Weekly Newsletter 15th April 2024



Right of the Fortnight: Article 6: You have the right to life and be happy





Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that everyone had a fabulous Easter break, despite the disappointing weather. We also welcome back Miss Owens who kindly offered to return to school from her maternity leave (earlier than planned) to support Y6B with their last minute SATs preparation whilst Mrs Jackson undergoes cancer treatment. Mrs Alison Cheal has joined our wonderful team of lunchtime supervisory assistants and will support the Y5s during lunchtime.

The summer term is always a great term with so many events taking place. We will be sending out lots of information over the coming weeks so please make sure that you **check Marvellous Me and keep-up to date with the latest news on our website and weekly newsletters.**

It was wonderful to welcome parents/carers into school to view their children's books and meet class teachers to discuss the **phenomenal** progress your children are making. It was great that so many of you were able to hear about the great things your child has been **learning** and their overall **wellbeing**.

Tomorrow is **National Offer Day** for primary schools. Once again we've received a high volume of applications from other local schools and private day nurseries. Congratulations to all our nursery children who will be offered a school **Reception place** for September 2024. We look forward to continuing your learning journey with us. More information will follow after the May half-term break.

This is a very short half term but an extremely busy one. Despite the lighter nights we really emphasise that children maintain bedtime routines and have a good night's sleep. Please remember to use the one- way system to ease congestion at the beginning and start of the day—THANK YOU!

Have a wonderful week!
Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne

Oakdene have taken part in many inter-school sport competitions. The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in these competitions and it gives every individual the opportunity to compete against other schools in the area. Just before the Easter break, the Y5/6 mixed hockey team returned to school with beaming smiles and a collection of gold medals. We were ranked 1st! Huge congratulations to all of the children that took part and represented our school in this prestigious event. We are very proud of you for demonstrating the school games values.



















Dates For Your Diary - Summer Term

Mon 15th April World Art Day

Mon 22nd April—Fri 3rd May Swimming Block 3 for Y5 pupils

Mon 22nd April Earth Day

Wed 1st May 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y4 Pupils (rearranged)
Fri 3rd May 10-12 Y5s Visit Yarm School to meet Skandar author

A F Steadman

Mon 6th May BANK HOLIDAY (school closed)

Tues 7th May Reception & Y6 Height & Weight Check

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.

June PRIDE Month

Wed 5th June World Environment Day

2-week period commencing 10th June: Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

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

Tues 11th June Class Photographs

Mon 17th-Wed 19th June Y6 Residential

Mon 17th -24thJune National Schools Sports Week

Wed 19th June National Writing Day Thurs 20th June World Refugee Day

Mon 1st July Meeting for Parents and Carers of new Reception Pupils

September 2024 at 4.30pm

Lee Owston National Director, Education Ofsted Visits Oakdene Mon 8th July

Tues 9th July Academy Hub Music Events for some Y3 Pupils

Tues 16th July 2.15pm KS1 Sports Day Fri 19th July 2pm KS2 Sports Day

Meet my New Teacher Event Mon 22nd July

Tues 23rd July 6.00pm Y6 Leavers' Performance (Tickets Only) Wed 24th July 3.30pm Friends of Oakdene Summer Fayre

Fri 26th July Little Sycamores and Nursery AM and PM Teddy Bears' Picnic

Tues 30th July LAST DAY OF THE SUMMER TERM



Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is the winner of Stockton Children's Book of the Year 2024 (SCBY)

'Wildsmith'

By Liz Flanagan







When war threatens her beloved city, Rowan and her mother must flee to the Dark Forest, meeting Grandpa and his white wolf Arto for the first time. Though she misses her father, Rowan makes new friends - including a trio of powerful witches.

When she rescues a baby dragon from poachers, she discovers the secret of her own identity. Could Rowan really be a Wildsmith? Fostering a whole clutch of dragons, the summer speeds by. But when danger threatens, Rowan and Grandpa must call on all their friends for help.

We are delighted with the feedback we have received from Read for Good, and to be awarded a **Certificate of Achievement** for being an **Outstanding Readathon School.**

"One in two schools has run our Readathon at some point since they began in 1984, but only a handful in the country have embraced it like yours. Your school's most recent Readathon raised £995 which brings our grand total raised to £2,823 through a total of 2 Readathons since 2023. This is a truly incredible achievement we believe should be celebrated, and we're delighted to enclose a certificate to mark your achievement and to showcase your commitment to reading for pleasure."





This year, Mrs Osborne has led a weekly lunchtime Book Club with Y5s as we have been involved in the **Stockton Children's Book of the Year** project. The SCBY award celebrates the best in children's fiction. Each year, five books are **shortlisted** by library staff and shared with children in Years 5 and 6 from primary schools across the borough to vote for their favourite. The winner for 2024 was **Wildsmith: Into the Dark Forest by Liz Flanagan.**

Our children's high quality work really impressed Angela Foster (Billingham Librarian). Many congratulations to **Arta Ahmadi** who was awarded with a certificate for the **Best Book Review** and **Indi Chesworth** was recognised for her **outstanding effort** at a **prestigious awards ceremony** with the **Mayor**. Arta and Indi also met all 5 authors: **Liz Flanagan, Kereen Getten, Alastair Humphreys, Andy Ruffell** and **Bethany Walker**. All the children involved in the project had the opportunity to meet the brilliant Bethany Walker at a local school.







