

Weekly Newsletter
30th March 2026



Right of the Fortnight: Article 40:
Your right to legal help if you have been
accused of breaking the law.



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have just a few days before we break-up for the **Easter holidays!** It's continued to be really busy around school with a number of **trips, visitors** and **sports competitions**. Our school proudly joined the community to take part in the 'Walk for Claire Parks' and Oakdene raised **£250.51** for the **Motor Neurone Disease (MND)** charity. Awareness for MND was marked by **heartfelt blue and orange ribbons** tied to our school gates and those of the other schools taking part.

Last week we celebrated **World Maths Day** and made an impact that reached far beyond Oakdene. Mrs Brown and I travelled to Frodingham Infant School, Scunthorpe to share our **exceptional mathematics curriculum**. It was also a great pleasure to welcome Zoe Carr OBE, CEO of Wise Academies, along with Sophie Watkins, who were both keen to learn more about our approach to teaching and learning in maths.

The **Scholastic Book Club** has now closed, having raised **£89.88 for our school to spend on books**. A huge **THANK YOU** to the parents/carers who have purchased books throughout the year totalling **£377.12**.

Easter Celebrations

Y1s enjoyed the **Easter Extravaganza at St Aidan's Church** with the **Open the Book Team**. The children retold the Easter story through pictures and drama and took home some wonderful craft creations.

We hope that all of our families and staff who will be celebrating Easter are looking forward to their celebrations. We wish all of our pupils and their parents and carers a **Happy Easter**. We look forward to seeing you on **Monday, 20th April!**

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne



Last Wednesday, we held an extremely successful **Open Morning** for the Parents & Carers of Y6 pupils. The activities linked to **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)** and one linked to **oracy**. They included: **Science**—making bread rolls and butter, the children applied their **Technology** skills to code microbits and **Mathematics** — an opportunity to learn about some of the methods the children will be applying to maths problems. The Y6's were reminded of the benefits of **oracy** and having a talk-partner to discuss future career pathways.



Dates For Your Diary - Spring

W/c 30th March
Thurs 2nd April

Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers
9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of **Nursery Pupils**
Y2 pupils visit Washington Wetlands
Children break up for Easter

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Friday, 3rd April - Friday, 17th April

Monday, 20th April Summer Term commences—children return to school

Tues 28th April Y4 Quad Kids Event @ Northfield

Mon 4th May
Tues 5th May
Fri 8th May

BANK HOLIDAY - School Closed
Bowling event for 10 KS2 pupils at Hollywood Bowl
Experienced Y3/Y4 Football Tournament @ Stockton Town FC

Mon 11th May - Thurs 14th May **Key Stage 2 SATs** are Timetabled
Fri 15th May Y3 Striking & Fielding Skills Festival

Wed 20th May Y5/Y6 Athletics Competition @ Middlesbrough Sports Village

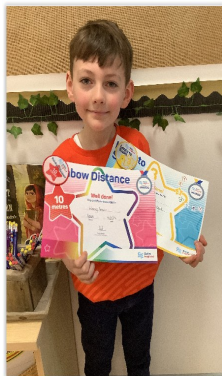
Half-term holiday runs from:

Monday, 25th May to Friday, 5th June inclusive (two weeks).

The children will break up on:
Friday, 22nd May and will return to school on Monday, 8th June.

Week commencing 8th June - School to Administer checks for:
Y1 Phonics Screening, Y2 Resits and Y4 Multiplication Table

Tues 9th June Y6 Cricket @ Norton Sports Complex



We are delighted to celebrate the success of **Henry Brown** in Year 3, who has recently achieved **two swimming awards**.

Henry has been awarded his **10 Metres Distance Certificate** as well as his **Stage 3 Swimming Certificate**.

These awards recognise Henry's growing **confidence** in the water, improved **technique** and **commitment** to developing his swimming skills.

Well done, Henry!

