



Oakfield Schools

9th January 2026



Dear all

Welcome back to the Spring Term! We hope you have enjoyed a restful break over the festive period and are feeling positive about all that 2026 has to offer.

We are looking forward to welcoming many of you into school from next week for our family learning sessions, as well as for parents' evenings taking place in the final week of this half term. Please keep an eye out for the Arbor notification, where you will be able to book your preferred time slots. Also don't forget we have a meeting for all to discuss the **consultation regarding the possible reduction of our Pupil Admission Number** from September 2027. We would welcome your views and contributions.

May we take this opportunity to wish you and your families a peaceful, happy, and contented 2026.

Miss Chisholm

Diary Dates for 2025-2026		
New / amended events added are highlighted in yellow after week 1		
13/01/26	Family learning – year 6	am
13/01/26	Parents consultation meeting - PAN reduction	16.00
14/01/26	Family learning – year 5	am
15/01/26	Family learning – year 4	am
16/01/26	Family learning – year 3	am
19/01/26	Family learning – year 1	am
20/01/26	Family learning- year 2	am
21/01/26	Family learning – reception	am
w/b 9/02/26	Science week	
w/b 16/02/26	Parents evenings – learning plan reviews	tbc
w/b 23/02/26	Half term	
02/03/26	Spring 2 term begins	
05/03/26	World book day	
03/04/26	Easter Holidays (<i>note: Good Friday at start of holidays</i>)	
20/04/26	Summer 1 term begins	
w/b 11/05/26	SATS week	
w/b 18/05/26	Sports week	
22/05/26	Gateshead Saltwell Park fun run	
w/b 01/06/26	Learning plan review week	tbc
15/06/26	Class photographs day	
01/07/26	Summer Fair	15.30
08/07/26	Reports out to parents	
13/07/26	Year 6 leavers concert	17.30
14/07/26	Reception summer picnic	pm
	South shields leavers trip	
15/07/26	Year1/2 summer picnic	pm
17/07/25	Occasional day – School closed	
18/07/26	Start of Summer holidays	

Curricula enrichment activities throughout the year		
Year group	Destination	Date
R	Northern Stage Theatre	11/12/25
	Tynemouth Aquarium	9/07/26
	Trip to the library	tbc
1 / 2	Centre for Life	05/11/25
	Washington Wetlands	2/07/26
	Church and Library	tbc
	Fun run	22/05/26
3	Panto	11/12/25
	Laing Art Gallery – Sketching	21/01/26
	Fun run	22/05/26
	Jewish Community local walk	tbc
	Durham University Oriental Museum– Egypt	03/06/26
4	Sunderland winter Gardens Geography Trip	21/10/25
	Panto	11/12/25
	Jarrow Hall – history trip	20/04/26
	Fun run	22/05/26
5	Panto	11/12/25
	Shipcote Art Gallery – in school workshop	tbc
	Centre for life – Science day	27/01/26
	Shipcote art gallery – Art (awaiting booking window to open)	tbc
	Fun run	22/05/26
6	Lockerbie Manor residential	26-28/11/25
	Panto	11/12/25
	Fun run	22/05/26
	Field work enquiry	tbc
	Trip to South Shields – Leaver’s celebration	tbc

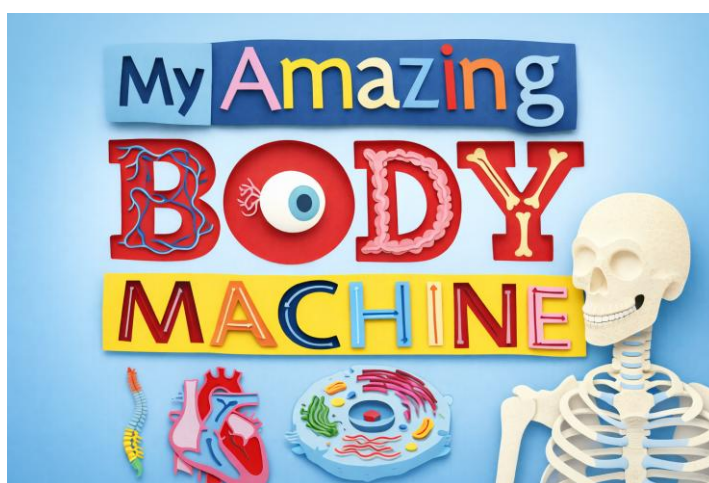
2025 – 2026 Term Dates	
Term	Dates
Autumn 1	02/09/25 – 23/10/25
Autumn 2	03/11/25 – 19/12/25
Spring 1	06/01/26 - 20/02/26
Spring 2	02/03/26 – 02/04/26
Summer 1	20/04/26 – 22/05/26
Summer 2	01/06/26 – 16/07/26
PD days & other non-school days	01/09/25 24/10/25 05/01/26 04/05/26 – bank holiday 17/07/26 - occasional day

PE Days	
Reception	Tuesdays and Thursdays
Year One / Two KM	Mondays and Wednesdays
Year One / Two CR	Mondays and Fridays
Year One / Two BG	Wednesdays and Fridays
Year Three	Wednesday (Outdoors) Friday (indoor)
Year Four	Tuesday (Outdoors) Thursday (indoor)
Year Five	Monday (Outdoors) Wednesday, 5B Swimming / 5R (indoor) (This will swap during the Spring term)
Year Six	Monday (indoor / outdoors mix) - Friday (outdoors)

Science Week – ‘My Amazing Body’ (from 9th February)

This year, our Science Week will begin on 9th February, with the theme ‘My Amazing Body’.

