

## Weekly Newsletter 18th November 2024



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.

Individual and sibling **School Photographs** were taken by Phototronics earlier this month. Many thanks to all of you who accepted the option to purchase these photos.

We celebrated **World Kindness Day** on Wednesday, **13th November 2024**. 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 lots of funds for this amazing cause. Y3 pupil, **Niamh Bellew**, respected and remembered all those who have served/continue to serve our country by taking part in a **Remembrance Parade** with the Billingham Symphonia **Scout** Group, at the **Centotaph** on Station Road, Billingham on Sunday, 10th November .



It's that time of year when we plan for the challenges that the weather may bring. Many of you took up the **nasal flu spray** last week 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.**

It is difficult to predict what the conditions will be like this year. The weather may vary from day to day, so a decision to open the school is made each day. As there are many factors to take into account, these decisions are made once it is clear whether the school is able to operate safely and with the correct level of supervision for the children. We endeavour to make the decision as early as possible in order for us to communicate this with parents/carers, as we appreciate that alternative childcare arrangements are often required. In 18 years of headship we have only closed for four school days due to snow. Please remember that some staff live locally whilst many staff travel much further from North Yorkshire, Sunderland and Durham.

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 they 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 18th Nov Road Safety Week & UK Parliament Week  
Wed 20th Nov Y2 Visit Preston Hall  
Fri 22nd Nov 11-12.30pm 30 KS2 Pupils Ice Skating Event

w/c Mon 25th Nov Bring in Items for the Christmas Fair  
Wed 27th Nov 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y4 Pupils  
4.15pm Open Evening for Prospective EY Parents & Carers  
**Fri 29th Nov PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)**

### DECEMBER

Tues 3rd Dec 'School's Big Gig - Rocking Christmas' 1.30-2.30pm at Middlesbrough Town Hall  
Y3 Speed Stacking Event 12.30-2.45pm

Wed 4th Dec 3.30pm Friends of Oakdene Christmas Fair  
Thurs 5th Dec 9.30am 24 Pupils Ice Skating Event  
Christmas Lunch  
**Fri 6th Dec 10.15am Y3 & Y4 Christmas Tableau at St Luke's Church (Y3 & Y4 parents/carers welcome—ticketed event)**

Mon 9th Dec 2.10pm Nativity Performance  
Tues 10th Dec Y5 Visit Centre for Life, Newcastle  
Wed 11th Dec 2.10pm Nativity Performance  
Thurs 12th Dec AM Y1 Christmas Event at St Aidan's Church  
Fri 13th Dec 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Nursery Pupils

Tues 17th Dec 9.10am Y5 & Y6 Christingle  
PM Y1 & Y2 Christmas Parties

Wed 18th Dec PM Y3 & Y4 Christmas Parties  
Thurs 19th Dec AM and PM Little Sycamores and Nursery Christmas Parties  
PM Reception Christmas Party  
PM Y5 & Y6 Christmas Parties

Fri 20th Dec **LAST DAY OF TERM**

**Christmas Holiday: Monday, 23rd December 2024 - Friday, 3rd January 2025**  
**Children will return to school on Monday, 6 January 2025**



### Reception Places for September 2025

If your child was born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021, they will be able to start school in **September 2025**. Parents must apply online for a reception place at Oakdene via the Stockton Borough Council website.

We will be holding our second open evening on **Wednesday, 27th November 2024 at 4.15pm** for prospective parents/carers to visit and look around our **exceptional Early Years environment**.

We are trying to boost numbers so that we can have two small classes.



Y3 pupils enjoyed spending the day as Vikings in a replica **Viking settlement** based on the outskirts of York. The unique educational environment formed part of the history curriculum on their study of **Invaders and Settlers**. **Danelaw Dark Age Village** contains a number of houses, workshops and fields, offering an atmospheric and hands-on learning environment. During the course of the day, the Y3s were **farmers**, hoeing the field and **craftsmen**, making clay oil lamps. Children dressed up in **period-costumes** and carried out a range of activities. They performed household tasks that involved **collecting firewood** and **grinding wheat** to make bread. Guard training was given to help the new settlers protect the village from marauding **Saxons**.



Year 4 visited **Hartlepool Power Station** as part of their **electricity** topic in science. As they were given a guided tour, the Y4s learnt how the power station produces electricity.

In the afternoon, the Y4s completed a **K'NEX STEM** workshop, where they worked **collaboratively** in groups to create an electricity **pylon**, using K'NEX, which met a set of criteria (including height and sturdiness).



### 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, 4th 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 25th: Good quality soft toys**

**Tues 26th: Tombola prizes**

**Wed 27th: Sweets & chocolates**

**Thurs 28th: 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 4th December.



Very well done to Y1 pupil **Harry Robinson** who was awarded his Level 3 and 4 for terrific work on the trampoline.



Congratulations also to Y3 pupil **Niamh Bellew** and Y5 pupil **Eddie-James Midgley** who achieved their L4 and L5 Awards for demonstrating proficiency with their trampoline skills.



Week Ending 15th November 2024  
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs Guest	Parker Purvis	Mabel Dodds-Day	Edith Lewis	Jessie-Rae Allison
YR Miss Dixon	Darcie Murray-Denby	Frankie McCullagh	Freya White	Theo Burgum
Y1 Mrs Brown & Mrs Thompson	Jason Adekunle	Ruben Black	Elliot Hardy	Scarlett Van Wyk
	Bonnie-Rae Scarth-Ferguson	Darcy Hammond	Liam Turner	Jack Bourne
Y2 Mrs Durham	Noah Selvon	Oliver Hall	Aria Dugdale	Issac McCarthy
Y3 Mr Horkan	Michelle Adekunle	Charlotte Eley-Carberry	Alex Wainwright	Jack Blasco
Y4 Miss Robinson	Rupert Hawser	Harley Black	Lily Charlton	Eliza-Grace Mack
Y5SW Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Charlie Kibbler	Harry Laws	William Marshall	Ellis Fearn
Y5M Mr McConnell	Lily Daniel	Alannah Bell	Amber Hammond	Leah Cooley
Y6 Mrs Cowan	Kara Dixon	Holly Hill	Yener Arslan	Jack Wilks

	YR & KS1 Henry Brown	Y3 & Y4 Edward Gardiner-Jukes	Y5 & Y6 Kayci Scott-Mullin
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