

Weekly Newsletter
16th October 2023



Right of the Fortnight: Article 16:

Your right to privacy.



Dear Parents/Carers,

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 Tuesday, 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. The theme for this year's day was 'mental health is a universal human right'.

The Big Ambition – Have your say! The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched The Big Ambition, a national survey of children and young people across England. The Big Ambition aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England. **We are asking all our families to participate in this survey via the following link:**

<https://tinyurl.com/LFPBigAmbition>

Have a wonderful week and keep warm!

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**, applied mathematical skills for **Percy's problem solving** activities, **browsed** our **reading book scheme** & found out more about the **expectations** for reading in Y1 (including demonstrations of Lexia and MyOn) and joined staff from the local **library** to share **autumnal stories** and join the library. They also took time to breathe and relax in the **Yoga** session based on Percy's stories.





The Rights

Respecting Group needs you!

Please donate to the food bank!

Friday 20th October last day for donations.

Oakdene Primary School

- Long Life UHT Milk
- Small bottles of squash
- Tinned Fish
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Rice pudding/Custard
- Coffee
- Washing up liquid
- Washing capsules
- Toilet Roll/Deodorants/Shampoo
- Shower gel

Hallowe'en Disco - Wednesday, 25th October 2023

The Hallowe'en Disco has been planned for **Wednesday, 25th October**. The DJ is booked! Tickets will be available from the class teachers from **Wednesday, 11th October to Friday 20th 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 Y3's disco will be 4.00-4.50pm and Y4-Y6 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) & Y3s 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!

We are also offering a 're-spook, re-wear & re-scare'; we will be inviting parents/carers (& staff!) to bring in any **gently worn Hallowe'en costumes**, accessories, masks etc no later than Wednesday, 18th October. Then we'll make these available later to buy for a small donation.

FREE POP UP SHOP

Thursday 26th October:
at Oakdene Primary, TS23 3NR
3.15pm-4.45pm



Give your preloved coat a NEW Home!

Taking Donations now
till 20th October!

Coats for All 2023

Coat Donations drop off at:
ABC Office 23a The Green,
Billingham, TS23 1ES

Coats can also be donated directly to school rather than being dropped off at ABC.

Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term

OCTOBER

Tues 17th Oct

Black History Month

9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y5 Pupils

Y6 Pupils Visit Beamish Museum

Fri 20th Oct

Y2 Visit to Preston Hall

Wed 25th Oct

9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y3 Pupils

Y1 Sports Festival at Durham Campus

Hallowe'en Disco KS1 (Y1, Y2) & Y3 will be 4.00pm-4.50pm

Y4-Y6 will be 5.00pm-6.00pm.

Thurs 26th Oct

Nasal Flu Spray

3.15-4.45pm Coats For All Event

Fri 27th Oct

Y6 Victorian Day

Children Break Up for Half-Term

Mon 30th Oct to Fri 3rd Nov - October Half-Term Break

Mon 6th Nov

PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)

UK Parliament Week

Fri 11th Nov

Remembrance Day Activities

w/c Mon 13th Nov

Parent Consultation Evenings (**No Extra-curricular Clubs**)

Mon 13th Nov

Phototronics (Individual and Sibling Photos)

Tues 14th Nov

Y1 Visit North York Moors 'One Snowy Night'

Wed 15th Nov

10.00am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y2 Pupils

Y3 Danelaw Viking Visit

Fri 17th Nov

Children In Need Day

Mon 20th Nov

Road Safety Week

Wed 22nd Nov

9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y4 Pupils

Fri 1st Dec

3.30pm Christmas Fair

Tues 12th Dec

2.00pm Nativity Performance

Wed 13th Dec

2.00pm Nativity Performance

Thurs 14th Dec

Christmas Lunch

Fri 15th Dec

9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Nursery Pupils

Some Y4 pupils will attend Snappy Christmas Music Event

Mon 18th Dec

AM and PM Little Sycamores and Nursery Christmas Parties

PM Reception Christmas Party

PM Y1 & Y2 Christmas Parties

Tues 19th Dec

AM Y3 & Y4 Christmas Parties

PM Y5 & Y6 Christmas Parties

LAST DAY OF TERM

Christmas Holiday:

Wednesday, 20th December 2023 - Tuesday, 2nd January 2024

Wednesday, 3rd January 2024 school closed to pupils for in-service day (training)

Children will return to school on Thursday, 4 January 2024



As part of their **Victorian** topic, Y6 visited Preston Hall **Museum** to engage in a variety of workshops to bring their Victorian topic to life. The Y6s discovered what Preston Hall and other Victorian homes would have been like and how they compare with our homes today. They looked at Victorian toys and built on their prior knowledge gained in Y2.

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



Sheila Wright has been a **dedicated reading volunteer** at Oakdene for over **40 years**. Sheila started listening to children read when her own children attended our school. Sheila has continued to volunteer as her grandchildren and more recently her great grandchildren have come through our doors.

