

Weekly Newsletter
7th March 2022



**Right of the Fortnight: Article 28:
Your right to learn and go to school.**



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a brilliant first week back at Oakdene and, as usual, our feet haven't touched the ground. There are lots of events, trips and activities planned in the coming weeks as we run up towards Easter. Please check out the dates for the diary page each week to keep up-to-date.

World Book Day

We celebrated World Book day last Thursday and it was wonderful to see staff and children in their costumes dressed as their favourite book characters. Reading remains a huge focus in school and we want every child to be able to read fluently. Check out the photographs and further information about our special day on the next page.

Ukraine

The images of Russia's invasion of Ukraine continues to be distressing and concerning. The children may have questions or be seeking reassurance. It's likely they have overheard conversations or seen events unfold on television/radio/social media and are curious about the cause and the impact that this may have both globally and locally.

At times like these, the crucial role of the teacher and their true value is shown when they face off-the-cuff questions. Please be assured that, while we are not teaching children about the war in Ukraine, what we are doing is ensuring they have a safe environment to talk about what they see, remember, and are feeling now. The guidance and safety of adults at home and in school enables them to navigate their own emotions and trauma in a healthy, safe and productive way.

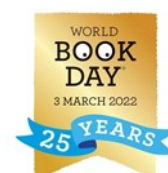
Fundamental British Values

Fundamental British values are an integral part of our curriculum, ensuring children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background. Every school must promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs. This ensures young people understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain. This must be extended beyond the school gates - modelled by our parents, carers and wider community.

Finally, our Covid risk assessment has been updated. Detailed information regarding the **parent/carer consultation evenings** is being prepared. Invitations will provide you with the option of face to face meetings or telephone consultations.

Have a great week!

Mrs E Bramley & Miss C Champion



At Oakdene we had an amazing time celebrating **World Book Day**. Teachers and children looked fabulous dressed up as their favourite book characters - a huge thank you to all parents and carers for showing how creative you can be! Teachers planned exciting activities around their key author/s so that the children were **immersed in the enjoyment of reading for pleasure**. Mrs Stevenson officially opened '**The Reading Retreat**' so that children can access at quiet times or get hooked in a book during break times. Special parcels arrived at the main office for children in reception and Y1. The boxes contained reading buddies for every child. This is a great way to instil **daily reading habits for life**. Hopefully, the children came home and shared their new found knowledge and were inspired to read for pleasure at every opportunity.

Following on from this, at the end of last week and going into this week, all classes enjoyed a **Book Tasting activity**, which enabled them to explore different book genres and new authors. The idea was that the children spent time reading books that challenged their book choices and hopefully inspired them to move away from familiar authors and continue to expand their knowledge of authors and the range of books available to them.



Dates For Your Diary - Spring Term

Fairtrade Fortnight Continues

Tues 8th March Y3 Stone Age Visit

11th -20th March British Science Week

Mon 14th March Launch of British Science Week

Tues 15th March Y1 Extraordinary Forest Experience

Fri 18th March Red Nose Comic Relief Charity Day

W/c 21st March Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers for Early Years, Y1 and Y2/30.

Mon 21st March YR Hall Hill Farm Visit

Tues 22nd March Y1 Fire Station Visit

Wed 23rd March World Maths Day

W/c 28th March Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers for Y2F, Y3-Y6.

Mon 28th March Y2/30 Washington Wetlands Visit

Tues 29th March Y1 Theatre Visit based on Key Author

Wed 30th March Y2F Washington Wetlands Visit

Tues 5th April Y5 Oriental Museum Visit

Fri 8th April **Children break up for Easter**

EASTER HOLIDAYS
Monday 11th April - Friday 22nd April

Mon 25th April
Summer term commences—children return to school



Summer Term Statutory Assessments

KS1

- Week commencing 6th June: Y1 Phonics Screening Check & Y2 resits.
- May 2022 KS1 SATs test period.

KS2

- 3-week period commencing 6th June: Y4 Multiplication Tables Check
- Key Stage 2 SATs are timetabled Monday 9th May- Thursday 12th May 2022.

