



## Dates For Your Diary - Spring Term

RSPB Schools Big Bird Watch (8th Jan to 19th Feb)

Week Commencing 5th Feb **'Children's Mental Health Week'**

Mon 5th Feb Y1 Wheels Day

Tues 6th Feb Safer Internet Day

Y4 Visit York Chocolate Story

Thurs 8th Feb 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y6 Pupils

Mon 12th Feb Chinese New Year

Tues 13th Feb 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y1 Pupils

Shrove Tuesday

Thurs 15th Feb Y1 Visit to Shildon Railway Museum

Fri 16th Feb **PD Day 5 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)**

### HALF TERM

**Monday 19th February - Friday 23rd February**

**Monday 26th February Children Return to School**

Fri 1st March 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y3 Pupils

Week Commencing 4th March **Careers Week**

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

Wed 13th March 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y4 Pupils

Fri 15th March Red Nose Comic Relief Charity Day

Y1 Visit Shildon Railway Museum

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

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

**Children break up for Easter**

### EASTER HOLIDAYS

**Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April**

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



We love to hear about what children do beyond the school day and we celebrate their **achievements** in celebration assembly each Friday. We have many sports stars but your child may have been involved in **eco** projects, **craft** competitions, **music** festivals/exams, **fundraising** events etc.

Please email any news and photos to:-  
[oakdene@oakdeneprimary.org.uk](mailto:oakdene@oakdeneprimary.org.uk)



Y4 pupil **Finley Orley** demonstrated **excellent sportsmanship** at a recent football match. Finley was delighted to bring his 'Wristband Trophy' into school. Great to hear that pupils demonstrate **respectful relationships** beyond school.

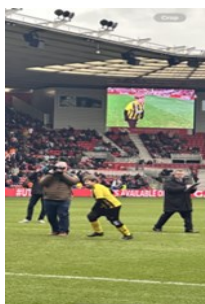
Our Year 5/6 Girls' football team took part in the Premier League Primary Stars Girls U11s Cup. As this is a **high standard of competition**, there was a lot of excellent football played on the day. Only 4 teams out of the 20 could progress to the semi-finals on the day.

Oakdene fought hard, with good **determination and terrific teamwork**, to gain a draw and a narrow 2-1 defeat to one of the semi-finalists. The team were a credit to our school in showing exemplary **sportsmanship** throughout.



Many children from our *Oakdene* family watched the *Middlesbrough Sunderland Derby* last Sunday, either in the comfort of their own home or at the *Riverside Stadium*. The staff were so proud to see how many children were invited to be involved representing *Billingham United FC*.

Riley Titlestad (Y2), Morgan Titlestad (Y5), Thea Birch (Y5) and Brienna May-Thomas (Y5) were delighted to hold **banners** and wave **flags** to honour their commitment to their local team. Y6 pupil, *Olly Harris* rose to the **challenge** of taking a **penalty** at half time. Y2 pupil *Roman Chesworth* was a **mascot** and walked out with **goalkeeper** Tom Glover and appeared on our TV screens. These **memories** will stay with the children forever. They all had an amazing day—despite the final score.





## Can you help?

Built on boldness...  
the **enquire**  
learning trust



We're fundraising for  
**Yorkshire Cancer Research**  
by collecting plastic milk bottle tops - any colour.

The bottle tops will then be sold to plastic recycling companies to raise funds for the charity, then made into plastic playground equipment, garden furniture and children's toys.

It's an easy way to help the charity, the environment, education and children across the country!

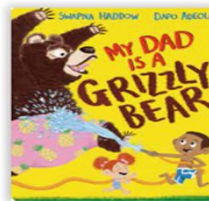
Your collection point is:

**Oakdene  
Primary  
Academy**



### Recommended Read

This week's recommended reads are from  
**Year 2 & Mrs Durham**  
**'My Dad is a Grizzly Bear' &**  
**'My Mum is a Lioness'**  
By **Swapna Haddow**



Award-winning author Swapna Haddow loves to write about animals and this week she delighted us by reading a chapter from her latest book, *Bad Panda*. To celebrate National Story Telling Week, KS1 enjoyed listening to *'My Mum is a Lioness'* & *'My Dad is a Grizzly Bear'*. These hilarious tales are about a wildly imaginative boy and his loving family. They are on display & available to read from our KS1 Wonderland Library.

## Fifteen is fantastic

Young people who read for 15 minutes a day...



Will do better in life

Will be exposed to 1.8 million words per year and have a better vocabulary

Will experience and develop imagination and creativity

Will have better general knowledge

Will have reduced stress levels

Will develop empathy and critical thinking skills

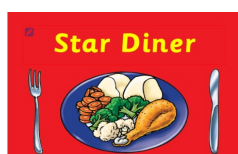
Will also get better at writing and speaking

Will find lessons more accessible and improve their exam results

Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a young person's future success - more than their family background, parents' educational background, or income.

Week Ending 2nd February 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	Rose Westmoreland	Jude Gibson	Wyatt Hold	Beau Mansell
YR Miss Dixon	Jack Bourne	Delilah Dodds-Day	Hallie Richardson	Caleb Jefferies
Y1 Mrs Brown	Ariana Wilson-Hill	Elsie Dinsdale-Swales	Hunter Lake	Lily Grantham
Y2 Mrs Durham	Freddie McQuilling	Niamh Bellew	Alex Wainwright	Max Prout
Y3 Mr Horkan & Mr Brown	Evie-Jayne Harrison	Albert Balanescu	Spencer Jardine	Milo Hancock
Y4R Miss Robinson	Toby Chocholko	Leah Cooley	Charlie Kibbler	Brooke Carse
Y4S Miss Smith	Eddie-James Midgley	Landon Quinn	Kain Carmichael	Kayci Scott-Mullin
Y5 Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Arta Ahmadi	Cassius Dobson	Jack Westmoreland	George Robinson
Y6M Mr McConnell	Olly Harris	Isaac Dobson	Lenny Hawkes	Ollie Smith
Y6B Miss Bestwick	Isabelle Bramley	Ceejay Chambers	Amelia Richards	Eleanor Lewis



YR & KSI  
Lola Pearce

Y3 & Y4  
Ben Bainbridge

Y5 & Y6  
Scarlett Rogers