

Weekly Newsletter
9th December 2024



Right of the Fortnight: Article 14:
Your right to follow your own religion



Dear Parents/Carers

The end of term is fast approaching and there is a festive feel in the air. We are looking forward to **opening our doors this week** on Monday and Wednesday to welcome families of Early Years and KS1 children to watch our **Christmas Nativity, starting at 2.10pm**. Our children have been rehearsing their lines and words to songs. You are in for a real treat from what we've heard so far!

At 9.10am next **Tuesday, 17th December**, parents and carers of Y5 & Y6 pupils are invited to join us for the **Christingle** service in the main hall at Oakdene.

Next week, **Christmas parties** will take place and we thank you for bringing in your £1 donations so that teachers can buy the party food. The Christmas parties will be **extra special** this year - a special mention for the very generous **donation from one family, which will make a difference** to the quality of prizes for party games.

The Friends of Oakdene Christmas Fair took place on Wednesday, 4th December. The Fair raised an incredible **£1077.41!** A **huge thank you** to Mrs Jackson for coordinating this event and the **Friends of Oakdene** volunteers who made this event happen.

The children were delighted to see **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 do appreciate your support.



Have a good week!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne

Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us at St Luke's Church last Friday for a truly special **Y3 /Y4 Christmas Tableau**. The **joyous singing**, the **confident readings** and the **enthusiasm** of the children really set the standard for the start of our Christmas performances. Jack the **donkey** provided that extra little bit of Christmas **magic**, once again, and appeared to enjoy the singing—so much so he was a little reluctant to leave the church. A **big thank you** to the wonderful Y3/Y4 Teaching Team for making this happen.



Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term

DECEMBER

Mon 9th Dec	2.10pm Nativity Performance
Tues 10th Dec	Y5 Visit Centre for Life, Newcastle
Wed 11th Dec	2.10pm Nativity Performance
Thurs 12th Dec	AM Y1 Christmas Event at St Aidan's Church 10.30am Reception visit Arc - 'The Light Princess'
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



We are so proud of our determined Y3s who participated in a **speed stacking** competition at Durham University **Queen's Campus**. Overall, it was a fantastic event, and the children thoroughly enjoyed it and demonstrated amazing **teamwork**. The activities were **engaging**, well thought out, and created a positive buzz among the children and staff.

Oakdene placed **first** in the competitive element out of all of Stockton as they achieved the quickest time once again! All children and staff were rewarded with a **gold medal**. We are immensely proud of you all!

The children enjoyed trying something new and **pupil voice** have suggested purchasing our own **speed stacking equipment** to practise stacking and set up their own speed stacking club. Speed stacking has many **benefits** and can improve children's hand eye co-ordination and fine motor skills which can help with things like handwriting.



Amelia Wright (Y1) & her sister **Alysa Frost-Usher** (Y5) have been very successful in recent dance examinations at the **Heritage Dance Studio**. Amelia was awarded two medals and **Starlite Award** certificates for 'Jack in the Box' & 'Tiny Taps' and was praised for her **timing**. Alysa received two medals and certificates of merit and was **highly commended** for her **confidence** in the **pre-bronze modern dance** & commended in the **pre-bronze tap**.



Y1 pupil **Jack Bourne** competed at his first **Trampoline competition** over the weekend.

He did a fabulous job. Jack completed an individual **display** and one with a partner. He now has two **medals** for his collection.

Very well done!



Y2 pupil **Arabella Sedgwick** enjoyed gymnastics club so much that she has continued her passion and now attends **Velocity**.

Arabella was bursting with pride to share her certificate & wristband in recognition for **Gymnastics Proficiency Award Level 1!**



Y1 pupil **Darcy Hammond** was delighted to have been nominated as a '**Sports Champion**' for joining in games and being a **team player**.

What a **superstar!**



Y4 pupil **Scarlett Allon** achieved her **yellow belt with orange tag** at her latest grading examination at **Zi Shixing Tang Soo Do**.

Congratulations!