Sheila recently celebrated her **80th birthday** so we presented her with a bouquet to express our **gratitude** for helping so many Oakdene children on their **reading journey** over the years. Sheila is currently celebrating this milestone birthday in the sunshine and looks forward to supporting more children when she returns.



Landon Quinn (Y4) and **George Robinson** (Y5) wore their Oakdene t-shirts under their Stockton running vests with pride as they represented both **Oakdene** and **Stockton** at the **cross country finals competition** in the Tees Valley.

Landon came **11th** out of over 100 competitors who raced in the Y3/4 event. This is a very impressive achievement. George came **41st** in the Y5/6 event— which is amazing.

Both boys demonstrated remarkable **resilience** and **perseverance** to complete the challenging course—very well done!



George Robinson was also in Carlisle for the Northern Championships recently. His commitment and resilience shone through and he was awarded **Bronze** medal for his DMT, a **Gold** medal for the boys team trampolining and a **Gold** medal for the boys DMT team.



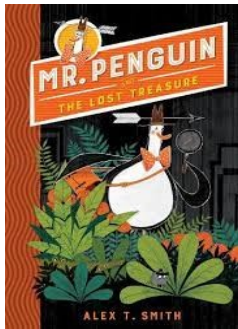
Congratulations to Lily Lloyd (Y4) who achieved her Stage 5 in gymnastics.

Richly deserved!



Recommended Read

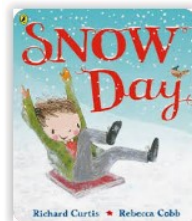
This week's recommended read is from Mrs Smith 'Mr Penguin & The Lost Treasure' by Alex T-Smith



This is the first in a number of Mr Penguin books and follows a Penguin who solves mysteries around the word with help from his friends.

His friends include a Kung Fu spider called Colin and a pigeon called Gordon.

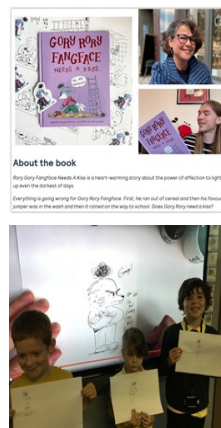
Oakdene was selected to be one of five Read North East Schools and a National Literacy Trust Partner School. This brings many benefits to our school. Last week we received a VIP visit from Project Manager Linzi Winn. Linzi met the pupil librarians and enjoyed a tour of our well stocked library areas. She also brought copies of 'Snowy Day' by author Richard Curtis. Every KS1 pupil took a copy of this book home to keep last Tuesday. Y3 & Y4 pupils took home bookmarks and Y5 & Y6 pupils plus staff took home a 'Read & Recommend' postcard to complete about a book they've really enjoyed reading.



Author Events

Linzi Winn also offered Oakdene the opportunity to get involved in two fabulous author events linked to the #Take10toRead project. Y3 pupils enjoyed escaping into the world of Gory Rory Fangface with author-illustrator duo Ziggy Hanaor and Ollie Silvester. Budding artists also got the chance to draw Gory Rory.

Children from Y4-Y6 were enthralled with an author workshop led by author and broadcaster (Countdown) Susie Dent. Susie brought her new book **Roots of Happiness: 100 Words for Joy and Hope to life**. She showed us just how wonderful words can be – and how they can be used to **make the world a happier place**. The children left their 'mubble fubbles' behind and grinned like a 'gigglemug'. Everyone was reminded of the benefits reading can have on our **mental wellbeing**.



Week Ending 13th October 2023
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Early Years Unit Mrs Guest	Jamie Hart	Nathaniel Jefferies	Ivy Laing	Emmie Marshall
YR Miss Dixon	Isla Featherstone	Vinnie Westwood	Finley Short	Tommy Wilks
Y1 Mrs Brown	Holland Finley	Esmea Skipp	Elsie Dinsdale-Swales	Eli Prince
Y2 Mrs Durham	Max Prout	Elena Hold	Lilly Dixon	Lily Archer
Y3 Mr Horkan & Mr Brown	Joseph Cooper	Lily Scott-Mullin	Eliza-Grace Mack	Harley Wallace
Y4R Miss Robinson	Piper Noon	Ellis Fearn	Jake Atkinson	Leah Cooley
Y4S Miss Smith	Kain Carmichael	Leighton Harvey	Alyssa Frost-Usher	Florence Bruce
Y5 Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Cally Wright	Phoebe Donnelly	George Robinson	Amelia Wilks
Y6M Mr McConnell	Monica Dobson	Rocco Garthwaite	Arez Ali	Aiden-James Finley
Y6B Miss Bestwick	Emily Daniel	Connor Bateman	Lucy Macklam	James Luker



YR & KSI
Darcie Berry

Y3 & Y4
Ava Hammond

Y5 & Y6
Emily Smith