

Weekly Newsletter
30th 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,

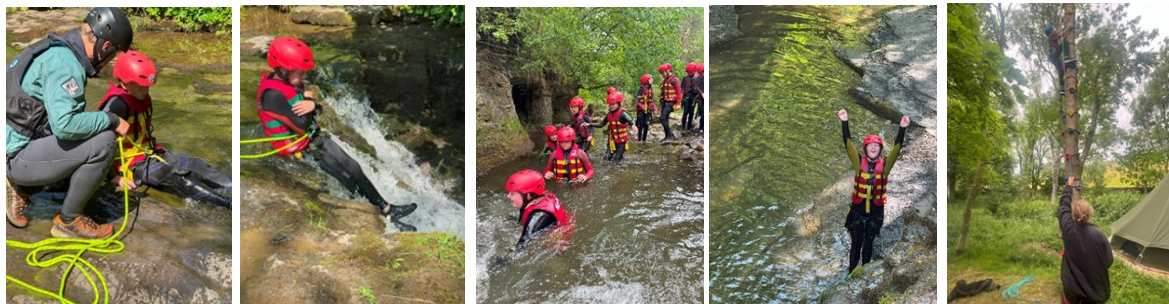
Once again our Oakdene family celebrated **School Diversity Week 2025**. The entire school community came together to recognise and embrace the wonderfully diverse world we're part of — a week full of learning, sharing, and celebrating what makes each of us **unique**. From themed assemblies and classroom discussions, to creative projects and inclusive storytelling, pupils explored the **richness** of different **identities, cultures** and **experiences**. Every corner of Oakdene echoed the values of respect, kindness and unity. This week's celebrations perfectly complemented our ongoing commitment to the **Rainbow Flag Award**, a visible sign of our dedication to LGBTQ+ **inclusion** across the **curriculum** and school environment. By embedding the Rainbow Flag principles in all we do — from leadership to policy to classroom practice — we're not just talking about **equality**, we're living it.

As **temperatures rise**, we want to ensure that all our pupils **stay safe, healthy, and comfortable** during warmer days at school. We'll continue to **monitor heat levels** and adjust outdoor activities as needed. We'll offer more **shade** and plan more **breaks** to ensure everyone stays safe. Please help us by keeping the following in mind: **Water bottles**: Ensure your child brings a reusable water bottle each day. Hydration is key! **Sun protection**: Apply sunscreen at home before school and consider a sunhat for outdoor play. **Cool clothing**: Light, loose-fitting clothing helps pupils stay cool and enjoy their day.

As a school community, we were deeply saddened to learn of the tragic loss of 13-year-old Mylo Capilla in Ingleby Barwick. Our thoughts and heartfelt **condolences** go out to Mylo's family, friends, and everyone at **All Saints Academy, Ingleby Barwick** during this incredibly difficult time. This tragedy serves as a **poignant reminder** of the **importance of water safety**, especially as we experience heatwaves and approach the summer holidays. We urge all our pupils and families to be extra **cautious around rivers, lakes, and open water**. Please speak with your children about the dangers and encourage safe choices when playing near or in water. Together, let us honour Mylo's **memory** by looking out for one another and staying safe.

Have a wonderful week!
Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne

Last week, our Year 6 pupils embarked on a **memorable three-day residential trip**, swapping screens for streams and technology for trees. **Immersed** in nature, they embraced the **outdoors**—boosting both their **mental and physical wellbeing**. From sharing stories around the **campfire** to exploring the natural world, the children created **lasting memories** with their friends and teachers. It was a special opportunity to build **teamwork**, and **reflect** on their journey through primary school as they prepare for the next **exciting chapter**. A huge thank you to Mrs Cowan and Miss Robinson for staying overnight with the children.



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 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 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**.



Y3 pupil, **Malachi Worth**, plays football for **Billingham United Under 8s Team**. Malachi was nominated '**Top Team Player**' for the football season by his football coaches and was presented with this spectacular trophy. Many congratulations Malachi!



We're proud to celebrate Year 4 pupil, **Evie Richardson**, who has been making fantastic progress at **Zi Shiying Tang Soo Do**. In her most recent **grading exam**, Evie impressed her instructors and was awarded a new **belt** and **certificate** in recognition of her hard work and skill. Evie **confidently** shared her achievement—and demonstrated her **excellent technique**—during our recent Celebration Assembly. Well done, Evie!



Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from
Mr Horkan
'We are all Different'
by Tracey Turner



This beautiful book reinforces that everyone has something to offer, that diversity enriches our lives, and it also considers what all human beings have in common - that there is more that unites us than divides us.



Angela Foster (Stockton librarian) promoted the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge today. She was delighted to announce the theme for 2025 is the **Story Garden**. This exciting new theme will inspire children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the connection between storytelling and nature.

Children aged 4-11 can visit **Billingham Library** from **Saturday, 5th July** onwards to join the adventure and discover the magical world where stories grow.





If there's one thing you can do before/ during the school holidays is keep up the daily/regular **reading habits**.

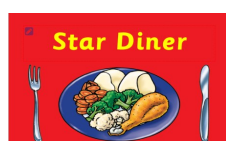
We were thrilled to welcome our Year 1 parents and carers to a spectacular **Art Gallery** event showcasing the creativity of our young artists. Inspired by the bold colours and expressive brushstrokes of their Key Artist **Vincent Van Gogh**, the children worked incredibly hard to produce vibrant, imaginative pieces that truly lit up the room.

Parents and carers had the wonderful opportunity to purchase their child's **framed artwork**, a **hand-painted sunflower pot**, and a **beautifully designed mug**. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who came along and supported our young artists.



Week Ending 27th June 2025
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Nursery Mrs. Guest	Ruben Earle	Junior Morgan	Edith Lewis	Katelyn Swales-Clark
YR Miss Dixon	Leighton Wardle	Aubree Kitchen	Darcie Murray- Denby	Wyatt Hold
Y1 Mrs. Brown & Mrs. Thompson	Izzy Matthews	Jason Adekunle	Isla Featherstone	Altay Arslan
	Prashwita Bhimavarapu	Aysel Khan	Delilah Dodds-Day	Darcy Hammond
Y2 Mrs. Durham	Aria Dugdale	Charlie Beken	Elsie Dinsdale- Swales	Noah Selvon
Y3 Mr Horkan	Oakley Purvis	Michelle Adekunle	Darcie Berry	Max Prout
Y4 Miss Robinson	Quinn Parkin	Harley Wallace	Gracie Dale	Daisy Thompson
Y5SW Mrs. Wilson & Mrs. Smith	Brooke Love	Hollie Dale	Reuben Edgar	Jake Atkinson
Y5M Mr McConnell	Ben Bainbridge	Alyssa Frost-Usher	Lily Daniel	George Reevell
Y6 Mrs. Cowan	Residential	Residential	Residential	Residential



YR & KSI
Willow Earle

Y3 & Y4
Anna Cooley

Y5 & Y6
Arta Ahmadi