Weekly Newsletter 13th October 2025



Right of the Fortnight: Article 16:

Your right to have privacy





Dear Parents/Carers,

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We are now fully immersed into the academic year and I can't believe that we are already nearly at the end of the first half term. It has been wonderful to see the **progress** the children have made and the **enthusiasm** that they are putting into their learning. I have been particularly impressed by our youngest children in Nursery and Reception who are already demonstrating an **excellent aptitude for learning.**

On Friday, 10th October it was **World Mental Health Day.** The aim of the day was to raise awareness of mental health and to drive positive change for everyone's well being. Reading is a powerful way to relax, lift your mood, and take a break from everyday life — and it doesn't have to be a book! Whether it's the post-match analysis from Saturday's football game, an interview with your favourite actor, clever DIY tips, or a new recipe, reading something you enjoy can transport you elsewhere. That's why we invited everyone to **#Take10ToRead** at **10 o'clock** on the **10th day** of the **10th month.** Just ten minutes to pause, unwind, and enjoy something that inspires you. (See more on page three.)

We are supporting the **Royal British Legion** in school and will be selling items from **Monday, 20th October** for the children to buy if they wish. **Suggested donations** are: 20p for a sticker, 50p for a reflector and £1.50 for a snap band or festival wrist band. Poppies are also available for a small donation.

Finally, **thank you** to everyone who supported our **Halloween costume events.** We raised an incredible **£152.00** and to **Mrs Brown** for going the extra mile and making this event bigger and better than ever!

Have a wonderful week and keep warm!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne



to read to read

Oakdene Featured Across BBC Platforms Following National Literacy Pledge

Following the Chancellor Rachel Reeves' pledge of £10 million to ensure every state primary school in England has a library by 2029, Oakdene School was proudly featured last Sunday on BBC Politics North, BBC Look North, and BBC Radio Tees, with coverage airing from Breakfast throughout the day. The segment celebrated literacy and education across the region. Year 4 pupils took part in a storytelling session in one of our five library areas, led by Mr Horkan. The BBC also spoke with Vice Principal and English Lead, Mrs Osborne, about local literacy challenges and the opportunities our libraries provide. Pupils shared their thoughts on reading, offering a heartfelt glimpse into the impact of reading for pleasure at Oakdene. It was a fantastic opportunity to showcase our commitment to literacy and the enthusiasm of our staff and pupils on a regional stage.















Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term

OCTOBER - Oracy October & Black History Month

Mon 13th Oct PM Y1 Forum Theatre visit 'The Smeds & The Smoos'

Wed 15th Oct STEM Family Challenge for Y6
Session 1 6C 9am - 10.30am

Session 2 6M 10:45 am to 12:15pm

Tues 21st Oct 4.00pm Open Evening for Prospective New 2026 Reception/

EYFS Starters

Wed 22nd Oct PM Y1 Sports Festival

Thurs 23rd Oct 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y3 Pupils

Hallowe'en Discos (No Extra-curricular Clubs) Y1-Y3 4.00-4.50pm and Y4-Y6 5.00-6.00pm

Fri 24th Oct Y5 Scavenger Hunt & Team Building Event, Northfield AM

Children Break Up for Half-Term

Half-Term Break Monday, 27th Oct - Friday, 31st Oct

NOVEMBER Non-Fiction November

Wed 5th Nov 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y2 Pupils

PM Y5 & Y6 Boys Football

Thurs 6th Nov Y3 visit Danelaw Viking Village

w/c Mon 10th Nov Parent Consultation Evenings (No Extra-curricular Clubs this week)

Wed 12th Nov 18 children from Y3/Y4 attend Indoor Athletics event

Fri 14th Nov Children In Need Day & Flu Nasal Spray (pupils from Rec-Y6)

w/c Mon 17th Nov Road Safety Week

Wed 19th Nov 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y5 Pupils

Thurs 20th Nov Y1 'One Snowy Night' visit Fri 21st Nov Individual & Sibling Photographs

w/c Mon 24th Nov UK Parliament Week & Young Poets Week

Tues 25th Nov
9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y4 Pupils
Wed 26th Nov
PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)

Tues 2nd Dec Y5 visit Centre for Life Newcastle

Wed 3rd Dec 3.30pm Friends of Oakdene Christmas Fair Fri 5th Dec 10.00am Y3 & Y4 Tableau @ St Luke's Church

Christmas Lunch

Tues 9th Dec 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Nursery Pupils

Wed 10th Dec 2.15pm Nativity Performance
Thurs 11th Dec 2.15pm Nativity Performance

Fri 12th Dec 10.00am Y5 visit Arc - linked to Key Author

Tues 16th Dec 9.10am Y5 & Y6 Christingle,

PM Y1 & Y2 Christmas Parties
Wed 17th Dec PM Y3 & Y4 Christmas Parties

Thurs 18th Dec AM and PM Little Sycamores and Nursery Christmas Parties

PM Reception Christmas Party PM Y5 & Y6 Christmas Parties

Fri 19th Dec LAST DAY OF TERM

Christmas Holiday: Monday, 22nd December 2025 - Friday, 2nd January 2026

Children will return to school on Monday, 5 January 2026



Halloween Disco Thursday, 23rd October 2025

The Halloween Disco has been planned for **Thursday**, **23rd October**. The DJ is booked!

Tickets will be available from the class teachers from Monday, 13th October to Friday, 17th October for £4.00 in CASH. This includes the price of a hot dog, fries, a drink and sweets.

As usual, this event will be organised as two separate discos.
KS1 (Y1, Y2) and Y3's disco will be

4.00-4.50pm and Y4-Y6 will be 5.00-6.00pm.

We have tried to invite reception and nursery pupils historically, however, they became too distressed.

