

Weekly Newsletter 20th September 2021



**Right of the Fortnight: Article 12:
Your right to say what you think
should happen, and be listened to.**



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another amazing week at Oakdene. It is always lovely to see how enthusiastic the children are towards their learning. It's been business as usual and I am so impressed with how the children have all settled into their new classes. I've been particularly impressed by our new children in the Little Sycamores, Nursery and Reception who have been extraordinary as they adapt to their new surroundings. Reception pupils have really enjoyed sampling school dinners.

I have enjoyed my chats with the children as I've completed my walks around school. I would also like to say a huge thank you to all of the parents and carers who have been really patient waiting at the start and end of each day while teachers and staff get to know you all. Your continued support in the children's educational journey is so important.

On Thursday I had the opportunity to show Mrs Goodchild, our Chair of Governors around the whole school. She was blown away by our purposeful environments, standards of children's work, modelling from teachers and the high expectations and listening culture we have created. It's always a pleasure showing guests around school; the children are always so polite and they all make me so proud.

Covid update

During the last two academic years many children have missed long periods of face to face teaching due to national lockdowns and needing to self-isolate. Many schools closed multiple bubbles during the past 18 months. We were extremely proud to have made it to the very last week until we closed our first bubble.

Unfortunately, even before we opened our doors to pupils in September, families made contact to inform us that some people in their households had received a positive PCR test. The guidance changed from 16th August; you are not required to self-isolate if you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated/you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial

The families, however, worked with us and took every precaution to prevent infection coming into school. They requested PCR tests for all members of the household and then repeated lateral flows if tests were initially negative. In all cases, a number of PCRs were taken and Covid spread gradually through the households and to all children. We understand this is unavoidable and this will not reflect on your child's attendance. It is therefore really important that you ensure that your child attends school every day unless they are really unwell. If your child has been **prescribed medication** we can administer this in school. Just complete a consent form from the main office. Every day really does count and it is important that we all work together to ensure we are able to reach (or exceed) our 97% target.

Attendance continues to be a huge focus area for us to improve on here at Oakdene and I have been encouraged by the efforts of the large majority of families since the start of term. A small minority of families have already received a home visit from our Education Welfare Officer Mrs Cartwright. If you need to discuss attendance issues, please contact Mrs Elsharif and if your child is absent, expect to be contacted as the expectation is that children are in school, on time, every day.

Enjoy your week!
Mrs E Bramley and Miss C Champion



Dates For Your Diary - Autumn Term



18th-26th September **Big Green Week**

Mon 27th Sept European Day of Languages
Tues 28th Sept Y4 Roman Visit to Housesteads
Six children (Y5/Y6) attending Primary Leaders Academy

OCTOBER **Black History Month**

Fri 1st Oct Last Day for Foodbank Harvest Appeal
Mon 4th Oct Y5/Y6 Tag Rugby Tournament @ Northfield 12:45pm - 2:45pm.

Thursday 7th Oct National Poetry Day
Y3 Pedestrian Training
Fri 8th Oct KS2 Global Enrichment Activities

W/c 11th Oct Telephone Consultation Eves for Parent/Carers of EYFS & KS1 Pupils

Tues 12th Oct PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)

Thurs 14th Oct Greek Workshop Y5

W/c 18th Oct Telephone Consultation Eves for Parent/Carers of KS2 Pupils
Thurs 21st Oct Y5 Black History Month Author Workshop
Fri 22nd Oct *Children break up for half term*

Monday, 25th Oct - Friday, 29th Oct **October Half-Term Break**

Fri 17th Dec *Break up for Christmas Holidays*

Monday, 20th December 2021 - Monday, 3rd January 2022 **Christmas Holidays**

Tues 4th Jan PD Day 4 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)

Wed 5th Jan **Spring Term Commences**



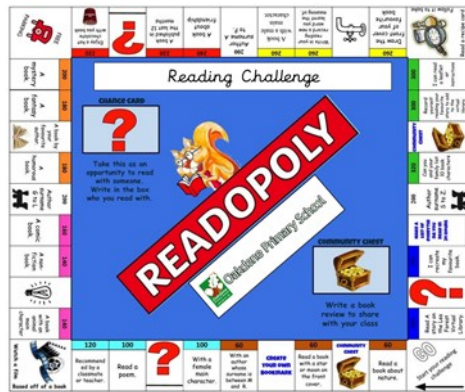
[The Oak Academy Online Teaching and Learning resource](#)

Should you ever need to access our **home learning offer** there is a high quality range of online resources available to you.

