

Weekly Newsletter 9th September 2024



**Right of the Fortnight: Article 8:
The Government should respect
your right to a name, nationality & family.**



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you all had a great summer break. Many of you have fed-back positively on how the shorter break has been beneficial. To those parents/carers who are new to the school, we extend a warm welcome to you. The term started for staff on Monday, 2nd September where we spent the days focusing on our Academy Improvement Plan and looking back and **celebrating our many successes** from the previous year. We also spent time updating annual **safeguarding training**. It was also a great opportunity to welcome back all members of staff.

It has been really fantastic to welcome the children back to school. Seeing **happy** and **excited** parents/carers and children walking through the gates was a wonderful experience. As we walked around school each day, it was brilliant to see our children **actively engaged in their learning** and generally delighted to be back to business. It also reminded us, being back amongst staff and children, what an amazing school we have the **privilege** to lead.

It is common for children to feel nervous about going back to school at the start of a **new term**. To help calm their nerves and make sure they are prepared for the school day, you could try: **Readjusting bedtimes** to get into a healthy routine - making sure they **sleep well** and are not taking their mobiles, tablets, or any devices to bed; Helping them to be organised—get the **correct uniform**, packed **lunches & water bottles** ready the night before & ensuring bookbags are returned **every Friday**; Making sure they eat **breakfast** every morning.

Attendance will be a continued focus this year as we have a 97% target to achieve. This only allows up to 5 days of absence in the school year. A big thank you to the majority of parents/carers who make sure their children attend school regularly! This school year, our **attendance rewards** will continue. These offer incentives on a weekly, termly and, of course, the chance to win a special treat for **100% attendance** for the whole school year. **If you are booking a holiday please take advantage of the two weeks in May & June. The Half-term holiday runs from: Monday, 26 May to Friday, 6 June 2025 inclusive (two weeks). The children will break up on Friday, 23 May and will return to school on Monday, 9 June 2025.**

The **'Weekly Newsletter'** will continue to be uploaded to the Newsletter section of the website. Paper copies will not be routinely sent home. **Please keep your phone details up-to-date and please be available should we need to contact you.**

Staff were delighted to attend two special **weddings** throughout the summer. Mrs Cowan and Mrs Ainsley enjoyed the most perfect days and looked absolutely beautiful.



What an exciting year we have ahead of us - we can't wait to see what we can achieve together.

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne

Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term

Week Commencing 2nd Sept: Pupil Voice Group Elections

Fri 13th Sept 1.30pm Open Afternoon for Parents & Carers of Y5 Pupils
Wed 18th Sept 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Reception Pupils
Y5 Sports Leader Training - AM

Week Commencing 16th Sept: Launch of Extra-curricular Clubs

Tues 24th Sept Celebrate European Day of Languages
Wed 25th Sept KS2 Cross Country event
Thurs 26th Sept Macmillan Coffee Morning
Fri 27th Nov **PD Day 2 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)**

OCTOBER

Tues 1st Oct **Black History Month**
Tag Rugby Festival - PM
Wed 2nd Oct 3.20pm Hallowe'en Costumes Shop (dining hall)
W/c Mon 7th Oct Libraries Week
Mon 7th Oct National Poetry Day
PM Y1 Visit Forum Theatre to see the Gruffalo
Tues 8th Oct 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y6 Pupils
Wed 9th Oct Y6 Pupils Visit Beamish Museum
Y1 Sports Festival

Tues 15th Oct 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y1 Pupils

Tues 22nd Oct 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y3 Pupils
Wed 23rd Oct Y2 Sports Festiva
Girls Y5/Y6 football (7Girls)
Hallowe'en Disco 4-4.50pm Y1-Y3 and Y4-Y6 5-6pm

Fri 25th Oct **Children Break Up for Half-Term**

Half-Term Break Monday, 28th Oct - Friday, 1st Nov

Wed 6th Nov 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y2 Pupils
Boys Y5/Y6 Football

Mon 11th Nov **Phototronics (Individual and Sibling Photos)**

Remembrance Day Activities
w/c Mon 11th Nov Parent Consultation Evenings (**No Extra-curricular Clubs this week**)
Wed 13th Nov Y3 Danelaw Viking Visit
Thurs 14th Nov Flu Nasal Spray (pupils from Rec-Y6)
Fri 15th Nov Children In Need Day

w/c Mon 18th Nov Road Safety Week & UK Parliament Week
Wed 27th Nov 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y4 Pupils
Fri 29th Nov **PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)**

Tues 3rd Dec 'School's Big Gig - Rocking Christmas' 1.30-2.30 at
Middlesbrough Town Hall.