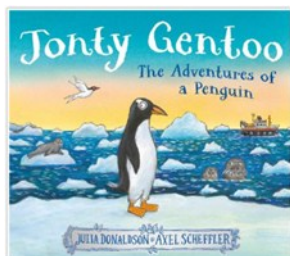
Y4 attended the '**School's Big Gig - Rockin' Christmas Event**' at Middlesbrough Town Hall last week. Apollo Arts delivered a **magical singalong** with a **live band** and the children enjoyed participating in lots of **musical games**.

We were incredibly proud of how the children performed with great **confidence** and **maturity**. We received lots of positive comments about the children's **exemplary** behaviour.



Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from
Mrs Thompson
'Jonty Gentoo'
By **Julia Donaldson**



This story has a lovely message about finding your place in the world. It is an irresistible rhyming picture book where you join a plucky little penguin on the journey of a lifetime. He escapes from the zoo on an adventure-packed bid to reach the South Pole.

Winter Reading Challenge:

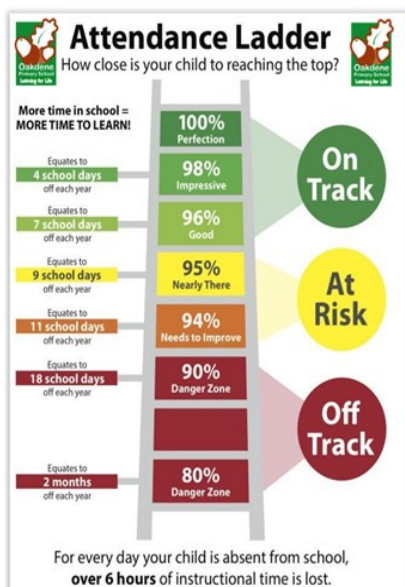
You can access this via wintermini.org.uk
Rate and **review** three or more books to unlock a special **virtual badge** and **certificate**.

There is a mini **Reading Record** which will be printed out for all children from YR to Y6 to go home in book bags this Friday - Librarians will distribute these. **Once completed, please return to school to receive 10 Dojos.**



Attendance

Unfortunately, our attendance has fallen well below our expectations this week. Please make every effort to ensure children are in school every day! I am aware that it is that time of year with lots of bugs lingering around, but if your child is well enough to come to school, please send them in. If they are too poorly during the school day, we will contact you.



Punctuality

At Oakdene, we monitor punctuality as well as attendance. The law treats some persistent lateness in the same way as irregular attendance and parents may be prosecuted by the Local Authority if late arrival is not resolved. All pupils in Reception to Y6 should be ready to enter school at 8:50am.

Please make sure your child is at school on time so that they do not miss out on learning time.

Poor punctuality can lead to your child:

Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day.




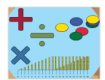
Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends.

Missing the beginning of vital lessons.

BE ON TIME AT TEN TO NINE



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

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs Guest	Alfie Lynch	Eleanor Sutheran	Sophia Peers	Archer Dixon
YR Miss Dixon	Annie Tunney	Wyatt Hold	Isaac Stewart	Alaia Cunningham
Y1 Mrs Brown & Mrs Thompson	Katy Coates	Olivia-Jane Midgley	Caleb Jefferies	Altay Arslan
	Isabel Liddle	Aysel Khan	Prashwita Bhimavarapu	Nate Oliver
Y2 Mrs Durham	William Nimmo	Gia Hindmarsh	Sava Ali	Charlie Beken
Y3 Mr Horkan	Alex Wainwright	Lilly Dixon	Oliver Coates	Roman Chesworth
Y4 Miss Robinson	Aalia Dobson	Evie-Jayne Harrison	Theo Smith-Sewell	Quinn Parkin
Y5SW Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Max Devlin	Ava Hammond	Piper Noon	Autumn Lonsdale
Y5M Mr McConnell	William Hawser	Logan Daniels-Owen	Landon Quinn	Florence Bruce
Y6 Mrs Cowan	Brienna May-Thomas	Morgan Titlestad	Tyler Curry	Hayden Jackson



YR & KS1
Charlie Beken

Y3 & Y4
Charlotte Eley-Carberry

Y5 & Y6
Ben Bainbridge