



Right of the Fortnight: **Article 23:**  
**Your Right to Special Help  
and Support**



**Dear Parents/Carers**

The children at Oakdene have been learning about many festivals of light at this time of year, including Diwali and Hanukkah.

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. Our new school cook, Jenni Harding, is looking forward to serving **School Christmas Lunch on Thursday, 8th December.**

**Card Exchanges.**

This year we are aware that families are struggling with the cost of living crisis. If you choose to buy cards, children are welcome to **bring in cards for their own classmates or one card** that will be opened and shared with all by the class teacher. **Please continue to tuck envelopes in or use alternative methods to seal such as a wet sponge to prevent any transmission of germs.** This year we are able to allow children or families to bring cards to be posted in our **Christmas post box. Please check that children write the name of the class on the envelope.**

As usual children will still be taking part in **Christmas craft sessions** in school and will still be able to take home their own cards/calendars made at school.

We continue to really appreciate all your support and we will ensure that the children have an exciting build-up to the Christmas break.

Have a fantastic week everyone. Keep well and stay safe!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne



The **Mayor of Stockton**, Cllr Ross Patterson, the **Lord-Lieutenant** of County Durham, Sue Snowden, and some of our pupils planted **70 trees** as part of The **Queen's Green Canopy at Daffodil Park** in Billingham. We have received two emails already praising our pupils for being wonderful, eager to chat, able to outline the benefits of trees, and completely understanding the significance of the scheme. With a focus on **sustainability**, the Queen's Green Canopy will create a lasting **legacy** in honour of our late Queen's leadership of the Nation, which will benefit **future** generations. Thank you to Miss Leonard for organising this.



A former pupil, **Julie Harrison**, works at Teesside University and is passionate about promoting **Science and Engineering** to young people and demonstrating how industry is working on Climate Change. Julie led a workshop for Y6s, looking at the **United Nations' Global Goals**. They debated and discussed the simple steps we can make to reduce CO2 emissions. The children created a **pledge** based on their new knowledge which empowered them to **combat climate change**.



## Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Tues 6th Dec                       | Y4 TVMS Snappy Christmas at Thornaby Pavilion<br>PM - Mock Wedding for Reception Pupils   |
| Thurs 8th Dec                      | Christmas Lunch for Pupils & Staff ( <b>please book on MCAS</b> )   |
| Fri 9th Dec                        | Nursery Open Morning and Afternoon  |
| Tues 13th Dec                      | Nasal Flu Spray (Reception to Y6) ( <b>please book on portal</b> )  |
| Wed and Thurs<br>14th and 15th Dec | 2.00pm Nativity Performance for Parents & Carers of<br>Reception, Y1, Y2 and Willows  |
| Fri 16th Dec                       | 10.00am Tableau at St Luke's Church for Parents & Carers of<br>Y3 & Y4<br>Reception Theatre Visit 'How to Catch a Star'   |
| Mon 19th Dec                       | 9.10am Christingle at Oakdene for Parents & Carers of Y5 & Y6<br>AM and PM Little Sycamores and Nursery Christmas Parties<br>AM Reception Christmas Party<br>PM Y1 & Y2 Christmas Parties |
| Tues 20th Dec                      | AM Y3 & Y4 Christmas Parties<br>PM Y5 & Y6 Christmas Parties<br><b>Break up for Christmas Holiday</b>   |



**Wednesday, 21st December 2022 to Tuesday, 3rd January 2023  
Christmas Holiday**

**Wednesday, 4th January 2023 Spring Term Commences  
Pupils Return to School**

### **Punctuality - Be In School, Be on Time**

At Oakdene, **we monitor punctuality** as well as attendance. The law treats some **persistent lateness** in the same way as irregular attendance and parents / carers may be **prosecuted by the Local Authority** if late arrival is not resolved.

**Nursery doors open daily at 8:45am** and the rest of the **school starts at 8.55am**  
Please make sure your child is at school promptly so that they do not miss out on learning time.

