Dragon's Den event for Y5 & Y6 pupils & 18 pupils from Y3 Y4 attend Indoor Athletics event
Fri 13th Nov	Children In Need Day
w/c16th Nov	Road Safety Week
Fri 20th Nov	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y2 Pupils
w/c 23rd Nov	UK Parliament Week
Mon 23rd Nov	Flu Nasal Spray (pupils from Rec-Y6)
Tues 24th Nov	Individual & Sibling Photographs
Thurs 26th Nov	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y5 Pupils
Mon 30th Nov	PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)

December



Tues 1st Dec	Y2 Victorian Christmas experience at Preston Hall
Wed 2nd Dec	3.30pm Friends of Oakdene Christmas Fair
Fri 4th Dec	10am Y3/Y4 Tableau @ St. Luke's Church
Tues 8th Dec	2.15pm Nativity Performance
Wed 9th Dec	Christmas Lunch
Thurs 10th Dec	2.15pm Nativity Performance
Fri 11th Dec	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Nursery Pupils
Tues 15th Dec	9.10am Y5 & Y6 Christingle, PM Y1 & Y2 Christmas Parties
Wed 16th Dec	PM Y3 & Y4 Christmas Parties
Thurs 17th Dec	AM and PM Little Sycamores and Nursery Christmas Parties
	PM Reception Christmas Parties
	PM Y5 & Y6 Christmas Parties
Fri 18th Dec	LAST DAY OF TERM
	Christmas Holiday: Monday, 21st December 2026 - Friday, 1st January 2027
	Children will return to school on Monday, 4th January 2027

C H R I S T M A S B R E A K

Monday, 21st Dec – Friday, 1st Jan

Stars of the Week

Week Ending 9th October 2026

Class	Star of the Week	Star Speaker	Star Reader	Star Writer	Star Mathematician
Nursery Mrs Guest	Gracie-Mae Van Wyk	Maisy Atkinson	Sophie Balogun	Charlie Pearn	Arlo Langstaff
YRD Miss Dixon	Jameel Abiona	Arthur Bramley	Charlotte Ayre	Mylah Thompson	Everleigh Royal
YRM Mr McConnell	Vinnie Manze	Dolcie Seal	Olivia Dunn	Isabelle Harding	Max Edditts
YIB Mrs Brown	River French	Ruben Earle	Jensen Langstaff	Rory Baker	Harrison Howdle
YID Miss Duffey	Ollie Foster	Rory Liddle	Archer Dixon	Lucas Bailey	Zac Love
Y2D Mrs Durham	Oscar Stainsby	Wyatt Hold	Elsie Balogun	Junior Furguson	Darcie Murray Denby
Y3H Mr Horkan	Tommy Owens	Dylan Allon	Ruben Black	Katy Coates	Willow Earle
Y3C Mr Cochrane	Delilah Dodds-Day	Tommy Wilks	Izzy Matthews	Elliot Hardy	Olivia-Jane Midgley
Y4R Miss Robinson	Oakley Harrison	Lily Grantham	Brienna Pearce	Yasmeen Awan	Joseph Luker
Y5R Miss Richardson	Max Prout	Tia Cain	Oliver Coates	Lilly Dixon	Adridev Vineetha
Y6C Mrs Cowan	Isaac Cummings	Scarlett Allon	Eliza-Grace Mack	Blake Playle	Anna Cooley



YR & KS1	Y3 & Y4	Y5 & Y6
Elsie Balogun	Delilah Dodds-Day	Aalia Dobson

Amazing Achievements



Well done to Eliza-Grace who was placed 3rd in both Tap and Ballet.



Harry was awarded Man of the Match for scoring an impressive goal!



Mylah achieved her stage 1 'Learn to Swim' award.



Wyatt was rewarded with a trophy for his terrific tackling at Billingham Juniors.



Darcy achieved her Stage 4 Trampoline Proficiency Award.



Henry & Oliver, teamed up at a LEGO event to design, build & create their own animation against the clock. Their computing skills impressed the judges and crowned them LAFTA competition winners!



Poppy placed 4th in tap, 3rd for her bumblebee duet & 4th in the Peter Pan trio at the Yorkshire Open Dance Festival.



Rosie was placed 6th in ballet, 3rd for her Toy Story trio & 5th for the Little Mermaid trio at the Yorkshire Open Dance Festival.