Y3 pupil **Milo Hancock** had his latest judo grading recently. He's up to 4th Mon - **yellow belt with a white stripe**. To earn this belt, he had to learn and demonstrate different **throws, rolls,** and **groups**. Milo also demonstrated that he knows how to follow the judo code. Excellent work Milo!



Y3 pupils Eliza-Grace Mack and Scarlett Allon both made their families extremely proud. They achieved Star of the month in their acro gymnastics class. And were presented with beautiful trophies. Very well done girls!



Six years ago we recruited a number of reading volunteers with Beanstalk. Norma Phillips was the only one who honoured her commitment to come into school twice a week. Norma provided one to one support to children in Y3 and Y4. Over the years, children have really enjoyed the quality reading time with Norma who has delivered fun, interactive reading experiences. Norma's commitment and dedication has made a huge difference to the confidence levels of the children. We thank Norma for her support and wish her a happy and healthy retirement. We will miss her.





Oakdene and one other Stockton primary school have been invited to take part in a pilot project to encourage children to adopt a more active lifestyle.

Year 3 have been introduced to their Active 60 bags with support from our Y5 sports leaders. These bags are designed to promote family activity on weekends. Throughout the summer term, children will enjoy a range of active games included in the bags.





Y1 enjoyed a fabulous **visit to the Fire Station** in Norton as part of their **'Great Fire of London'** topic. The children met **firefighters** who shared what it's like to be a firefighter. The children were amazed to hear how varied the job can be - it's not all about fires!

The firefighters demonstrated how to use cutting equipment, they talked about their special protective uniforms and all the types of equipment stored on a fire engine. One of the highlights was when the children were invited to practise using the powerful hoses.





I had the impossible task of judging the **Easter Egg Decorating Competition.** Many children linked their design to the **curriculum**, a **book**, **visits** or **pupil voice** initiatives. The depth of research was really impressive and the standard was extremely high.

Many congratulations to the winners: Emmie Marshall, Elodie Richardson, Sava Ali, Freddie Bell, Milo Hancock, Lily Daniel, Hayden Jackson, Isaac Dobson and Emily Daniel.









Thank you to the staff and two families who generously donated the amazing prizes and of course to everyone for buying tickets to support the Friends of Oakdene Easter Raffle. A big thank you to the Friends who wrapped the prizes beautifully and allocated raffle tickets. The raffle raised a magnificent £614 This means that we will now be able to purchase two new ovens for our Kitchen Corner. Congratulations to **Dolly Rogers** who won the whole school prize. The following children won large prizes for their Key Stages:- Ruben Black, Eli Prince, William Nimmo, Ellis Fearns and George Robinson. Class prize winners were:-Archer Dixon, Albie Docherty-Grainger, Junior Scarth-Ferguson, Nathaniel Jeffries, Poppy Daniel, Lewis Daniels-Owen, Scarlett Van Wyk, Lucas Jardine, Arabella Sedgwick, Elsie Dinsdale-Swales, Olivia Wilkinson, Ivy-May Fiddes, Blake Playle, Archie Donnelly, Kain Carmichael, Finley Orley, Max Devlin, Logan Daniels-Owen, Eliza Unsworth, Meghan Dyson, James Luker, Kallum Squires and Aiden-James



On the last day of the Spring term we held another highly successful **Open Morning** for the parents & Carers of nursery pupils.

The theme of the activities was based on Easter and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering Arts and Maths) and activities included:

Science - using a pipette with vinegar to dissolve the baking soda Easter Eggs.

Technology - making edible Easter treats,

Arts - creating Easter cards and Mathematics - engaging in Easter themed maths activities The Children also enjoyed playing Easter games including egg and spoon races.

A heartfelt thank you to Erika Titlestad and Tamzin Steele for once again kindly baking exquisite Easter treats and delicious cookies for the parents and Carers to enjoy at the end of the morning.





Week Ending 28th March 2024 Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week	Star Reader	Star Writer	Star Mathematician
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Early Years Unit Mrs Guest	Ala ï a-Mae Cunningham	Finley Ayre	Oliver Metcalfe	Harper-Rose Hill
YR Miss Dixon	Elodie Richardson	Lucas Jardine	Olivia-Jane Midgley	Katy Coates
YI Mrs Brown	Miley Dodds-Day	Oakley Harrison	Neave Bateman	Mia Hudzicka
У2 Mrs Durham	Leo Archer	Isla O'Hare	Lilly Dixon	Niamh Bellew
УЗ Mr Horkan & Mr Brown	Charlie Owens	Aalia Dobson	Jessica Dunn	Daisy Thompson
Y4R Miss Robinson	Jake Atkinson	Logan Daniels-Owen	Ava Hammond	Autumn Lonsdale
Y4S Miss Smith	George Reevell	Sophie-Alysa Minter	Landon Quinn	Annie Harris
Y5 Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Noah White	Yener Arslan	Jaden Ridley	Cally White
Y6M Mr McConnell	Cody-Lee Fitzpatrick	Casey-Lee Morgan	Trudi Langstaff	Jake Cody
УбВ Miss Bestwick	Lucan Fletcher	Mylah Bruce	Isabelle Bramley	Amelia Richards



YR & KSI Michael Smith **Y3 & Y4** Aalia Dobson **Y5 & Y6** Isaac Dobson