

Weekly Newsletter
10th March 2025



Right of the Fortnight: Article 28:
Your right to learn & go to school



Dear Parents/Carers,



At Oakdene we had an amazing time celebrating **World Book Day** last Thursday and it was wonderful to see staff and children in their costumes. It was all about the three Cs: **cosy**, book **characters** or future **career** aspirations as it was **National Careers week**. It was wonderful to see the wide variety of careers the children chose, from astronaut to surgeon, cat-sitter to Olympic swimmer! We also used our oracy skills on Talk Tuesday to discuss careers, thinking about the career we would like in the future and what skills we would need for different jobs. A huge **thank you** to all parents and carers for showing how creative you can be!



The **Readathon** created a real buzz around school and raised an incredible **£901** to support children in local hospitals. We were overwhelmed with the **generosity** of family members despite challenging times with rising food and energy costs.



As reading remains a huge focus in school, we want every child to be able to read **fluently** and we know home reading is just as essential in creating those fluent readers. The children were also served with an extraordinary **World Book Day Themed Menu** from our amazing catering team.



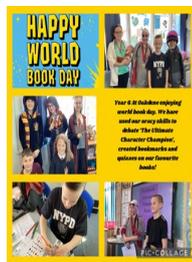
Keep reading!



Enjoy your week!



Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne



'Pantastic' Y1 Open Morning

It was great to see so many parents & carers attend an informative open day mostly linked to **Shrove Tuesday**. The children used their **maths skills** to measure and weigh the ingredients to make their pancake batter which, in turn, they applied their **food technology skills** to create their own pancakes, with a little help from their parents and carers. The children **surveyed** different toppings on their pancakes. Everyone had great fun with the **pancake race** obstacle course with Mr McConnell and our Y5 sports leaders. Mrs Osborne also led **oracy** activities and shared **texts** linked to 'Pancakes'.

Thank you all for coming!



Dates For Your Diary - Spring Term



Mon 10th March	Launch of British Science Week
Tues 11th March	Y1 Visit Shildon Railway Museum Y5/Y6 Dance City Workshops
Wed 12th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y3 Pupils
Tues 18th March	Y2 Snappy Spring Music Event @ Thornaby Pavilion - AM
Weds 19th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y4 Pupils Y2 Visit the Washington Wetland Centre
Fri 21st March	Red Nose Comic Relief Charity Day
Mon 24th March	World Maths Day
Mon 24th—Wed 26th March	Y5M attend Trust Residential at Streonshalh Field Study Centre, East Whitby Primary Academy, Whitby.
Wed 26th March—Fri 28th March	Y5SW Attend Trust Residential
Tues 1st April	12 Pupils from Y5/Y6 Hockey at Norton Sports Complex
W/c 7th April	Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers - PM
Fri 4th April	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Nursery Pupils
Thurs 10th April	Height & Weight Checks for Pupils in Rec & Y6
Fri 11th April	Children break up for Easter

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday, 14th April - Friday, 25th April

Mon 28th April Summer Term Commences - Children Return to School

Mon 5th May **BANK HOLIDAY - School closed**

Mon 12th May -Thurs 15th May **Key Stage 2 SATs** are Timetabled

Half-term holiday runs from:

Monday, 26th May to Friday, 6th June inclusive (two weeks).

The children will break up on:

Friday, 23th May and will return to school on Monday, 9th June.

Week commencing 9th June - School to Administer checks for:

Y1 Phonics Screening, Y2 Resits and Y4 Multiplication Tables

We aim to expose pupils to a full range of sports. **Team Rubicon** led safe and stimulating **Skateboarding Workshops** for all children from Y1–Y6.

Wheeled sports are great activities to promote to young people as they provide **great exercise**, promote a healthy lifestyle and teach broader **life skills** such as appreciation and **collaboration**.



Science Gadget Shop



The return of the gadget shop!

