

Weekly Newsletter 20th October 2025



Right of the Fortnight: Article 16:

Your right to have privacy



Dear Parents/Carers,

Another week has passed and we only have this week left before our **half term break**. I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge **well done** to all of the staff and children for their hard work this half term. It's been a fun-packed seven weeks so far.

Thank you to everyone for supporting the cake sale—by donating Hallowe'en-themed cakes and for those who bought the delicious treats. Thanks to the Friends of Oakdene & staff for trying to make the queue move quickly—great team work. We made a total profit of **£529.40**.

With Hallowe'en and Bonfire Night also on the horizon, a reminder to everyone to **stay safe** and to keep your children supervised. The clocks will go back **in the early hours of Sunday, 26th October**, giving everyone an extra hour in bed. Changing the clocks in October gives us an **extra hour** of morning daylight in the darkness of autumn and winter.

Finally, we are supporting the **Royal British Legion** in school and will be selling items from today, **20th October** for the children to buy if they wish. **Suggested donations** are: 50p for a zip-pull or a reflector; £1.00 for a wrist band and £1.50 for a snap band. Poppies are also available for a small donation.

Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you after the half-term on **Monday, 3rd November 2025**.

Starting after the half-term break, we kindly ask that all **KS2 children** bring only **fruit or vegetables** as their snack. This change supports Trust policy and our commitment to promoting healthy eating habits across the school. In addition, KS2 pupils will now enjoy their snacks **in the classroom**, just like our KS1 children. Thank you for your support in helping us create a **healthier** and more consistent environment for all our learners.

Have a wonderful half-term!

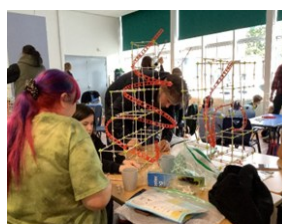
Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne



Last week, our Year 6 pupils — along with their very competitive parents and carers rose to the challenge in spectacular fashion during our **STEM Family Challenge: Engineering with EDT**. Tasked with designing and building a working rollercoaster model, families embraced the **spirit of engineering with creativity, teamwork, and determination**. Inspired by the **Engineering Development Trust's** hands-on approach to **STEM learning**, the challenge encouraged problem-solving, critical thinking, and a whole lot of fun!

From loops and drops, the rollercoasters showcased impressive ingenuity and a real understanding of **engineering principles**. It was fantastic to see families **working together**, sharing ideas, and celebrating the joy of learning through making.

A huge well done to everyone who took part — you truly brought STEM to life!



Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term

OCTOBER - Oracy October & Black History Month

Tues 21st Oct	4.00pm Open Evening for Prospective New 2026 Reception/ EYFS Starters
Wed 22nd Oct	PM Y1 Sports Festival
Thurs 23rd Oct	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y3 Pupils Hallowe'en Discos (No Extra-curricular Clubs) Y1-Y3 4.00-4.50pm and Y4-Y6 5.00-6.00pm
Fri 24th Oct	Children Break Up for Half-Term

Half-Term Break Monday, 27th Oct - Friday, 31st Oct

NOVEMBER	Non-Fiction November
Wed 5th Nov	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y2 Pupils PM Y5 & Y6 Boys Football
Thurs 6th Nov	Y3 visit Danelaw Viking Village
Fri 7th Nov	Y5 Scavenger Hunt & Team Building Event, Northfield AM
w/c Mon 10th Nov	Parent Consultation Evenings (No Extra-curricular Clubs this week)
Wed 12th Nov	18 children from Y3/Y4 attend Indoor Athletics event
Fri 14th Nov	Children In Need Day Flu Nasal Spray (pupils from Rec-Y6) Please return consent forms
w/c Mon 17th Nov	Road Safety Week
Wed 19th Nov	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y5 Pupils
Thurs 20th Nov	Y1 'One Snowy Night' visit
Fri 21st Nov	Individual & Sibling Photographs
w/c Mon 24th Nov	UK Parliament Week & Young Poets Week
Tues 25th Nov	9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y4 Pupils
Wed 26th Nov	PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)
Tues 2nd Dec	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	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



Last week, our Year 1 pupils enjoyed a wonderful visit to the **Forum Theatre in Billingham** to watch a **live performance of *The Smeds and the Smoos***.

The **theatre visit** was a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience one of **Julia Donaldson's** (Y1 key author) texts brought to life on stage. With colourful characters, catchy songs, and a heartwarming message about **friendship** and **acceptance**, the show **captivated** everyone from start to finish. The children were thrilled to see the story unfold in such a vibrant and engaging way. This experience not only supported their literacy learning but also helped develop their appreciation for the **arts**.

