

Weekly Newsletter

19th January 2026



Right of the Fortnight: Article 30:

Your Right to Use Your Own Language



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another superb week at Oakdene with children uncovering a **world of possibilities**. We aim to **inspire** each and every child in each and every class to **feel happy, safe and to reach true academic brilliance**.

Mrs Osborne officially launched this year's **RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch** with our pupils. She encouraged everyone to take part in this wonderful national event, helping us **connect with nature** and **boosting our mental health** while contributing to important wildlife research. We're excited to see how many different birds our school community can spot!

We're delighted to introduce a wider range of **Star Awards** across all classes. These awards will be presented at the end of each half term to children who have excelled across a variety of subjects. At the end of the Autumn term, our **Star Scientists** were celebrated and received their very own science kits. This half term, we will be awarding our first ever **Star Musicians**. These children will be chosen for their enthusiasm, progress, commitment and musical creativity during lessons. We look forward to recognising even more of our talented pupils as the year continues!

Stay safe and warm and have a wonderful week!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne

Reception pupils attended the **EY Multisport Festival** at Durham University's Queen's Campus last week. The children experienced a **carousel** of activities including: - dancing, gymnastics, karate, throwing and catching and parachute games. **Physical development** is one of three prime areas of development in the early years and is vital for children's all-round development, enabling them to pursue **happy, healthy and active lives**. This event provided many opportunities for the children to build their **core strength, stability, spatial awareness, coordination and agility** whilst having lots of fun with their peers.



Our KS2 boys put on a fantastic performance at last week's football tournament, finishing in a very impressive **second place**—just missing out on the top spot! The team played with determination, teamwork, and great sportsmanship throughout every match. The children themselves voted for **Landon Quinn and Freddie Bell** as *Players of the Match*, recognising their brilliant effort and contribution on the pitch. The team's excellent behaviour was also praised by organisers and other schools. A huge well done to all the boys for representing our school so proudly!



Dates For Your Diary - Spring Term

Week Commencing 19th Jan After school provision recommences

Mon 19th Jan—Thurs 29th January Swimming Block for Y5 pupils

Thurs 22nd Jan Y4 visit York Chocolate Story



Tues 27th Jan AM Y2 Pirate ABC Sports Festival @ Durham University, Stockton

Fri 30th Jan **PD Day 4 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)**

Week Commencing 2nd Feb 'National Storytelling Week'

Tues 3rd Feb 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Reception Pupils

Y4 visit Hartlepool Power Station

Wed 4th Feb PM 15 pupils from Y3, Y4 & Y5 attend Active Learning Competition @ Durham University, Stockton

Week Commencing 9th Feb 'Children's Mental Health Week'

Mon 9th Feb Safer Internet Day - Online Behaviour Workshops Delivered by Bigfoot Arts Education to Y3-Y6 pupils.

Tues 10th Feb KS2 Dance Festival @ Durham University, Stockton

Fri 13th Feb 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y5 Pupils

Y5/Y6 Football Tournament @ Stockton Town FC

Mon 16th Feb Launch Readathon

Tues 17th Feb Chinese New Year & Shrove Tuesday

9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y1 Pupils

Wed 18th Feb Y1 visit Shildon Railway Museum & UV Dodgeball

Fri 20th Feb Break up for half term

HALF TERM

Monday 23rd February - Friday 27th February

Monday 2nd March - Children Return to School

Tues 3rd March 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y6 Pupils

Wed 4th March Careers in Medical Workshops & pm Y5/Y6 Netball Competition

Thurs 5th March World Book Day & Readathon Celebration

Week commencing 9th March Launch of British Science Week & Careers Week

Tues 10th March AM - Curling event @ Durham University, Stockton

Weds 11th March 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y3 Pupils

Y5SW attend Trust Residential at Streonshah Field Study Centre, East Whitby Primary Academy, Whitby.

Tues 17th March 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y4 Pupils (change of date)

Wed 18th March Wheelchair Basketball

Fri 20th March Red Nose Comic Relief Charity Day

Mon 23rd March World Maths Day & KS1 Theatre visit 'Gruffalo's Child'

Wed 25th March 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y2 Pupils

Fri 27th March 30 KS2 girls attend Wildcats Football @ Stockton Town FC

W/c 30th March Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers

Tues 31st March PM 10 pupils from Y5/Y6 Hockey @ Norton Sports Complex

Thurs 2nd April 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Nursery Pupils & Children break up for Easter

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Friday, 3rd April - Friday, 17th April

Monday, 20th April Summer Term commences—children return to school

Week Ending 12th January 2026

Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

| Class | Star of the Week | Star Reader | Star Writer | Star Mathematician |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Nursery Mrs Guest | Charlie Pearn | Eleanor Sutheran | Grace Bellew | Charlie Kelly |
| YRC Miss Dixon | Archer Dixon | Rory Baker | Willow Watts | Harrison Howdle |
| YRK Miss Dignen | Ruby Bunn | Max Kendall | Rory Liddle | Ruben Earle |
| Y1B Mrs Brown | Rose Westmoreland | Layton Wardle | Dexter Dobson | Aubree Kitchin |
| Y2D Mrs Durham | Jason Adekunle | Dylan Allon | Delilah Dodds-Day | Isabel Liddle |
| Mrs Thompson | Izzy Matthews | Willow Earle | Alfie Cain | Harper Cooper |
| Y3H Mr Horkan | Louis Ferguson | Oakley Harrison | Fionn Baker | Esmea Skipp |
| Y4R Miss Robinson | Niamh Bellew | Michelle Adekunle | Roman Chesworth | Malachi Worth |
| Y5SW Mrs Smith | Scarlett Allon | Hannah Liddle | Aalia Dobson | Jacob Edgar |
| Mrs Wilson | Albert Balanescu | Rupert Culley | Lewis Harris | Lacie Love |
| Y6C Mrs Cowan | Finley Orley | Alyssa Frost-Usher | Piper Noon | Sophie-Alysa Minter |
| Y6M Mr McConnell | Annie Murray | Fearne Fisher | Kain Carmichael | Harry Laws |

