

## Weekly Newsletter 12th February 2024



**Right of the Fortnight: Article 29:**  
Your right to become  
the best you can be.



**Dear Parents/Carers,**

### **Mental Health Week**

This week, we joined millions around the world to celebrate **Children's Mental Health Week!** This year's theme, "**My Voice Matters**", reminds us that everyone has the right to speak up and be heard, especially when it comes to our feelings. Mrs Osborne started the week with an inspirational whole-school assembly about children who have used their voices to enable change. So let your voices ring out loud and proud this Children's Mental Health Week! Together, we can build a school community where everyone feels heard and supported.

### **Internet Safety Day**

To celebrate and raise awareness for Internet Safety Day this year's theme "**Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online**". The children enjoyed designing classrooms for the **future** and shared amazing ideas how technology could be used in 2040.



Please remember, the last day for pupils to attend school this half-term is on Thursday, 15th February. Staff have a **PD Day on Friday, 16th February**. We look forward to seeing you on **Monday, 26th February 2024**.

We are really looking forward to seeing you all back after the half-term break where we have so much more planned. Don't forget that **World Book Day** is on Thursday, 7th March 2024, this gives you time to sort out costumes and outfits for this special day.

Wishing you all a very **happy half-term** break - Enjoy!  
Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne

Last week we held an extremely successful **Open Morning** for the Parents & Carers of Y6 pupils. The activities linked to **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths).

They included: **Science**—making bread and butter, and **Electrical engineering**—creating a circuit using lemons as a battery . The children applied their **Technology** by creating their own online app and as part of **children's mental health week** Y6's were reminded of the benefits of reading for pleasure.



## Dates For Your Diary - Spring Term

Mon 12th Feb	Chinese New Year
Tues 13th Feb	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y1 Pupils
	Shrove Tuesday
Thurs 15th Feb	Y1 Visit to Shildon Railway Museum
Fri 16th Feb	<b>PD Day 5 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)</b>

### HALF TERM

**Monday, 19th February - Friday 23rd February**

**Monday, 26th February Children Return to School**

Fri 1st March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y3 Pupils
Week Commencing 4th March	Careers Week
Thurs 7th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y2 Pupils
	World Book Day & Readathon Celebration
	Dental Survey for some Reception and Y1 Children
Fri 8th March	Reception Visit Newham Grange Farm
Mon 11th March	Launch of British Science Week
Wed 13th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y4 Pupils
Fri 15th March	Red Nose Comic Relief Charity Day
Mon 18th March	Y2 Visit Washington Wetlands
Tues 19th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y5 Pupils
Fri 22nd March	World Maths Day
	Y5 Visit to Whitby
W/c 25th March	Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers
Wed 27th March	Y5/Y6 Hockey Event
Thurs 28th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Nursery Pupils
	<b>Children break up for Easter</b>

### EASTER HOLIDAYS

**Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April**

**Mon 15th April Summer Term commences—children return to school**

Mon 6th May **BANK HOLIDAY**

Mon 13th May - Thurs 16th May **Key Stage 2 SATs** are Timetabled

Half-term holiday runs from: Monday, 27 May to Friday, 7 June 2024 inclusive (two weeks). The children will break up on Friday, 24 May and will return to school on Monday, 10 June 2024.

2-week period commencing 3rd June: **Y4 Multiplication Tables Check**

Week commencing 10th June: **Y1 Phonics Screening Check & Y2 Resits.**



Y2 pupil, **Malachi Worth**, proudly represented his football team, **Billingham United** under 7's, and enjoyed a fantastic opportunity to wave the Boro flags around the side of the pitch at the recent derby as the players came on at the beginning of the game.



Y4 pupil, **Lily Lloyd**, was beaming with pride as she shared her recent success in gymnastics. The **Stage 6** certificate recognised Lily's flexibility, strength and technique.



Y1 pupil, **Zayn Gibson**, has always enjoyed an active lifestyle. Zayn recently moved from Bahrain and has impressed Wynyard Village Football Club with his amazing **passing** and **dribbling skills**. Zayn was recognised for his **confident** ball control with a trophy. Very well done!