Our popular gadget shop is returning for **British Science Week!**

Every day, running from **Tuesday, 11th March** until **Thursday, 13th March**, the Y5s 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!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from

Mrs Thompson
'The Kindest Red'
by
Ibtihaj Muhammad



Celebrate Ramadan through a range of books. This is an important and uplifting story about celebrating each other's differences and similarities written by Olympic medallist Ibtihaj Muhammad.

Key Stage 2 celebrated **International Women's Day** by taking part in a series of workshops, delivered by **Big Foot Arts**. Children found out about the contributions many **inspirational** women made across fields like science, sports, music, activism and politics.

The **'Rebel Women'** workshops, explored the lives of many unknown pioneering women from Northumberland girl, **Grace Darling**, who risked her life to rescue shipwrecked survivors in the North Sea, to lesser-known Hollywood actress and **pioneering** inventor, **Hedy Lamarr**. Through drama, the children acted out their stories and many were left inspired by the **courage** and **determination** of these women.



On **Friday, 21st March**, to raise money for **Comic Relief**, the **Right Respecting Steering Group** have organised a non-school uniform day in exchange for a small donation.

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).



As part of their **farm topic**, we were very lucky to receive some eggs to hatch in the Reception (YR) classroom. They arrived in an **incubator** to keep them warm. Miss Dixon taught the children about their **life-cycle** and within the first day of having the eggs, two had hatched! The chicks were very wet and tired. Once the chicks were dry, we moved them into the **brooder cage**. By Friday, we had nine very fluffy and **healthy** chicks. At first, the chicks loved being handled but as they grew, they preferred to run around, **flapping their wings**! YR had a class **vote** to decide on their names.



Y3 pupil, **Lola Pearce**, attends S&N Dance in Billingham. Lola **competed** on Sunday and **performed** her tap solo dance for the second time in the novice section. She was **placed first!** Amazing! Now Lola has **progressed** to the open section for the next competition.



Y2 pupil, **Fionn Baker**, has been trying to master **backstroke**. Fionn has developed his **technique & body position** to conquer this challenging stroke. Fionn is rightly proud to have **achieved** his 5 metres.

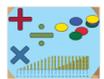


It's fantastic to see so many girls enjoying football. Y4 pupil, **Anna Cooley**, was recognised as being '**Awesome**' at her football training. Anna knows that there are so many careers linked to football - from playing to watching, coaching to refereeing!

*Ramadan is celebrated by Muslims globally. **Ramadan Mubarak** to all our Oakdene families who observe Ramadan!*



Week Ending 7th March 2025
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs Guest	Mia Campbell	Jensen Langstaff	Lewis Daniels-Owen	Harper Rose-Hill
YR Miss Dixon	Ivy Laing	Poppy Daniel	Oscar Stainsby	Nellie Puckering
Y1 Mrs Brown & Mrs Thompson	Jaxon Moutrey	Harper Cooper	Elodie Richardson	Scarlett Van Wyk
	Delilah Dodds-Day	Elliot Hardy	Dylan Allon	Tommy Wilks
Y2 Mrs Durham	Miley Dodds-Day	Henry Brown	Saga Svedlund	Lincoln Wardle
Y3 Mr Horkan	Max Prout	Freddie Bell	Olivia Wallace	Lilly Dixon
Y4 Miss Robinson	Eliza-Grace Mack	Lily Charlton	Lacie Love	Evie Richardson
Y5SW Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Dolly Rogers	Harry Laws	Ava Hammond	Skye Stainsby
Y5M Mr McConnell	Annie Murray	Lily Lloyd	Alyssa Frost-Usher	Logan Daniels-Owen
Y6 Mrs Cowan	Ellie Smith-Sewell	Hayden Jackson	Eliza Unsworth	Kara Dixon

	YR & KSI Isaac Stewart	Y3 & Y4 Junior Hindmarsh	Y5 & Y6 Dolly Rogers
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