

Weekly Newsletter
17th January 2022



Right of the Fortnight: Article 30:
Your Right to Use Your own Name



Dear Parents/Carers,

You will be aware that the new Omicron variant of Covid 19 is spreading quickly within the community and there are a high number of cases in Billingham. Billingham currently has one of the highest infection rates in England. This has transferred into an increase in confirmed cases in school for both staff and pupils. Current national guidance allows children to attend school even if members of their household have tested positive. In 90% of cases at Oakdene we can identify how this has resulted in more cases. This provides a real challenge to mitigate the risk of transmission.

Although national guidance may change, we need to continue to work in partnership with you to ensure we have correct ratios and safe staffing levels. We have always taken a cautious approach at all times during the pandemic and continue to work hard to ensure the safety of our school community by adhering to four key systems of control:

- Continue to ensure good hand and respiratory hygiene for everyone,**
- Continue to have enhanced cleaning throughout the school day,**
- Continue to keep occupied spaces well ventilated and**
- Continue to follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid –19.**

In addition we have kept measures in place such as:

- Children are still broadly grouped in classes in lessons and in the dining hall. The children are in bubbles for staggered outdoor break times.
- Seating plans and classroom groupings from Y1-Y6.
- Staggered starts, departs, breaks, and lunchtimes.
- Wear P.E. kits (reduce changing)
- Discourage children from bringing any items into school other than water bottles and book bags.
- Limit visitors and insist they do LFTs prior to visiting.
- Offer virtual meetings to limit contacts.
- Teacher email accounts to aid communication between home and school.
- No after-school provision nor assemblies.
- **Please wear a face covering should you need to speak to a member of staff and maintain a safe distance when bringing/collecting your child. PROTECT OUR TEAM**
- Staff wearing face coverings to meet & greet parents/carers and in communal areas.
- **Send out letters to inform parents/carers if there is a new notified case of Covid in your child's class.**

All of the above is continually reviewed and in line with our Outbreak Management Plan; additional controls may be introduced if necessary. Please be assured these decisions will be taken following **school specific advice** from our colleagues at Public Health, Health & Safety and Local Authority.

We have been overwhelmed with the kind words, appreciative emails and offers of support. This has really helped team Oakdene going through the past two weeks.

THANK YOU!

Mrs E Bramley



Dates For Your Diary - Spring Term

Week Commencing 24th January to Fri 4th February —Y5 Swimming Block 2

Thurs 27th Jan Y3 Stone Age Visit North York Moors
4pm Virtual Parent Consultation re: Academy Conversion
Fri 28th Jan BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH

Week Commencing 31st January 'National Storytelling Week'

Tues 1st Feb Chinese New Year

Week Commencing 7th February 'Children's Mental Health Week'

Tues 8th Feb Safer Internet Day
Wed 9th Feb YR & Y6 Pupils Height & Weight Checks
Fri 18th Feb Last day of the half term.

HALF TERM

Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February

Mon 28th Feb **PD Day 5 for Staff Training** (school closed for pupils)

Week commencing 28th Feb: Fairtrade Fortnight Celebrations

Tues 1st March Children return to school
Pancake Tuesday

Thurs 3rd March World Book Day

Mon 14th March Launch of British Science Week
Fri 18th March Red Nose Comic Relief Charity Day

W/c 21st March Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers of EYFS & KS1

W/c 28th March Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers of KS2

Mon 28th March Y2/3O Visit Washington Wetlands
Wed 30th March Y2F Visit Washington Wetlands

