

Weekly Newsletter 23rd June 2025



Right of the Fortnight: Article 24:

Your right to food & water
and to see a doctor if you are ill.



Dear Parents/Carers,

WOW! What a week with so many achievements to **celebrate**. Our children **continue** to **achieve significantly above the national averages** (nat ave) for 2024 (2025 national data isn't released until the Autumn term). **74%** of reception pupils achieved a **Good Level of Development** (67% *nat ave* 2024). In the **Y1 Phonics Screening Check**, a phenomenal **92%** met the standard (80% *nat ave* 2024) and **100%** of the Y2 resits met the standard. **68% of Y4s achieved 25/25 in the Y4 Multiplication Tables Check results** (34% *nat ave* 2024). **KS2 SATS results** will be published on **8th July**.

Last week, our school celebrated **National Refugee Week**, a time to honour the **strength, creativity, and resilience** of people who have been **forced** to **flee** their homes. Mrs Osborne shared the theme for 2025, **"Community as a Superpower,"** in a whole school assembly and reminded us that when we come together, we can create **spaces of safety, belonging and hope**. Throughout the week, pupils explored what it means to be part of a **community**—whether that's through **sharing stories**, learning about **different cultures**, or simply offering a **smile** to someone new. We discovered that small acts of kindness, when multiplied, can become a powerful force for good.

Y1-Y3 accessed a virtual author event with **Patricia McCormick** and **Mevan Babakar**. **'The Bicycle'** inspired pupils to put their **creativity** and **compassion** into action as they wrote heartfelt class **poems**. While those in Years 4, 5 and 6 thoughtfully created **class pledges** inspired by the work and writing of **A M Dassu**. These inspiring pieces will be proudly displayed in our Wellbeing Pod, now featuring a newly developed **Refugee Area** complete with a tent to help **foster empathy and understanding**.

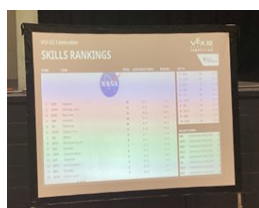
Have a fantastic week!

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne



In September, **Mr Horkan** became our new computing lead, and he hit the ground running with a mission to put our school on the **computing map**. In January, he gathered an **enthusiastic** group of **Year 6** pupils who **dedicated** their Tuesday evenings to an exciting new adventure: **VEX robotics**. Throughout the year, this team learned how to **design, build, and code robots** while tackling real-world challenges—like climate change—through a series of **problem-solving tasks**. All their hard work led up to the VEX Robotics Competition at **Nissan** in Sunderland last week.

Accompanied by Mr Horkan and Mrs Cowan, our team entered the event with hopes of **learning** and having **fun**, since it was Oakdene's very first time **competing** against 14 North East schools. But the Year 6s **exceeded** all expectations—**dominating** every challenge up until the final round! They achieved a very respectable **2nd place** and received additional **robotics kit** to grow our collection and **skills** for next year. The VEX Robotics pathway opens the door to competitions on a local and regional level, with opportunities to reach the UK National Championships—and even the World Championships. We couldn't be prouder of what our **young engineers** have already achieved.



Childcare Choices

12 May stakeholder mini-toolkit

From September 2025, eligible working parents will be able to access 30 hours of funded childcare a week, for 38 weeks of the year, starting from the term after their child turns 9 months old until they begin school.

On Monday 12 May, all eligible working parents of children who will be at least nine months old on or before 31 August will now be able to apply for their 30 hours childcare. This marks an important milestone in the lead-up to the full rollout in September, when working parents will gain access to the final stage of the working parent entitlement.

The Department for Education is marking this milestone with a range of activity to promote the working entitlements to parents, reminding them to get their code and to visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to find out more about the support available to them.

Dates For Your Diary - Summer Term

w/c Mon 23th June	School Diversity Week
Wed 25th June	3.30pm - Art Gallery Event for Y1 Parents & Carers
Wed 25th-	
Fri 27th June	Y6 Residential
w/c Mon 30th June	Launch Summer Reading Challenge
Thurs 3rd July	Y5 Visit Eden Camp
	Y1 Visit Saltburn-By-The-Sea
Fri 4th July	Y4 Independence Day Party
Mon 7th July-Fri 18th July	Y5 Swimming (Block 3)
Tues 8th July	4.30pm - Meeting for Parents and Carers of September 2025 New Reception Pupils
Weds 16th July	6.00pm Y6 Leavers' Performance (Change of date)
Fri 18th July	2pm Sports Day for Pupils in Y4-Y6
Mon 21st July	Meet My New Teacher Event
Tues 22nd July	2.15pm Sports Day for Pupils in Y1-Y3 (Change of date)
	Reception Pupils Olympic Celebratory Event
Wed 23rd July	Some Y6 Pupils Attend Summer School @ Northfield
	3.30pm Friends of Oakdene Summer Fayre
Thurs 24th July	Little Sycamores and Nursery AM and PM
	Teddy Bears' Picnic
Fri 25th July	LAST DAY OF THE SUMMER TERM



Dates For Your Diary - September 2025 to July 2026

PD Days

- 1 September 2025
- 26 September 2025
- 28 November 2025
- 30 January 2026
- 28 July 2026

Autumn term 2025

The Autumn term runs from: Monday 1 September to Friday 19 December 2025. Monday 1 September is a PD day so children will return to school on Tuesday 2 September 2025. There is also a PD day on Friday 26 September 2025.

