

Weekly Newsletter 17th November 2025



Right of the Fortnight: Article 27:
Your Right to a Good Standard of Living



Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to all of you who attended appointments to see class teachers on **parent/carer consultation evenings**. It is always important to meet up early in the academic year to let you know how your child has settled, to **share the progress** that your child is making and to **identify the next steps**. We thank you for your continued support. **Extra-curricular clubs** will resume this week.

Our **Fabulous Fundraising** is just one shining example of how kindness can make a huge difference to others. I've been asked to say a **huge thank you** from our **School Councillors and Rights Respecting Ambassadors** for your generosity supporting charities during these unprecedented times. The **British Legion Poppies** proved to be very popular and the '**Children In Need Day**' raised **£324.55** for this amazing cause.

It's that time of year when we plan for the challenges that the weather may bring. Many of you have opted for your child to receive the **nasal flu spray** to reduce the risk of your child/ren being hospitalised due to flu and to protect vulnerable family members.

We have been asked to be prepared for the change in temperature. **Please ensure your child/ren bring warm coats and suitable footwear to school each day.** Mrs Jackson and the Friends of Oakdene were delighted to see so many of you taking advantage of the recent '**coats for all event**'.

It is always difficult to predict what the weather conditions will be like. Therefore, the decision to open the school is made daily. These decisions take into account multiple factors and are only confirmed once we are certain the school can operate safely and provide the appropriate level of supervision for the children. We aim to make this decision as early as possible so that we can inform parents and carers promptly, understanding that alternative childcare arrangements may need to be made. In 19 years of headship, we have only closed for four school days due to snow. Please also remember that while some staff live locally, many travel considerable distances from areas such as North Yorkshire, Sunderland, and Durham. The weather can really vary from one town to another.

In the case of '**emergency closures**' the school has a clear protocol to follow. Announcements would be made on Marvellous Me, Stockton Borough Council's website and also by local television and radio stations. Parents and carers are more than welcome to phone the school from 8.30am onwards before setting out on their journey, if you are concerned in anyway.

Keep safe and warm!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne



Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term

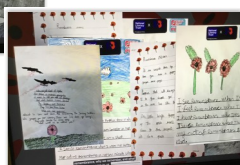
NON FICTION NOVEMBER

w/c Mon 17th Nov	Road Safety Week
Tues 18th Nov	Flu Nasal Spray (pupils from Rec-Y6). Re-arranged date
Wed 19th Nov	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y5 Pupils 1.30-2.30p.m. Author visit for Y4-Y6 Jeffrey Boakye
Thurs 20th Nov	Y1 'One Snowy Night' visit
Fri 21st Nov	Individual & Sibling Photographs 9.15-10.15a.m. Author-illustrator for Y2 Kate Rolfe
w/c Mon 24th Nov	UK Parliament Week & Young Poets Week 3.30pm Additional Pop Up Coats Stall
Tues 25th Nov	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y4 Pupils Mock Wedding for Reception Pupils
Wed 26th Nov pupils)	PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for
Tues 2nd Dec	Y4 visit 'Rockin' Christmas Gig 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	Y2 Victorian Christmas Visit to Preston Hall Museum PM Y3 & Y4 Christmas Parties
Thurs 18th Dec	AM and PM Little Sycamores and Nursery Christmas Parties PM Reception Christmas Party
Fri 19th Dec	PM Y5 & Y6 Christmas Parties LAST DAY OF TERM

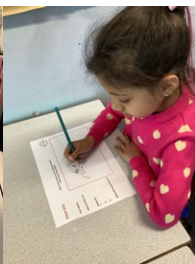
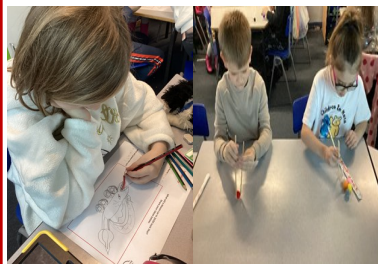


Christmas Holiday: Monday, 22nd December 2025 - Friday, 2nd January 2026
Children will return to school on Monday, 5 January 2026

In September, poet and writer **Tomfoolery (Tomas Roberts)** partnered with the **Royal British Legion** and the **National Literacy Trust** to deliver two immersive poetry workshops for Key Stage 2 pupils. These sessions explored the meaning of **Remembrance** through his moving new poem **Lasting Silence**. This experience truly inspired Oakdene pupils, encouraging them to explore the power of words and the importance of remembrance. Their enthusiasm and creativity shone through every poem they wrote. Every school in England was invited to apply, and we were thrilled to see so many Oakdene poems chosen. We were delighted to see that **Michelle Adekunle's** poem was selected for a special recording, where she proudly read her work aloud. **Holland Finley's** poem was also shortlisted—what an achievement! In addition, eight of our pupils had their poems included in the footage: **Year 4: Skyla Wilks, Lola Pearce, Leighton Daniels-Owen & Freddie McQuilling** and **Year 6: Ava Hammond, Dolly Rogers, Brooke Love and Alyssa Frost-Usher**. Well done to all our amazing poets—you represented Oakdene brilliantly! If you have a **spare 30 minutes** then please do watch this special video via the following link [The Remembrance Assembly 2025 \(English, no subtitles\)](#). We were honoured to be featured in a **national virtual assembly**, which included appearances by **JJ Chalmers** and **Prince William**, making the occasion even more special.



Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic day with the **Nissan Skills Foundation!** The session began with an introduction to Nissan and its history, followed by a timeline activity and a virtual look inside the factory. After a short break, pupils built **Lego models** and **designed** their own cars, before learning some **Japanese words** and taking on the **chopstick challenge**. A highlight of the day was exploring the wide range of **careers** available at Nissan – from engineering and design to marketing and technology – showing that there's something for everyone! It was an **inspiring** and hands-on experience that combined **creativity, problem-solving** and **cultural learning**.



Four of our **Digital Leaders** from Years 3 and 4 had an incredible afternoon visiting **Teesside University** for the launch of **Animex Academy**. They learned all about the exciting year of events ahead and had a guided tour of the **Digital Life Building**, one of the world's leading centres for game design and robotics! The children explored **cyber security labs**, **stop-motion animation studios**, and **robotics workshops** before finishing the day by designing their very own Animex Academy badges using **Reality Composer**. It was a truly memorable afternoon, and we can't wait to return later in the year!



Some of our **Year 3 and Year 4** pupils had the fantastic opportunity to attend an **indoor athletics competition** at Durham University. They took part in a variety of track and field events, including relay races, standing long jump, and vertical jumps, to name just a few. The children demonstrated outstanding **sportsmanship**, a **positive attitude**, and **excellent behaviour** throughout the day. They approached every activity with **enthusiasm** and **determination**, making the most of this exciting experience. Well done to all involved!



Christmas Fayre

Mrs Jackson and the **Friends of Oakdene** are putting last minute plans in place for the **Christmas Fair** which will be held on **Wednesday, 3rd December at 3.30pm**.

This is our biggest fundraising event. To make the fayre as successful as possible, we would like to request the following donations next week:

Mon 24th: Good quality soft toys
Tues 25th: Tombola prizes
Wed 26th: Sweets & chocolates
Thurs 27th: Gift sets, toiletries & new toys
Fri 29th: Bottles

Can you bake a yummy Yule Log, marvellous mince pies, cute cupcakes, gingerbread treats or Christmas cookies...?

If so, please bring them in on **Wednesday, 3rd December**.

Thank you for your support.



We are thrilled to announce that Year 2 pupil **Izzy Matthews** has been awarded a **certificate and trophy** at Velocity for having the **pointiest toes!** This award highlights her incredible dedication and **precision** in dance technique. Well done, Izzy – keep shining!

Week Ending 14th November 2025

Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs Guest	Alana Bryson	Lyla Danke	Hepzibah Jayeoba	Joshua Collier
YRC Miss Dixon	Dolly-Sue Browning	Harrison Howdle	Ruban Gilbey	Alfie Lynch
YRK Miss Dignen	Ruben Earle	Zac Love	Oliver Foster	Harper-Rose Hill
YIB Mrs Brown	Nellie Puckering	Frankie McCullagh	Isaac Stewart	Coen Beadle
Y2D Mrs Durham	Prashwita Bhimavarapu	Liam Turner	Brodie McLaughlin	Bonnie-Rae Ferguson
Mrs Thompson	Jaxon Montrey	Jenson-John Murray	Caleb Jeffries	Katie Coates
Y3H Mr Horkan	Jacob Matthews	Else Dinsdale-Swales	Gia Hindmarsh	Amani Mohammad
Y4R Miss Robinson	Oakley Purvis	Junior Hindmarsh	Tia Cain	Roman Chesworth
Y5SW Mrs Smith	Alyssa Bateman	Daisy Thompson	Anna Cooley	Blake Playle
Mrs Wilson	Milo Hancock	Charlie Owens	Edward Gardiner-Jukes	Beth Denmark
Y6C Mrs Cowan	Leah Cooley	Dolly Rogers	Charlie Kibbler	Florence Bruce
Y6M Mr McConnell	Ameez Ali	Autumn Lonsdale	Landon Quinn	Archie Hall



YR & Y1
Prashwita
Bhimavarapu

Y2 & Y3
Aiden
Turner

Y4, Y5 & Y6
Autumn
Lonsdale