

Weekly Newsletter
10th October 2022



Right of the Fortnight: Article 16:
You have the right to privacy



Dear Parents/Carers

We were delighted to welcome back into school the **Open the Book** team from the Parish. Volunteers from our local parish work with KS1 children to dramatise stories from the Bible and help us reflect on these. All the children get an opportunity to take part during their time in school. The first story was called 'At the Start'.

At Oakdene we are always trying to promote **reading for pleasure**. As we launched 'Libraries Week' we found out that an incredible **35** Oakdene pupils completed this year's exciting Summer Reading Challenge. Children needed to read **SIX** books from the library. Mrs Osborne presented wooden medals and certificates to twelve pupils as a lasting reminder of the reading they have completed over the summer. Some children may have completed the challenge and received their certificates and medals at the library.

Congratulations to you all and **keep reading!**

Enjoy your week!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne



It was fantastic to welcome so many parents & carers of Y1 pupils during the **Autumn themed open morning**. The children followed a simple recipe to make Percy's favourite **shortbread leaf biscuits**, created a tree through the **4 seasons of Percy's Park**, browsed our reading book scheme & found out more about **reading** in Y1 (including demonstrations of Lexia and MyOn) and joined staff from the local **library** to share **autumnal stories** and join the library.



Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term

OCTOBER

Black History Month

Mon 10th Oct Billingham Food Bank Assembly
 Tues 11th Oct 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y5 Pupils
 Wed 12th Oct Y4 Visit to Housestead Roman Fort
 Thurs 13th Oct KS2 'All Aboard the Sea Monster'
 Fri 14th Oct KS1 Open the Book

Mon 17th Oct Y6 Children Challenging Industry
 Tues 18th Oct KS1 & KS2 Hallowe'en Discos
 Wed 19th Oct 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y3 Pupils
 Thurs 20th Oct Foodbank Collection
 Fri 21st Oct Superhero Day for Reception Pupils
 Victorian Day for Y6 Pupils

Fri 21st Oct *Children break up for half term*

**Mon 24th Oct - Fri 28th Oct
 October Half-Term Break**

Mon 31st Oct PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)

Fri 11th Nov 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y2D and Y2W Pupils

Wed 16th Nov 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y4S Pupils



Hallowe'en Disco - Tuesday, 18th October 2022



The Hallowe'en Disco has been planned for **Tuesday, 18th October**. The DJ is booked! Tickets will be available from the class teachers from **Monday, 10th October** for £3.00 in CASH. This includes the price of a hot dog, a drink and sweets.



As usual this event will be organised as two separate discos.

We have tried to invite reception and nursery pupils historically, however, they became too distressed. KS1 (Y1, Y2 and Willows) disco will be **4.00-4.50pm** and **KS2** will be **5.00-6.00pm**.



All children will need to be dropped off at the main entrance, KS1 at 4.00pm and KS2 at 5.00pm. KS1 (Year 1 and 2) pupils should be collected at 4.50pm from the dining hall (KS2 yard) to avoid congestion as the KS2 pupils arrive.



KS2 pupils should be collected from the main entrance at 6.00pm. It's going to be frighteningly fantastic!



We are also offering a '**re-spook, re-wear & re-scare**'; we will be inviting parents/carers (& staff!) to bring in any **gently worn Halloween costumes**, accessories, masks etc by 10th October. Then we'll make these available to buy for a small donation.



Libraries Week

Libraries week is an annual showcase and celebration of the best that libraries have to offer, and highlighting the central role that libraries play in supporting life-long learning. On Tuesday, 4th October, Nichola from Billingham Library promoted our local library & invited parents/carers to sign their child up with a Library Card from 8.30am in the Reading Retreat - 56 families joined up!

Nichola lead a story themed activity as part of the Y1 Open Morning and also delivered Story Time with Early Years pupils.



Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from Miss Leonard—Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History by Vashti Harrison.



Be bold. Be courageous.

Be you. Be true.

That's the message of this empowering, informative, and beautifully illustrated book. She tells the stories of both iconic and less well-known female figures of black history, including:

Nurse Mary Seacole

Politician Diane Abbott

Mathematician Katherine Johnson &

Singer Shirley Bassey

The theme this year for National Poetry Day was 'The Environment'.

Children in Early Years shared some environment-themed rhymes & songs. Y1-Y3 Focused on 'Nature Trail' They read it! Talked about it! and Reflected on it! Y1s illustrated it/created a picture & the Y3s composed a verse about their garden/ local park/nearest green space.' Y4-Y6 Focused on 'Sun Kenning' They read it! Thought about it! and Performed it! Some pupils created their own 'kenning' based on another aspect of the environment.



School Attendance - Early Collection & Medical Appointments

We have seen a real increase in children being collected early for various appointments / reasons during the school day. This can be very disruptive for your child, for staff and for their class as a whole.

We would encourage you, where possible, to make appointments for out of school hours. We will always ask to see a copy of the appoint letter / Card for our records.

We are mindful that some hospital appointments are difficult to change but these should be the exception. If you will be late picking up your child because you have an appointment yourself, please try to arrange for someone else to collect your child at the end of the school day rather than disturbing their learning. Staff will always ask for any password you have given to the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

We always like to know about what pupils achieve beyond school.

One of our nursery pupils - Caleb Jefferies - ran his first mini Great North Run last weekend. Caleb completed the 1.16km course in 13 minutes 49 seconds. He also raised £40 for Daisy Chain.

Very well-done Caleb we are so proud of you!



Key dates for secondary school admissions 2023

We do hope that most Y6 pupils will have taken the opportunity to visit secondary school open evenings last week.

Mrs Hood can offer support to parents / carers for printing, answering questions or completing application forms.

**The deadline for all applications is:
31st October 2022**

As a part of their **Victorian** topic, Y6 visited Preston Hall Museum to engage in a Washday Workshop.

They found out what a laborious job washing clothes was for the servants at Preston Hall. The session included washing with carbolic soap, using a water pump, putting clothes through a mangle and using the heavy irons. The children also created their own wooden peg just as children in Victorian times would have done.

The children also had the opportunity to dress up in Victorian clothes and take some photographs. They are simply stunning!



Week Ending 7th October 2022
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

| Class | Star of the Week  | Star Reader  | Star Writer  |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Morning Nursery Mrs Guest | Lucas Jardine | Harrison Dent | Harry Robinson |
| Afternoon Nursery Mrs Guest | Louie Walker | Caleb Jeffries | Ruben Black |
| YR Miss Robinson | Mia Hudzicka | Gia Hindmarsh | Arabella Sedgewick |
| Willows Mrs Farnaby & Mr Brown | Theo Smith-Sewell | Eliza Copland | Harley Black |
| Y1L Miss Leonard | Lilly Dixon | Niamh Bellew | Frankie Jeffrey |
| Y2D Mrs Durham | Evie Richardson | Sebastian Eley-Carberry | Sophie Squires |
| Y3/4H Mr Horkan | Skye Stainsby | Logan Daniels-Owen | Ava Hammond |
| Y3L Mrs Largan | Florence Bruce | Lily Daniel | Brooke Carse |
| Y4S Miss Smith | Arta Ahmadi | Jack Wilks | Ellie Smith-Sewell |
| Y5W Mrs Wilson | Mylah Bruce | Rocco Garthwaite | Amelia Booth |
| Y5M Mr McConnell | Kallum Squires | Joe Gardiner | Zac Dale |
| Y6B Miss Bestwick | Coden Owens | Toree Wardle | Lily Dodds-Day |

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