Wed 4th Dec 3.30pm Friends of Oakdene Christmas Fair
Thurs 5th Dec Christmas Lunch

Mon 9th Dec 2.10pm Nativity Performance
Wed 11th Dec 2.10pm Nativity Performance
Fri 13th Dec 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Nursery Pupils

Tues 17th Dec 9.10am Y5 & Y6 Christingle, PM Y1 & Y2 Christmas Parties
Wed 18th Dec PM Y3 & Y4 Christmas Parties
Thurs 19th Dec AM and PM Little Sycamores and Nursery Christmas Parties
PM Reception Christmas Party
PM Y5 & Y6 Christmas Parties

Fri 20th Dec **LAST DAY OF TERM**

Christmas Holiday: Monday, 23rd December 2024 - Friday, 3rd January 2025

Children will return to school on Monday, 6 January 2025
(More dates will be confirmed shortly)



Attendance – September 2024

This attendance ladder is a clear visual aid which demonstrates that every day in school really does count.



Support and guidance on attendance is always available and if you have any questions about this, or if you need help to achieve an improvement, then please contact us to discuss this.

Attendance - Holiday Request Reminder

Parents and Carers are required under the Education Act (1996) to **ensure children attend school regularly**. The Principal of a school has a discretionary power to authorise absence only in exceptional circumstances.

A family holiday is not an exceptional circumstance. Family holidays in term time are not allowed in law and are very unlikely to be authorised. Taking children on leave without applying for authorisation may mean the school has to report your child as 'missing' to the local authority and holidays cannot be authorised retrospectively in law. The direct correlation between attendance and attainment is undeniable. Absence from school interrupts teaching and learning and compromises progress. **It creates further anxiety and children may struggle maintaining friendships.**

The government has made changes to the law relating to school attendance. **Penalty notices have increased** and there is now an **escalation process** for repeated offences which includes **prosecution or other legal interventions**.

Support and guidance is always available from school if you have any questions about attendance or if you need help to achieve an **improvement**.



**Attend Today,
Achieve Tomorrow...
Everyday counts!**

Milk and Fruit

Children in Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 receive free fruit each day. This is funded nationally. Children under 5 receive free milk. School funds this for all reception children even once they turn 5 as we feel this is really important to stay healthy.

Children in KS2 may bring in their own **healthy snacks** for break times (fresh or dried fruit/vegetables).

Please ensure your child continues to bring a water bottle filled with water only each day and this stays in their classroom. If they have a packed lunch, please add a separate drink into their packed lunches which stays in the dining hall.

Week Ending 6th September 2024
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs. Guest	Mylah Thompson	Oliver Metcalfe	Harper-Rose Hill	Rory Baker
YR Miss Dixon	Harriet Smith	Nellie Puckering	Elijah Wilson-Hill	Dexter Dobson
Y1 Mrs. Brown	Elliot Hardy	Olivia Curry	Delilah Dodds-Day	Harry Robinson
Y2 Mrs. Durham	Eli Prince	Noah Selvon	Mia Hudzicka	Henry Brown
Y3 Mr Horkan	Kian Jewson	Lola Pearce	Riven Mansell	Lillymae Morgan
Y4 Miss Robinson	Isaac Cummings	Archie Donnelly	Aalia Dobson	Leanne Fletcher
Y5SW Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Jake Atkinson	Dolly Rogers	Elliot Lambert	Amez Ali
Y5M Mr McConnell	Kayci Scott-Mullin	Ben Bainbridge	Lily Daniel	George Reevell
Y6 Mrs Cowan	Joey Marshall	Zia Kelly-Bostock	Brienna May-Thomas	George Robinson



YR & KSI
Caleb Jefferies

Y3 & Y4
Riley Titlestad

Y5 & Y6
Autumn Lonsdale