As with all of our STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), one of the most powerful ways to inspire children is by showing them how these subjects are used in the real world. Seeing the *purpose* behind learning — and the opportunities that can grow from a passion for STEM — can be truly life-changing for our children.



This is where we would love your help.

If you have a career or background in the medical profession, and could spare a little time, we would be delighted if you would consider coming into school to speak to a year group or address the children in an assembly.

We would love the children to hear about:

- **what you do,**
- **how STEM subjects support your work, and**
- **the difference your role makes in the world.**

If you feel able to support us, please contact the school office, and our Science Lead will be in touch.

In the past, talks from parents and carers have been invaluable, giving our children a rich, meaningful experience where they can ask questions and learn first-hand about science in action. We hope to build on this again this year and look forward to hearing from you.



Infants - Try a school dinner day.

On Thursday 15th January we will be launching our ‘try a school dinner day’ in the infant school. On this day we would like to offer every child a school dinner to try. Parents can still send their children with a packed lunch in case they do not like the meal offered but we wanted all children to have the opportunity.

Year 5/6 Indoor Athletics Team



Congratulations to our fantastic Year 5/6 indoor athletics team, who represented Gateshead brilliantly at the county finals. Competing against some very strong schools, the team showed determination, teamwork, and great sportsmanship throughout the event. Finishing an impressive 7th overall is a wonderful achievement, and we are incredibly proud of their hard work and positive attitude. Well done to everyone involved!

Wow! Congratulations on your success!

Just before Christmas, we were informed of 2 successes for pupils at school that were hosted by external companies and another who made the news headlines.

Firstly, Betty in Year 6. Well done on your success in the Vision Christmas Card Competition. Betty's entry was the overall winner nationally, and when you consider 90% of primary schools enter, it shows the standard of her idea and presentation.

Betty won a generous gift card for her effort, with her design being used as the companies e-card. Unfortunately, with having submitted all entries, we do not have a copy to share!

The same week, Leo in Year 6 was successful in the national Young Writers poetry competition. Penning a poem under the theme of I Have a Dream – Wonder In Words, Leo produced a wondrously, visual description entitled 'A Whimsical Wonderland'.

His poem will now be published alongside the other pieces, before all published pieces are judged for a national winner. The book, I Have a Dream – Wonder In Words, will be published in February this year. However, in this case, we do have permission to let you all read Leo's poem in advance of this date. A wonderful read....and good luck Leo with the final stage!

A Whimsical Wonderland

This poem starts when I lie in my bed,
I see loads of colours, yellow, blue and red.
Then I open my book to see what I may find,
A magical universe opens my mind.

All of a sudden, the pages start to crumble,
And into the pages, I start to tumble.
I whirl and I swirl and I curl through the sky,
A whimsical woodland, I see from high up.
As I crash to the floor,
In the faraway distance, I notice an open door.
I scramble to my feet and look all around,
Still trying to comprehend what I have found.

Horses with wings and a bright blue tiger,
Fruits of all shapes and a talking spider.
Half fox, half bat, and some sort of cat,
A deer with a spear and a red bowler hat.

The door once more draws me near,
As I open the door, I don't feel fear,
As I see the familiar, my eyes adjust,
I can't wait to go back, I really must.

Leo – Year 6



One of our children was featured in the local press over the Christmas holidays for his super model of the metro train that he made with his Mum. Well done Jimmy. To read the article please click [Gateshead boy's Tyne and Wear Metro adventure after creating model of new train - Chronicle Live](#)

Sharing Success

Star points total per week	
	05/01/26
R	232
1	187
2	218
3	61
4	139
5	106
6	7

Safeguarding



They have helped thousands of people successfully quit smoking; in laboratory tests, they have been found to be up to 95% less harmful than cigarettes; and they have been hailed as “a game changer for public health” by one independent review. So why exactly are vapes and e-cigarettes still regarded by many experts as controversial and potentially dangerous?

In terms of young people, the issue is availability. Vapes (containing nicotine) are not supposed to be sold to under 18s: a fact at odds with the rising number of school-age users and the products’ colourful packaging and child-friendly flavours. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide summarises what trusted adults need to know about the potential dangers of vaping for young people.

School Attendance and Punctuality

School year	Attendance	
	Spring 1	
	Week 1	
	Attendance	% late
Junior Overall	96.8	1.0
Infant Overall	95.3	0.94
6	98.6	1.0
5	90.2	0.8
4	97.7	0.3
3	99.6	1.6
2	94.4	0.4
1	98.9	2.22
R	94.4	0.48

We hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Chisholm - Executive Head Teacher

Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head

Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head