Mrs Bramley's daughter, **Isabelle** enjoyed returning to Oakdene and brought along her two adorable **Easter bunnies**, Pebble and Paprika. The children were absolutely delighted to meet them. **Pebble and Paprika** were very patient and enjoyed all the attention, especially the soft strokes and curious little faces gathered around them. It was a lovely seasonal treat, and the children couldn't stop chatting about the bunnies for the rest of the day!



Our KS1 pupils enjoyed a magical visit to the **Forum Theatre** this week to watch the stage production of **The Gruffalo's Child**. From the moment the lights dimmed, the children were captivated by the lively **characters**, colourful **scenery** and engaging **storytelling**.

The performance brought key author **Julia Donaldson's** much loved tale to life with **humour, music** and plenty of **excitement**. The children especially loved joining in with the familiar phrases and spotting the Gruffalo's Child as she bravely set off into the deep, dark wood.

It was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to experience **live theatre** and explore the joy of stories in a new way.



As part of their **farm topic**, we were very lucky to receive some eggs to hatch in the Reception (YR) classroom. They arrived in an **incubator** to keep them warm. The children learnt about their **life-cycle** and within the first day of having the eggs, two had hatched! The chicks were very wet and tired. Once the chicks were dry, we moved them into the **brooder cage**. By Thursday, we had six very fluffy and **healthy** chicks. At first, the chicks loved being handled but as they grew, they preferred to run around, **flapping their wings!** YR had a class **vote** to decide on their names.



Mrs Osborne has once again led a weekly lunchtime Book Club with Y5s as we have been involved in the **Stockton Children's Book of the Year** project. The SCBY award celebrates the best in children's fiction. Each year, five books are **shortlisted** by library staff and shared with children in Years 5 and 6 from primary schools across the borough to vote for their favourite. The winner for **2026** was **The Last Life by Max Boucherat**.

Our children's high quality work really impressed Angela Foster (Billingham Librarian). Many congratulations to **Lily Charlton** who was awarded with a certificate for the **Best Book Review** and **Sophie Squires** was recognised for her **outstanding effort** at a **prestigious awards ceremony** with the **Mayor**. Arta and Indi also met all 4 authors: **Lindsay Galvin, Jamie Hammond, Max Boucherat** and **Jenny Pearson**.

All the children involved in the project from Oakdene and Roseberry Primaries, plus our Y5 and Y6 pupils, had the opportunity to meet the brilliant author **Jamie Hammond**. The children were delighted to buy signed copies of his first published book '**Grumpfort**'.



Week Ending 27th March 2026

Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs Guest	Olivia-Caitlyn Stephenson	Harper Bunn	Freya Handley	Lyla Danks
YRC Miss Dixon	Jayden Serrechia	Junior Morgan	River French	Sophia Peers
YRK Miss Dignen	Ollie Foster	Max Kendall	Mason Walker	Lola Langridge
Y1B Mrs Brown	Jamie Hart	Oscar Stainsby	Lexie Manze	Leighton Wardle
Y2D Mrs Durham	Liam Turner	Abdulmaleek Abiona	Altay Arslan	Darcy Hammond
Mrs Thompson	Aysel Khan	Elodie Richardson	Elliot Hardy	Tommy Wilks
Y3H Mr Horkan	Lincoln Wardle	Chanel Ambrose	Elsie Dinsdale-Swales	Arwa Usman
Y4R Miss Robinson	Tia Cain	Malachi Worth	Riley Titlestad	Lola Pearce
Y5SW Mrs Smith	Erin-Jayne Harrison	Blake Playle	Hannah Liddle	Jessica Dunn
Mrs Wilson	Theo Smith-Sewell	Gracie Dale	Albert Balanescu	Isaac Cummings
Y6C Mrs Cowan	Florence Bruce	Alyssa Frost-Usher	Logan Daniels-Owen	Ava Hammond
Y6M Mr McConnell	Hollie Dale	William Culley	Alannah Bell	Archie Purvis



YR & KS1
Douglas
Chochołko

Y3 & Y4
Amani
Mohammad

Y5 & Y6
Aalia
Dobson