

Weekly Newsletter 4th March 2024



Right of the Fortnight: Article 28:
Your right to an education



Dear Parents/Carers,

Our feet haven't touched the ground this week with so much happening around school. When we have spent time in classes this week we are always so **proud** of what we observe. We are biased, but at Oakdene we have the **BEST** pupils and the **BEST** teaching staff. We are in such a privileged position to witness learning at its very best. We are really looking forward to celebrating **World Book Day** on Thursday. Remember, if you are struggling with a costume choice, **pyjamas** are absolutely fine.

We would like to express our sincere **gratitude** for your **commitment** to ensuring your children's excellent **attendance** this week. Your **dedication** helps create a positive and **productive learning environment** for all our pupils. Regular attendance is crucial for **academic success**, and your support in this area is invaluable. Thank you again for your partnership in fostering a culture of **consistent** attendance.

Detailed information regarding the **parent/carer consultation evenings** is being prepared. Invitations will provide you with the option of face to face meetings or telephone consultations next week.

Mrs Jackson (Y6B TA) will be absent from school for a little while as she has recently been diagnosed with cancer and is required to undergo surgery. Mrs Jackson is very optimistic as the cancer has been spotted at the very early stages and other family members have made an excellent recovery. Our **positive thoughts** and **well wishes** are with Mrs Jackson. Miss Hunt will be supporting Miss Bestwick until Mrs Jackson returns fit and well.

Science Gadget Shop

We welcome the return of the our popular gadget shop for **British Science Week!** Every day, running from **Monday, 11th March** until **Thursday, 13th March**, the Y6s will be selling gadgets to all classes. Gadgets range from **50p to £2.50** and include finger flying rockets, fossil digging kits, volcano erupting sets, balloon racing cars and many more!

Have a super week!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne

Last week we held another highly successful **Open Morning** for the parents & Carers of Y3 pupils. The activities linked to **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)**. **They included: Science**—designing French themed shadow structures and investigating shadows, **Electrical Engineering**—creating an Eiffel Tower structure using newspaper and testing the strength of the materials, **Mathematics**—playing Mathopoly Arithmetic Challenge: Children v Parents/Carers! and the **Technology** coding and debugging using 'Alex'.



Dates For Your Diary - Spring Term

Tues 5th March	Y3 French Café Y5 Protected Characteristics Training with Picture News
Thurs 7th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y2 Pupils World Book Day & Readathon Celebration Dental Survey for some Reception and Y1 Children
Fri 8th March	Reception Visit Newham Grange Farm
Mon 11th March	Launch of British Science Week and Careers Week
Wed 13th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y4 Pupils
Fri 15th March	Red Nose Comic Relief Charity Day
Mon 18th March	Y2 Visit Washington Wetlands
Tues 19th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y5 Pupils
Fri 22nd March	World Maths Day Y5 Visit to Whitby
W/c 25th March	Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers
Wed 27th March	Y5/Y6 Hockey Event
Thurs 28th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Nursery Pupils <i>Children break up for Easter</i>

EASTER HOLIDAYS Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April

Mon 15th April Summer Term commences—children return to school

Mon 6th May **BANK HOLIDAY**

Mon 13th May -Thurs 16th May **Key Stage 2 SATs** are Timetabled

Half-term holiday runs from: Monday, 27 May to Friday, 7 June 2024 inclusive (two weeks). The children will break up on Friday, 24 May and will return to school on Monday, 10 June 2024.

2-week period commencing 10th June: **Y4 Multiplication Tables Check**

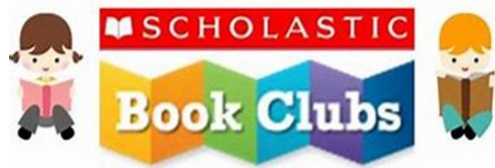
Week commencing 10th June: **Y1 Phonics Screening Check & Y2 Resits**



On **Friday, 15th March**, to raise money for **Comic Relief**, the **Rights Respecting Steering** Group have organised a non-school uniform day in exchange for a small donation. This year's theme is about **Doing Something Funny for Money**, because **poverty, conflict** and **climate change** are having devastating impacts on people around the world.

The children are more than welcome to wear a plastic-free red nose (available in supermarkets) and, as part of their outfit, we will be encouraging them to include something **red, black or white or a combination**. Please don't buy anything especially for this event. Just ensure that whatever your child decides to wear, it is both practical and appropriate for a day in school (including break and lunchtimes).





The Scholastic Book Club has now closed. A huge **THANK YOU** to the parents/carers who have purchased books totalling **£350**. This incredible effort has raised **£70** for our school to spend on books.



Promoting the Love of Reading

For children in hospital, books and stories are particularly important - they comfort, distract, reassure and entertain. **Read for Good** provides a regular supply of brand new books along with storyteller visits to brighten up the days of children in all of the UK's main children's hospitals.

It's been heart-warming to see the librarians organise this event and to hear the children talking about how the **Readathon** has kept them busy during the half term break.

Please complete the Readathon and return the Sponsor Cards to school on **World Book Day Thursday, 7th March 2024**.

All children who return their completed Sponsor Cards on World Book Day will be given a certificate & sticker for their participation.

These will be presented by Nichola from **Billingham Library** as well as our own **Oakdene librarians!**

If you are able to make a donation please do so via the website: www.readforgood.org.uk

- Select-Sponsor a Pupil (Blue Tab)
- Enter -Oakdene Primary Academy/
Billingham/TS23 3NR
- Select -Our school from the drop down list
- Donate -Choose amount or click other to enter your amount
- Complete -Your details including name, address & postcode
- Pay -By Direct Debit or Credit Card



We were delighted to receive another delivery of **World of Stories** books. The librarians were so excited to open them up, browse and stamp them.