Mon 9th May: English grammar, punctuation & spelling papers 1 & 2.

Tues 10th May: English reading

Wed 11th May: Mathematics Paper 1 & 2

Thurs 12th May: Mathematics Paper 3

Weekly Awards - week-ending
Friday, 4th March 2022

Congratulations to each of our
Star Pupils:


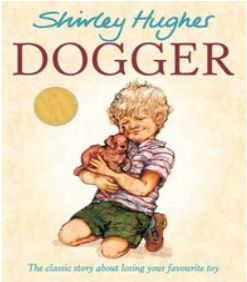
Nursery	- Aria Dugdale & Joseph Luker
Reception	- Ivy-May Fiddes
Little Willows	- Theo Smith-Sewell
Y1L	- Lily Charlton
Y2F	- Elliot Lambert
Y2/30	- Amber Hammond
Y3R	- Jaden Ridley
Y4L	- Monica Dobson
Y4SW	- Oliver Copland
Y5BE	- Jacob Stephenson
Y6G	- Michael Booth
Y6S	- Emilie Haley

Weekly Awards - week-ending
Friday, 4th March 2022

Congratulations to each of our
Remarkable Readers:

Nursery	- Nate Oliver & Caleb Jefferies
Reception	- Lilly Dixon
Little Willows	- Harrison Kirk
Y1L	- Sophie Squires
Y2F	- Leighton Harvey
Y2/30	- Piper Noon
Y3R	- Teddie Edmenson
Y4L	- Zac Dale
Y4SW	- Emily Daniel
Y5BE	- Lilly Jackson
Y6G	- Launa Evis
Y6S	- Isabelle Ker


Recommended Read
This week's recommended read is from Miss Anderson.
"Dogger"
by best loved author and illustrator Shirley Hughes
(who sadly died last week age 94).

This is a heart-warming book about a boy who loses his favourite toy, and how his family come together to help him get it back again.

Classes enjoyed **World Book Day reading, listening, and singing** activities to celebrate reading for pleasure from Tees Valley Music Service.

Many congratulations to one of our reception pupils, **Rosie**, for entering a competition and winning prizes with her fabulous Hansel & Gretel illustrations.



Rosie won a copy of Hansel and Gretel in addition to a WBD £1 voucher. Our school also received a small book bundle as a thank you for supporting the event.

On **Friday, 18th March**, to raise money for **Comic Relief**, the Rights Respecting Steering Group have organised a non-school uniform day in exchange for a suggested donation of £1.

The children are more than welcome to wear a plastic free red nose (available in supermarkets) and as part of their outfit, we will be encouraging them to include something **red, black or white or a combination.**

Please don't buy anything especially for this event. Just ensure that whatever your child decides to wear, it is both practical and appropriate for a day in school (including break and lunchtimes).



Science Gadget Shop



The return of the gadget shop!

Our popular gadget shop was launched last year and is returning for **British Science Week!**

Every day, running from Monday, 14th until Friday, 18th March, the Y5s will be selling gadgets to all classes.

Gadgets range from **50p to £2.50** and include finger flying rockets, fossil digging kits, volcano erupting sets, balloon racing cars and many more! We look forward to seeing you there!

Shrove Tuesday The Y1 children made their batter which they in turn used to create their own pancakes. The children surveyed different toppings on pre-prepared pancakes, had pancake races and shared the classic story 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes'.

How do you like your pancakes? Do you pile on the chocolate, ice-cream and fruit? Or is it best to keep it simple with classic lemon and sugar? Are you a savoury pancake person? Thick or thin? Have you mastered the flip? These are just some of the questions I heard Mrs Morris asking in the Kitchen Corner.



The **Mayor of Stockton-on-Tees** for 2021/22 is Councillor Kevin Faulks. Part of the role of Mayor is to promote civic pride within our communities.

The Mayor was delighted to visit our school to give Y5 pupils an insight into the ceremonial role of the Mayor along with how the Council works. He was also keen to promote having pride in our borough and keeping the environment clean and tidy. Councillor Faulks couldn't hide his passion for 'The Boro'!