Half-term holiday runs from: Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October 2025 inclusive. The children will break up on Friday 24 October. The children will return to school on Monday 3 November 2025.

Christmas holidays run from: Monday 22 December 2024 to Friday 2 January 2026 inclusive. The children break up on Friday 19 December 2025.

Spring term 2025

The Spring term runs from: Monday 5 January to Thursday 2 April 2026. The children will return to school on Monday 5 January 2026. There is a PD day on Friday 30 January.

Half-term holiday runs from: Monday 23 February to Friday 27 February 2026 inclusive. The children will break up on Friday 20 February and will return to school on Monday 2 March 2026.

Easter holidays run from: Friday 3 April to Friday 17 April 2026 inclusive. The children will break up on Thursday 2 April and will return to school on Monday 20 April 2026.

Summer term 2025

The Summer term runs from: Monday 20 April to Monday 27 July 2026.

Bank holiday (school closed): Monday 4 May 2026

Half-term holiday runs from: Monday 25 May to Friday 5 June 2026 inclusive (two weeks). The children will break up on Friday 22 May and will return to school on Monday 8 June 2026.

The children's last day at school before the summer holidays will be Tuesday 27 July 2026.

The **statutory** key stage 2 tests (Y6 SATS) are timetabled from **Monday 11 May to Thursday 14 May 2026**.



Year 1 pupil, **Bonnie-Rae Scarth-Ferguson** loves being part of **Deerness Gymnastics Academy**, where she's building confidence, learning new skills, and having lots of fun along the way. Bonnie has **perfected** her routine and was awarded a medal. Amazing!



Y1 pupil, **Izzy Matthews**, was presented with a medal from the **International Dance Teachers' Association** in recognition of her outstanding **dedication** and **talent** in dance.

Izzy's graceful moves and hard work have truly **impressed**, and this achievement is a wonderful **celebration** of her passion. Well done, Izzy—keep dancing!



Congratulations to Year 3 pupil, **Niamh Bellew**, who recently took a tap dancing **examination**.

She **impressed** the judges and was awarded a **Highly Commended** certificate and a medal in recognition of her **fantastic performance**.

Well done, Niamh!



This week's recommended read is from **Mrs Osborne**
'The Bicycle' by **Patricia McCormick and Mevan Babakar**.



This is a **true story** of how a simple act of **kindness** changed a young refugee's life. It's based on **Mevan Babakar's** own childhood and provides a moving reminder of the **challenges** faced by refugees all over the world.

The sports at the Queen Elizabeth Campus hall buzzed with **energy** as some **Year 5** pupils took part in an exhilarating **dodgeball** event filled with fast-paced action, **teamwork**, and endless laughter.

From the first whistle, the children showed **determination** and **enthusiasm** in equal measure. Teams were mixed at random, creating fresh opportunities for **friendships** and ensuring everyone had a **chance to shine**. Whether they were nimbly dodging incoming balls or launching with impressive **accuracy**, every child enjoyed their moment in the **spotlight**.

Sportsmanship stole the show, with opponents exchanging high-fives, cheers echoing from the sidelines, and a shared sense of fun lighting up the room. The staff were especially **proud** of how the children **encouraged** and **supported** one another—proving that it's not just about winning, but about playing fair and enjoying the game together.








The **Build Your Future** campaign is all about inspiring the next generation and showing young people the real **potential** behind **Careers** in construction. **Samuel Moore Roofing** will be completing a roof project at Oakdene during the summer break and offered to lead a **Roofing Awareness Day** for all pupils from Reception to Y6.

Roofing often gets overlooked as a career. The workshops delivered the message that construction is a **skilled, respected and rewarding** career—whether it's **roofing, bricklaying, electrics**, or any other **trade**.



Week Ending 20th June 2025
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs. Guest	Rosie-Mae Scarth- Ferguson	Alfie Lynch	Ruby Bunn	Jensen Langstaff
YR Miss Dixon	Annie Tunney	Oscar Stainsby	Junior Scarth- Ferguson	Nellie Puckering
Y1 Mrs Brown & Mrs Thompson	Altay Arslan	Katy Coates	Thomasin Scotland	Jaxon Moutrey
	Harper Cooper	Axyl Edgar	Michael Smith	Dylan Allon
Y2 Mrs. Durham	Issac McCarthy	Brianna Pearce	Arabella Sedgwick	Lincoln Wardle
Y3 Mr Horkan	Lillymae Morgan	Oliver Coates	Lola Pearce	Lilly Dixon
Y4 Miss Robinson	Exie-Jayne Harrison	Harrison Unsworth	Beth Denmark	Jake Marshall
Y5SW Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Ava Hammond	Amez Ali	Archie Hall	Toby Chocholko
Y5M Mr McConnell	Annie Murray	Nancy Green	Sophie-Alysa Minter	Olivia-Grace Allison
Y6 Mrs Cowan	Jack Wilks	Arta Ahmadi	Daniel Young	Morgan Titlestad

	YR & KSI Nellie Puckering	Y3 & Y4 Darcie Berry	Y5 & Y6 Amez Ali
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