Once they have been **categorised** using **Reading Cloud** the librarians are going to group the books according to our **Key Authors, Topics and Library Collections**.

There is a real buzz around reading and the **World of Stories** books has had such a positive impact by introducing children to **new titles, new authors** and books they wouldn't have previously read.

The staff were even trying to take copies for their classrooms this morning before they were even stamped!



Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from **Our Pupil Librarians**
£1 World Book Day Books
By various authors



The Pupil Librarians received a special preview of some of the £1 WBD titles. This included 2 books for our younger readers that take you on adventures through the jungle with 'Elmer' and at school with 'Greg the Sausage Roll.' For KS2 readers 5 action-packed stories about Marv, 3 thrilling tales about Loki and a mission to investigate a mystery with Onyeka.

Learning to ride a bike is a very important **skill**. Nursery pupil **Nathaniel Jeffries** has enjoyed taking part in **Manilla Cycling** sessions. Nathaniel was awarded with a **trophy** for persevering through the heavy rain and he continued to ride the whole session without stopping.

Very well done Nathaniel!



Y4 pupil **George Robinson** competed in the **regional qualifiers** for **trampolining** and **DMT**. George worked extremely hard for the comp putting in extra hours at the club and managed to hold his nerves on the day.

George reached the qualifying score in DMT and was placed **1st**. He will now progress to the **Regional Championship** in April.

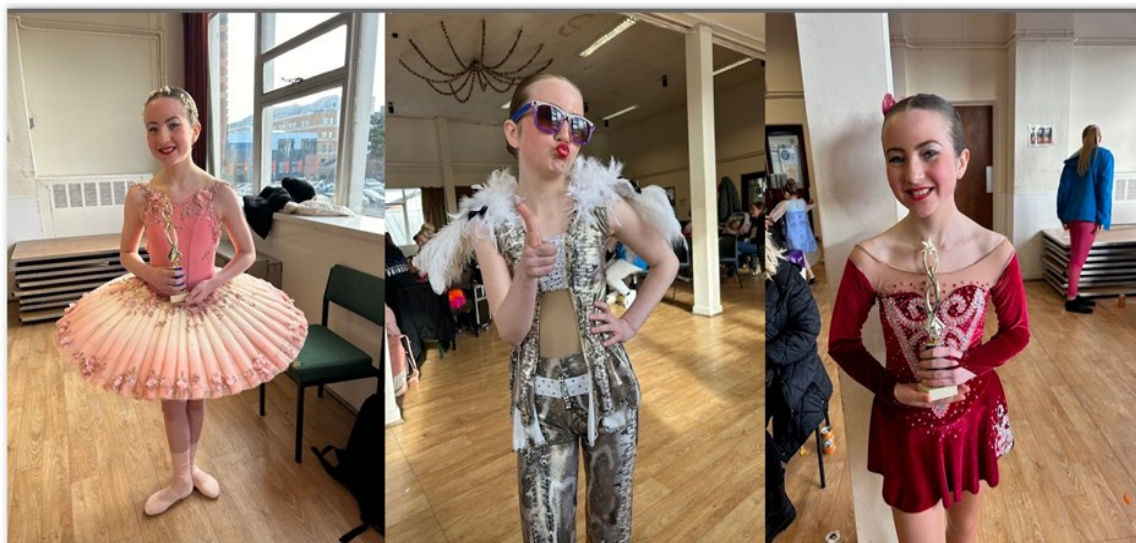
George also came **3rd** in his individual set and had two clean routines. George brought his two beautiful medals into celebration assembly last Friday. These achievements are **amazing!**



Y6 pupil **Emily Daniel** excelled in a recent dance competition. Emily placed in all seven of her dances, achieving an amazing **3 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze**. Emily qualified to the **supreme section** with her new song which features in the *Addams Family* musical.

The icing on the cake was that Emily was also awarded the **most promising 10-12-year-old** in the competition.

Thank you for sharing the video – you are so talented and we are all so proud of you!



Week Ending 1st March 2024
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Early Years Unit Mrs Guest	Jamie Hart	Nathaniel Jefferies	Freya White	Leighton Wardle
YR Miss Dixon	Amelia Wright	Katy Coates	Jack Bourne	Vinnie Westwood
Y1 Mrs Brown	Hunter Lake	Bella Mansell	Louis Ferguson	Oakley Harrison
Y2 Mrs Durham	Oliver Coates	Jack Blasco	Ivy-May Fiddes	Freddie Bell
Y3 Mr Horkan & Mr Brown	Reggie McCabe	Eliza-Grace Mack	Scarlett Allon	Sebastian Eley-Carberry
Y4R Miss Robinson	Frankie McQuilling	Olivia-Grace Allison	Leah Cooley	Lily Lloyd
Y4S Miss Smith	Landon Quinn	Fearne Fisher	Alyssa Frost-Usher	Nancy Green
Y5 Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Ellie Smith-Sewell	Morgan Titlestad	Indi Chesworth	Arta Ahmadi
Y6M Mr McConnell	Jake Cody	Trudi Langstaff	Rocco Garthwaite	Amelia Booth
Y6B Miss Bestwick	Meghan Dyson	Emily Daniel	Jack Tunney	Isabelle Bramley



YR & KSI :
Jack Blasco

Y3 & Y4:
Jake Marshall

Y5 & Y6:
Amelia Booth