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**



<p>Weekly Awards - week-ending Friday, 14th January 2022</p> <p>Congratulations to each of our Star Pupils:</p> <p>Nursery - Louis Ferguson & Elodie Richardson</p> <p>Reception - Lily Archer</p> <p>Little Willows - Joshua Wood</p> <p>Y1L - Sophie Squires</p> <p>Y2F - Alannah Bell</p> <p>Y2/30 - Max Harris</p> <p>Y3R - Noah Stephenson</p> <p>Y4L - Cody-Lee Fitzpatrick</p> <p>Y4SW - Jake Cody</p> <p>Y5BE - Lucy Westmoreland</p> <p>Y6G - Molly Gill</p> <p>Y6S - Lexi Singleton</p>		<p>Weekly Awards - week-ending Friday, 14th January 2022</p> <p>Congratulations to each of our Remarkable Readers:</p> <p>Nursery - Miley Dodds-Day & Sava Ali</p> <p>Reception - Ivy-May Fiddes</p> <p>Little Willows - Alyza Bateman</p> <p>Y1L - Evie Richardson</p> <p>Y2F - Annie Harris</p> <p>Y2/30 - Lily Lloyd</p> <p>Y3R - Eliza Kirk</p> <p>Y4L - Trudi Langstaff</p> <p>Y4SW - Oliver Copland</p> <p>Y5BE - Abbie Weetman</p> <p>Y6G - Alissia Fryett</p> <p>Y6S - Paige Evis</p>	
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[The Oak Academy Online Teaching and Learning resource](https://www.thenational.academy)
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Should you ever need to access our home learning offer there is a high quality range of online resources available to you. Your child's class teacher will be able to direct you to access lessons which they are currently covering in class. Each lesson is an hour long. They are delivered by a teacher, with a pre-recorded video as well as quizzes, worksheets and creative activities. It's all easy to use, there's no login or password required, you can access the lessons on any device, and pupils only need materials they can find at home. This is a national resource produced by the DfE .

The DfE expects children in KS1 to access a minimum of 3 hours and a KS2 pupil to access a minimum of 4 hours home learning per day as long as they are feeling well.

Have fun exploring the activities.

If you need anything at all please phone the main office: 01642 560768 or email your child's class teacher.

Oakdene's website address: <https://www.oakdeneprimary.org.uk/>

James Duff, Lilly Jackson, George Robinson, David Smith, Emily Smith, Toree Wardle and Olivia Woodcock, all attend trampolining classes at Velocity. Oakdene entered the children into a **trampolining competition** in partnership with Velocity last Sunday. I received wonderful feedback from the coaches:

“Just wanted to update you after an amazing day yesterday and let you know what talented children you have at Oakdene (though I’m sure you know this already).

Despite some nerves, everyone got on the trampoline and did really well, and did it with a smile. James came 1st in his category, George 2nd in his and Olivia 4th in hers. This means that James, George and Olivia have qualified to the next round of the competition in Salford on 6th February. We are extremely proud of all the children for representing Oakdene so brilliantly.



Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from
Mrs Smith
There's a Tiger in the Garden
by Lizzie Stewart



This is a beautiful, funny and imaginative story for anyone looking to share a picture book with their child.

It is about a little girl exploring her grandmother's garden looking for a tiger and coming across other magical things on the way; including giant dragonflies, plants that can eat you and a very grumpy Polar bear! It is definitely one for all the family!

Last week, the Year 4 children were very lucky to take part in two online workshops carried out by Maya archaeologist, Dr Diane Davies. Dr Diane spends a lot of time in Central America working on sites to discover Maya artefacts and learn more about the Maya way of life. In the first workshop, the children learnt about the ancient Maya civilization and culture. In the second workshop, they were shown a variety of Maya artefacts and had to predict information about them before Dr Diane went through them in detail. The children were enthralled while listening to facts about ancient Maya finds.



The New Year is a great excuse to set yourself new challenges.
Miss Bestwick would like to share a challenge with you:

Skills Builder Challenge

Organise a family quiz or games night.

Choose a theme for your quiz or a game your family will enjoy.

Make sure everyone has a job as you get ready for the quiz or game.

You may need someone to set the questions for the quiz, to ask the questions and to keep the scores.

You may want someone to set the game up, explain the rules to everyone - and remember someone will need to sort out drinks and snacks!

As a leader think about everyone's strengths - what job would they be best at to help you set up and run the quiz or game so that you all have fun?

Reflection Questions

Getting Started: How does this activity make you feel?

Intermediate: How can you spot strengths and weaknesses in others?

Advanced: How can you develop your leadership skills?

Mastery: What are good leaders able to do?

Leadership

Can you complete the challenge linked to the Leadership skill?

Please tell your class teacher if you complete this and what you did to earn a dojo!

More challenges linked to skills which you can complete at home with the children can be found at:

<https://www.skillsbuilder.org/homezone>

Welcome to Homezone

Helping parents and carers to build their child's essential skills at home.

