



## 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 -24th June 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

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

Mon 22nd July Meet my New Teacher Event  
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.**



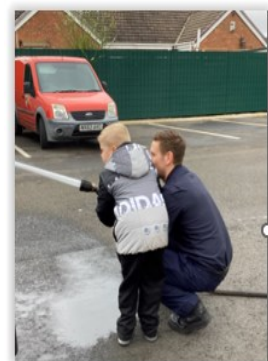
*Oakdene and one other Stockton primary school have been invited to take part in a **pilot project** to encourage children to adopt a more **active** lifestyle.*

*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 Fearn** 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 Finley**.



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

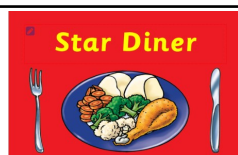
The children also enjoyed playing Easter games including egg and spoon races.

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 
Early Years Unit Mrs Guest	Alaia-Mae Cunningham	Finley Ayre	Oliver Metcalfe	Harper-Rose Hill
YR Miss Dixon	Elodie Richardson	Lucas Jardine	Olivia-Jane Midgley	Katy Coates
Y1 Mrs Brown	Miley Dodds-Day	Oakley Harrison	Neave Bateman	Mia Hudzicka
Y2 Mrs Durham	Leo Archer	Isla O'Hare	Lilly Dixon	Niamh Bellew
Y3 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
Y6B Miss Bestwick	Lucan Fletcher	Mylah Bruce	Isabelle Bramley	Amelia Richards



**Star Diner**

YR & KSI  
Michael Smith

Y3 & Y4  
Aalia Dobson

Y5 & Y6  
Isaac Dobson