Y1 pupil, **Neave Bateman**, was very excited to achieve her stage 5 **gymnastics** certificate. Neave shared that she has perfected her headstand which requires **strength** and **balance**.



*Wheels Day* Last week—Y1 pupils were invited to bring '**wheeled toys**' into school to explore the different features they each have, how they work and how different they are.

*They spent time talking about how to **keep safe** when riding them and **practised crossing a role play road**. Fun was had by everyone and we look forward to seeing some **excellent** wheels-related writing!*



As part of the **history** curriculum, Y4 visited **York's Chocolate Story** to explore the world of the ancient **maya** and their unforgettable **legacy** which is still influencing **modern-day** life. They learnt about the importance of the **cocoa bean** from its use as **currency**, to a bitter drink consumed by the wealthy, as well as their part in the creation of the chocolate we know and love today. The highlight for many was the opportunity to create their very own version of **Xocolat** drink. This provided further **cross-curricular** links to **Geography** and **Mathematics**.





## Can you help?

Built on boldness...  
the **enquire**  
learning trust



We're fundraising for  
**Yorkshire Cancer Research**  
by collecting plastic milk bottle tops - any colour.

The bottle tops will then be sold to plastic recycling companies to raise funds for the charity, then made into plastic playground equipment, garden furniture and children's toys.

It's an easy way to help the charity, the environment, education and children across the country!

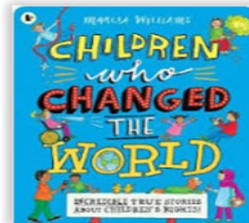
Your collection point is:

**Oakdene  
Primary  
Academy**



## Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from  
Year 5, Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith  
'Children who Changed the World'  
By Marcia Williams



This remarkable book tells the true stories of children who stood up for their rights and why their voice matters. Y5s explored children's rights and learnt more about inspiring role models from familiar heroes such as Malala Yousafzai, to the amazing activists you might not have heard of, like Baruani Ndume, the teenager who gave a voice to fellow refugee children in Tanzania. This is a must read!

## Fifteen is fantastic

Young people who read for 15 minutes a day...



Will do better in life

Will be exposed to 1.8 million words per year and have a better vocabulary

Will experience and develop imagination and creativity

Will have better general knowledge

Will have reduced stress levels

Will develop empathy and critical thinking skills

Will also get better at writing and speaking

Will find lessons more accessible and improve their exam results



Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a young person's future success - more than their family background, parents' educational background, or income.

Week Ending 9th February 2024  
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Early Years Unit Mrs Guest	Aubree Kitchen	Emmie Marshall	Coen Beadle	Grace Harris
YR Miss Dixon	Liam Turner	Izzabella Matthews	Ruben Black	Amelia Wright
Y1 Mrs Brown	Lily Grantham	Noah Selvon	Esmea Skipp	Brianna Pearce
Y2 Mrs Durham	Ivy-May Fiddes	Lilly Dixon	Leo Archer	Olivia Wilkinson
Y3 Mr Horkan & Mr Brown	Isaac Cummings	Joseph Cooper	Jake Marshall	Oscar Prince
Y4-R Miss Robinson	Leah Cooley	Jake Atkinson	Dolly Rogers	Logan Daniels-Owen
Y4-S Miss Smith	Florence Bruce	Amber Hammond	Fearne Fisher	Alyssa Frost-Usher
Y5 Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Eliza Unsworth	Hayden Jackson	Yener Arslan	Tyler Curry
Y6M Mr McConnell	Arez Ali	Jake Cody	Aiden-James Finley	Kallum Squires
Y6B Miss Bestwick	Kiera Ibbotson	James Luker	Zac Dale	Lucan Fletcher



YR & KSI  
Tommy Wilks

Y3 & Y4  
Evie Richardson

Y5 & Y6  
Joe Gardiner-Jukes