

Weekly Newsletter 1st December 2025



Right of the Fortnight: Article 23:

**Your Right to Special Care & Support
if you are Disabled**



Dear Parents/Carers

The children at Oakdene have been learning about many **festivals of light** at this time of year, including **Hanukkah** and **Diwali**. Meanwhile we are busy preparing for **Christmas** in school and the children are enjoying the atmosphere in both halls created by the Christmas trees, decorations and lights. Classrooms are also beginning to look very **festive**. We continue to really appreciate all your support and we will ensure that the children have an exciting build-up to the Christmas break.

Our new **sound system** was installed last week, thanks to the generous funds, **an incredible £6,000.00** raised by the **Friends of Oakdene**. It will make a fantastic difference to our Christmas musical events and performances!

Mrs Jackson and the **Friends of Oakdene** are busy putting the finishing touches on plans for our **Christmas Fair**, taking place on **Wednesday, 3rd December at 3:30pm**. A **big thank you** to everyone who has already donated—we truly appreciate your support! We'd love to make the event extra festive with some delicious homemade treats. Could you bake a **yummy Yule Log**, **marvellous mince pies**, **cute cupcakes**, **gingerbread delights**, or **Christmas cookies**? If so, please bring your creations to school on **Wednesday, 3rd December**. Your contributions will help make this year's event magical!

Have a fantastic week everyone!
Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne



Supporting Kingstone Primary, Uganda

Our Trust has built a special partnership with **Kingstone Primary School in Uganda**. Recently, some of our teachers and leaders visited and witnessed the challenges firsthand—**no books, very few resources** and limited learning materials. While they brought some supplies, so much more is needed. Under **Article 28 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**, *every child has the right to an education*. To help make this a reality for the pupils at Kingstone Primary, we are raising funds to send a container of essential items from each academy. **At the end of every Christmas event—whether it's the Nativity, Tableau, or Christingle—we kindly ask families to bring any spare change for donations**. Every contribution will make a real difference to the children's education.

Thank you for your generosity and support in bringing hope and learning to Kingstone Primary!



Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term

Tues 2nd Dec	Y4 visit 'Rockin' Christmas Gig Y5 visit Centre for Life Newcastle
Wed 3rd Dec	24 pupils attend Ice -Skating event at the Forum 3.30pm Friends of Oakdene Christmas Fair
Thurs 4th Dec	10 Y5/Y6 pupils attend Dodgeball event
Fri 5th Dec	10.00am Y3 & Y4 Tableau @ St Luke's Church Christmas Lunch (please order asap on MCAS)
Tues 9th Dec	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Nursery Pupils 9.30-10.30am Poetry workshop Joseph Coelho alongside radio DJ, host and presenter Lauren Layfield
Wed 10th Dec	2.15pm Nativity Performance
Thurs 11th Dec	2.15pm Nativity Performance
Fri 12th Dec	10.00am Y5 visit Arc - linked to Key Author
Tues 16th Dec	9.10am Y5 & Y6 Christingle, PM Y1 & Y2 Christmas Parties
Wed 17th Dec	Y2 Victorian Christmas Visit to Preston Hall Museum PM Y3 & Y4 Christmas Parties
Thurs 18th Dec	AM and PM Little Sycamores and Nursery Christmas Parties PM Reception Christmas Party PM Y5 & Y6 Christmas Parties
Fri 19th Dec	LAST DAY OF TERM

Christmas Holiday: Monday, 22nd December 2025 - Friday, 2nd January 2026

Children will return to school on Monday, 5 January 2026



It was fantastic to welcome so many parents & carers of Y4 pupils to a **Caribbean-themed Open Morning**. Activities included baking **Fairtrade banana & chocolate muffins**, creating **Caribbean-themed clay sea-life creatures** and Mrs Osborne shared our **approach to reading in Y4**. Miss Robinson showcased all the different methods we use to prepare the children for the **Multiplication Tables Check** which takes place in the summer term.



Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from
Mrs Thompson
"The Christmas Pine" By Julia Donaldson



The Christmas Pine is a magical story inspired by real events. It celebrates a remarkable tradition that has lasted for more than seventy years. Each December, the Mayor of Oslo in Norway gifts the people of Britain a magnificent Christmas tree.

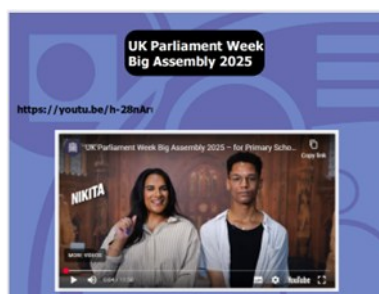
This gesture is a symbol of peace, friendship, and gratitude for the UK's support during World War II. A beautiful reminder of how kindness and unity can endure across generations.



This year's UK Parliament Week Big Assembly was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to explore **democracy** in action. Through lively discussions and interactive activities, pupils strengthened their **oracy skills**—learning to **speak confidently**, **listen actively**, and **express ideas clearly**.

It was inspiring to see everyone **debating**, **questioning** and sharing their **voices** on issues that matter.

A big thank you to all who took part in making this event a celebration of participation and communication!



As part of their **Celebrations** topic, Reception enjoyed a wonderful **mock wedding** ceremony at our local church, St Luke's, kindly hosted by **Reverend Mahalha**.

The children had a fantastic time dressing up in their finest clothes and learning about the key features of a wedding.

After the **ceremony**, the fun continued with a 'Wedding Reception' complete with **cake**, **dancing**, and a **photo booth**.

It was a **joyful** and **memorable** experience for everyone!



Week Ending 28th November 2025

Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematicia 
Nursery Mrs Guest	Teddy Hawser	Harper Bunn	Olivia Dunn	Hephzibah Jayeoba
YRC Miss Dixon	Junior Morgan	Alicia Edwards	River French	Rory Baker
YRK Miss Dignen	Ruby Bunn	Finley Ayre	Mason Walker	Max Kendall
Y1B Mrs Brown	Freya White	Elijah Wilson-Hill	Eddie Smithson	Dexter Dobson
Y2D Mrs Durham	Olivia-Jane Midgley	Delilah Dodds-Day	Bonnie-Rae Ferguson	Liam Turner
Mrs Thompson	Harry Robinson	Aysel Khan	Destiny Murray	Alfie Cain
Y3H Mr Horkan	Oliver Hall	Fionn Baker	Aria Dugdale	Saga Svedlund
Y4R Miss Robinson	Mark Bershadsky	Riley Titlestad	Olivia Wallace	Skyla Wilks
Y5SW Mrs Smith	Aalia Dobson	Scarlett Allon	Jake Marshall	Harley Wallace
Mrs Wilson	Jacob Edgar	Megan Squires	Charlie Owens	Alyza Bateman
Y6C Mrs Cowan	Jake Atkinson	Piper Noon	Finley Orley	Alyssa Frost-Usher
Y6M Mr McConnell	Hollie Dale	Landon Quinn	William Culley	Olivia-Grace Allison



YR & KS1
Dexter Dobson

Y3 & Y4
Keesha Griffin

Y5 & Y6
Amez Ali