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) & Y3 pupils should be collected at 4.50pm from the dining hall (KS2 yard) to avoid congestion as the KS2 pupils arrive.

Pupils in Y4-Y6 should be collected from the main entrance at 6.00pm.

It's going to be frighteningly fantastic!

Take 10 to Read 2025 - Inspiring Author Events!

As part of the National Literacy Trust's Take 10 to Read campaign, pupils enjoyed virtual author events featuring the brilliant Nick Sharratt, known for his vibrant illustrations and engaging storytelling, and Ramzee, whose powerful writing captivated older pupils. In addition to these inspiring sessions, children took part in interactive illustration workshops, where they explored the creative process behind book illustration. Guided by Nick Sharratt's playful style and imaginative characters, pupils experimented with drawing techniques, character design, and visual storytelling. These workshops sparked enthusiasm and confidence, with many children expressing a newfound interest in becoming illustrators themselves.









Last week, Year 5 pupils embarked on an unforgettable journey back in time during an immersive **Ancient Greek workshop** led by the talented team from **Big Foot Arts.**

The workshop began with children stepping into the roles of an archaeology team. Equipped with curiosity and imagination, they worked collaboratively to piece together clues, uncover ancient artefacts, and reconstruct stories from the past. One of the highlights was the unearthing of a mysterious ancient scroll, which revealed secrets about Greek gods and traditional festivals. This sparked lively discussions and creative interpretations, deepening the children's understanding of mythology and cultural practices. The children played their own version of 'Traitors', with the Greek Gods trying to eliminate the Faithfuls. They initially fooled many, but the Faithfuls quickly uncovered Mrs Wilson as Zeus and cleverly eliminated her from the game.

The drama continued as the pupils explored the legendary tale of **Theseus and the Minotaur**. Through role-play and performance, they brought the myth to life, stepping into the shoes of heroes, monsters, and storytellers. The day culminated in a **whole-class exhibition**, where each group proudly presented their findings.









Year 4 had a fantastic time visiting Binchester Roman Fort, where they enjoyed a guided tour of the fascinating Roman remains, including the commanding officer's house and the impressive bathhouse. The children took part in a range of hands-on activities that brought Roman history to life. These included writing using Roman numerals, cleaning clay artefacts, designing mosaics, and dressing up in traditional Roman clothing.

As a special highlight, each child had the opportunity to create their own **Roman pincer pot** using clay—a wonderful way to connect with the craftsmanship of the past. It was a **memorable** day full of learning, creativity, and fun!



Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from
Mrs Wilson
'The Worry Jar'
by Lou John



Frida feels overwhelmed by her worries—so much so that even a trip to the swimming pool makes her fear she might sink. But with the gentle guidance of her grandmother, she learns a simple yet powerful way to manage her feelings: placing a pebble in a jar for each worry.

This beautifully illustrated and heartwarming story offers a comforting message for children (and grown-ups too): it's okay to have worries, and there are ways to cope with them. A perfect read for sparking conversations about emotions and resilience.

Tag Rugby Festival Our Year 6 team did a fantastic job representing the school — they showed incredible determination and didn't stop until they could truly feel proud of their efforts! It was such a joy to see the sports field at Northfield come alive with sunshine, laughter, and a brilliant display of competitive spirit.









We're thrilled to celebrate
Michael Smith from Year 2, who
was awarded Player of the
Match in his recent rugby game!
Michael showed fantastic
teamwork, determination and
sportsmanship throughout the
match, impressing coaches and
teammates alike.



Congratulations to Scarlett Allon (Y5) for achieving her Gymnastics Proficiency Award Level 3 and 4. Her commitment to training has truly paid off.

She continues to be a **shining** example of what can be achieved with **focus** and **enthusiasm!**

***** ☆ ☆ Week Ending 10th October 2025 ☆ ☆ ☆ Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy ☆ ☆ Star of the Star Reader Star Writer Star ☆ ☆ Class Week Mathematician .XII/2+ ☆ ☆ + -× + ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Nursery Jonathan. Ethan Adekunle Mylah Thompson Olivia Dunn ☆ Johnson ☆ Mrs. Gueet ☆ ☆ YRC Mabel Lewis Willow Watts River French ☆ ☆ Dodds-Day Daniels-Owen Miss Dixon ☆ ☆ **YRK** Harper-Rose Ebony-Rae Mason Walker Zac Lave ☆ ☆ ΗЩ Miss Dignen Lane ☆ ☆ УΙВ Nathaniel Frankie Harriet Smith Annie Tunney Jefferies McCullagh ☆ Mrs Brown ☆ ☆ ☆ Bonnie-Rae УQD Lucas Milne Lucas Lee Ольча Ситу ☆ Ferguson ☆ Mrs Durham ☆ ☆ ☆ Jaxon Moutrey Willow Earle Axyl Edgar Tommy Wilks Mrs Thompson ☆ узН ☆ ☆ Lincoln Wardle William Nimmo Aidan Tumer Keesha Griffin Mr Horkan ☆ ☆

Roman.

Chesworth

Evie Richardson

Scarlett Allon

Sophie-Alysa

Minter

Hollie Dale

Ivy-May

Fiddes

Anaya Usman

Cason Tierney

Ava Hammond

Amber

Hammond

Star Diner

y4R

Miee Robineon

Y5SW

Mrs Smith

Mrs Wilson

у6С

Mrs Cowan

У6М

Mr McConnell

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Lilly Dixon

Jessica Dunn

Harley Wallace

Leighton Harvey

Alannah Bell

Ruban Gilbey

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Darcie Hammond

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Riley Titlestad

Hannah Liddle

Albert Balanescu

Skye Stainsby

Kain Carmichael

Dolly Rogers