Poor punctuality can lead to your child

- feeling embarrassed in front of their friends.
- missing the beginning of vital lessons.
- missing important instructions for the rest of the school day.



### *A message from the Eco-Council*

*How to be more sustainable when it comes to giving Christmas cards:*

- *Avoid buying any cards with glitter, sequins or plastic decorations on them.*
- *Buy cards in bulk to avoid unnecessary packaging.*
- *Buy them from local makers and reduce carbon footprint while supporting small businesses.*
- *Make your own cards by reusing bits at home.*
- *Buy plantable seed cards*
- *Recycle your cards into something new...get creative!*

The 'Twelve Days of Christmas Reading Challenge' will be launched today Monday, 5th December.

It will run over our final 12 days in school so will finish on the last day of term— Tuesday, 20th December 2022.

Keep reading!



### Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from Mrs Osborne  
**'The Snowman' by Michael Morpurgo**  
(Inspired by Raymond Briggs)



This is a delightful book, drawing on Raymond Briggs' wonderful illustrated, wordless story, *The Snowman*. Using some inspiration from the movie, and adding some bits and pieces from his own creative mind, it is a wonderful story, both familiar and with some new bits. With Grandma visiting and getting to experience the magic of Christmas with the Snowman, it makes this a family story, with Christmas customs.

The Friends of Oakdene Christmas Fayre took place on Friday, 2nd December. The Fayre raised an incredible **£929.00**. A huge thank you to Mrs Hood for coordinating this event, the Friends of Oakdene volunteers who made this event happen and for **Santa and his elf** making an exclusive appearance at such a busy time of year. We also thank all of you who donated items and supported the event, we really appreciate your support. This is our first big fundraising event in three years so THANK YOU to all. All raffle prizes have been claimed.

We sold lots of **high quality books** for both adults and children, the books which are unsold have been donated to a **charity**. Toys that were not sold are being passed onto a **local toy appeal**.



Week Ending 2nd December 2022  
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

| Class                             | Star of the Week<br> | Star Reader<br> | Star Writer<br> |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Morning Nursery<br>Mrs Guest      | Ivy Laing   | Hallie Richardson   | Nate Oliver  |
| Afternoon Nursery<br>Mrs Guest    | Elodie Richardson   | Izabella Matthews   | Ollie Fraser   |
| YR<br>Miss Robinson               | Jacob Jackson   | Ariana Wilson-Hill  | Charlie Beken  |
| Willows<br>Mrs Farnaby & Mr Brown | Alyza Bateman   | Harley Black  | Edward Gardiner-Jukes  |
| Y1L<br>Miss Leonard               | Leighton Daniels-Owen   | Isla O'Hare   | Alexander Wainwright   |
| Y2D<br>Mrs Durham                 | Beth Denmark  | Daisy Thompson  | Harley Wallace   |
| Y3/4H<br>Mr Horkan                | Kain Carmichael   | Amber Hammond   | Ava Hammond  |
| Y3L<br>Mrs Largan                 | George Reeve  | Annie-Mai Harris  | Leah Cooley  |
| Y4S<br>Miss Smith                 | Ellie Smith-Sewell  | Jack Westmoreland   | Daniel Young   |
| Y5W<br>Mrs Wilson                 | Haiden-Marc Cotterill   | Amelia Richards   | Ceejay Chambers  |
| Y5M<br>Mr McConnell               | Jack Tunney   | Kiera Ibbotson  | Lenny Hawkes   |
| Y6B<br>Miss Bestwick              | Jack Colley   | David Eguegu  | Lilly Jackson  |

**Star of the Week:** High no of Dojos, Rights Respecting both in class & at lunchtime, PE Readiness, read at home, learnt spellings etc

**Star Reader:** Read at least minimum number of times depending on key stage therefore in Reading Raffle, using myON at home etc

**Star Writer:** Joined handwriting, presentation of written work, creative content, quality/quantity of written work, correct letter sizes etc