It was a joyful day full of **laughter, learning, and inspiration** — and one we're sure they'll remember for a long time!



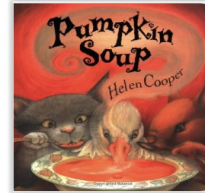
Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from

Mrs Wardle

'Pumpkin Soup'

by **Helen Cooper**



Pumpkin Soup is a fun and colourful story with words that sound like music when you read them out loud.

The three friends in the story are really **lovable characters**, and the **illustrations** are so good you can almost feel the soft fur, smell the soup, and see the crunchy leaves all around.

It's a cosy, happy book that's perfect for you to **look at and listen to** during **Autumn!**

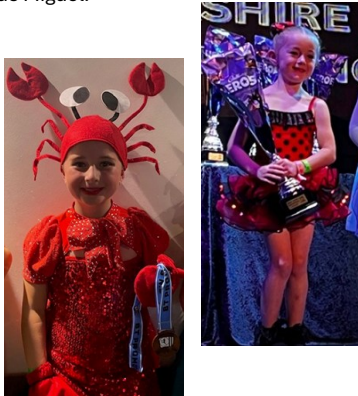
We're thrilled to share the **fantastic achievements** of the Daniel family at the **North Yorkshire Open Stage Dance Festival** held at Flamingoland. **Lily** (Y6) danced a beautiful ballet piece and was awarded **3rd place** — she performed with such grace and elegance in her beautiful costume.

Rosie (Y4) placed **5th** for her *Little Mermaid* trio, where she took on the role of Sebastian. The trio competed against dancers aged 12–13, making their placement even more impressive.

Poppy truly shone across multiple categories: **1st place** for her Modern and Song performance, **2nd place** for her Duet and **4th place** for Tap.

Poppy was selected to perform her Modern piece again in the **Juvenile Supreme Section**. Despite the challenge of dancing on a much larger stage in a packed venue, she showed incredible bravery and delivered an outstanding performance — earning **5th place** in this prestigious category!

Together, **Lily, Rosie, and Poppy** also placed **5th** for their school troupe performance of *Coco*, with Rosie taking the lead as Miguel.



Congratulations to **Evie Richardson (Year 5)** for achieving her **Level 8 Proficiency Award** in gymnastics — a fantastic accomplishment that reflects her dedication and skill!

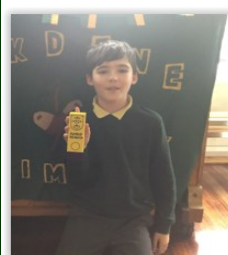
A big well done also to **Hallie Richardson (Year 2)** who earned her **Level 4 Proficiency Award** — a brilliant achievement at such a young age!

We're incredibly proud of both girls for their hard work and progress. Keep up the great work!



Congratulations to **Milo Hancock (Year 5)** who was nominated **Player of the Match** — a fantastic recognition of his effort, teamwork, and performance on the field.

Well done, Milo!



Week Ending 17th October 2025

Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs Gussat	Oskar Flatman	Brooklyn Butler	Charlotte Ayre	Jessica Wilson
Y1C Miss Dixon	Alicia Edwards	Sophia Peers	Archer Dixon	Junior Morgan
Y1K Miss Dignen	Lottie Cooper	Lola Langridge	Max Kendall	Finlay Ayre
Y1B Mrs Brown	Alais Cunningham	Elsie Bologun	Wyatt Hold	Annie Tunney
Y2D Mrs Durham Mrs Thompson	Altay Arslan	Isabel Liddle	Hollie Richardson	Nate Oliver
	Elliot Hardy	Katy Coates	Aysel Khan	Destiny Murray
Y3H Mr Horlan	Joseph Luker	Mia Hudetcka	Brianna Pearce	Charlie Beken
Y4R Miss Robinson	Malachi Worth	Darcie Barry	Lola O'Hare	Freddie McQuilling
Y5SW Mrs Smith Mrs Wilson	Theo Smith-Sewell	Jake Marshall	Rupert Culley	Lewis Harris
	Evie Richardson	Spencer Lee	Scarlett Allen	Harley Black
Y6C Mrs Cowan	Nancy Green	Sah Bestock	Florence Bruce	Ellis Fearns
Y6M Mr McConnell	Lily Lloyd	Olivia-Grace Allison	Ameez Ali	Autumn Lonsdale



Y1 & Y1
Wyatt Hold

Y2 & Y3
Brianna Pearce

Y4, Y5 & Y6
Rupert Culley