You will be able to access a wide range of subjects and lessons. 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. We will be adding a link for each year group onto our school website in the next few days.

This is a national resource produced by the DfE <https://www.thenational.academy/>
Have fun exploring the activities.

Autumn Term Reading Challenge Coming Soon!



Over the autumn term we would like you to complete as many of the challenges as you can. This is something everyone at home can get involved with. If you complete the board you will be awarded with a raffle ticket which will go into a prize draw. The winning prize will be an iPad.

Once you receive your board please send any photographs to your teacher via your class teacher email. Your child will be rewarded with a Dojo for every challenge completed.

HAPPY READING!

Recommended Read This week's recommended read is from Mrs Wilson



Clean up! by Nathan Bryon
is set in the Caribbean.

The theme of this book is plastic pollution and how harmful it is to our environment and animals. It is centred around family and team work and how people working together can make a big difference.

The beautiful illustrations engage readers of all ages.

Supporting your Child's Reading at Home

Do you remember your favourite books as a child – you know, the ones you read time and time again and knew practically every word of? Maybe you were lucky enough to regularly read stories with your family and had someone to read you a bedtime story before you drifted off to sleep? You won't have known at the time, but those experiences were building vital building blocks for your future.

Reading, being read to, and sharing books in the home helps to build a child's vocabulary and understanding of the world. Research shows children who start school with good vocabulary and communication skills make friends more easily, have fewer behavioural issues and are more likely to do well academically. A strong, early foundation in language has even been linked to better mental health as children get older.

Reading with your child, or encouraging your child to read independently for just ten minutes each day can make all the difference. Keep reading!

For further tips and support check out: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zbxby9q>



<p>Weekly Awards - week-ending Friday, 17th September 2021</p> <p>Congratulations to each of our Star Pupils:</p> <p><i>Our skills led careers curriculum focuses on the skills that are essential for children to succeed in the world of work. The children have been developing their</i> LISTENING </p> <p>Nursery - Aria Dugdale & Esmea Skipp</p> <p>Reception - Ivy-May Fiddes</p> <p>Little Willows - Eliza Copland</p> <p>Y1L - Aalia Dobson</p> <p>Y2F - Hollie Dale</p> <p>Y2O - Logan Daniels-Owen</p> <p>Y3R - Tyler Curry</p> <p>Y4SW - Emily Daniel</p> <p>Y4L - Kaci-Leigh Moody-Blackburn</p> <p>Y5BE - Lily Dodds-Day</p> <p>Y6G - Joel Dale</p> <p>Y6S - Paige Evis</p>	<p>Weekly Awards - week-ending Friday, 17th September 2021</p> <p>Each week we award children in each class for REMARKABLE READING.</p> <p>Congratulations to each of our Remarkable Readers:</p> <p>Nursery - Jacob Jackson & Neave Bateman</p> <p>Reception - Max Prout</p> <p>Little Willows - Theo Smith-Sewell</p> <p>Y1L - Milo Hancock</p> <p>Y2F - Autumn Lonsdale</p> <p>Y2O - Skye Stainsby</p> <p>Y3R - Brienna May-Thomas</p> <p>Y4SW - Amelia Booth</p> <p>Y4L - Harleigh Ramsey</p> <p>Y5BE - Holly Chapman</p> <p>Y6G - Isabella Delgado-Young</p> <p>Y6S - Harry Prout</p>
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Sleep and Routine

Like everyone, children need sleep and it's really important they get it (both for them and for you). Sometimes getting them to sleep is tricky, but a predictable routine can help. It's pretty obvious that a child who is getting enough sleep is more likely to be happy and alert than a child who isn't.

Getting your child into a **good sleeping pattern** isn't just about avoiding tantrums though, lack of sleep has been linked to future problems, such as anxiety, depression, obesity and high blood pressure.

How much sleep? As a rough guide, children need:

- 3-5 year olds need 11 - 14 hours of sleep
- 6-12 year olds need 10 - 13 hours of sleep

Top tip: Turn off screens an hour before bedtime.

Audiobooks or good old-fashioned paper books are a good alternative to eBooks.

Light from screens stops the production of the sleep hormone melatonin. Try to remove all phones and technology from the bedroom. It should be a calm and relaxing space.

