Oakfield

Friday Letter

Building strong foundations. Inspiring bright futures.

DATE
Friday 16th October

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Oakfield Families,

A wonderful week of Sporting Achievement in school this week. On Tuesday, our pupils proudly represented Oakfield at the Gateshead Schools Cross Country Competition, showing fantastic determination, resilience and stamina throughout!

A special shoutout to our Year 3/4 A team, who secured bronze team medals, to Freddie, who won a silver individual medal, and to Bella who took home a gold individual medal! 🥉🥈🥇

We are incredibly proud of all our runners and their brilliant efforts. Well done, everyone!

A huge well done to our brilliant Year 5/6 team who came 2nd place at the Gateshead School Sportshall Athletics Competition and **qualified for a place in the Gateshead Finals!** 🥈

What a fantastic achievement! Every child worked incredibly hard and demonstrated fantastic teamwork throughout the competition. We are so proud of the way they all represented Oakfield.

Have a wonderful weekend, everyone!

Best wishes,
Helen Hartness
Acting Headteacher

What's happening next week

Apologies for the error in dates last week.

Monday 19th October	Year 1/ 2 KM PE Year 1/ 2 CR PE Year 3 Outdoor PE Year 6 Indoor PE
Tuesday 20th October	Reception PE
Wednesday 21st October	Year 1/ 2 BG PE Year 1/ 2 KM PE Year 4 Outdoor PE 5M Indoor PE (Until February) 5D Swimming (Until February)
Thursday 22nd October	Reception PE Year 4 Indoor PE Year 6 Outdoor PE (Forest School)
Friday 23rd October	School closed to Pupils

OUR SIX CHARACTER THEMES

RESPECT We value ourselves and others.

FAIRNESS We treat people fairly.

RESPONSIBILITY We own our choices.

CARING We show kindness.

CITIZENSHIP We contribute

TRUSTWORTHINESS We are honest and reliable.

★ CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Star points total	
	This Week
R	884
1	2,624
2	1,624
3	3,301
4	4,636
5	3,264
6	3,903

✷ SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

Hot Chocolate with the Head Teacher

Well done to Pearl, Zayne, Tommy, Esmae G, Margot, Miles, Daisy, Mia M, Leo T, Esmae, Maya

NOTICES & REMINDERS

Parent Voice

We would be very grateful if parents could complete the questionnaire giving feedback about the term so far. Please click on the link to complete the form. Here

Parents Evenings

Thank you to all parents and carers who have attended our Parent Appointments this week. We have had a lot of positive comments from parents, which are appreciated.

Forest Club

Please see the attachment for Forest Club after half term.

Items we need	Examples
Tinned Veg	Tomatoes Plum & Chopped, Peas, Carrots, Sweetcorn, Potatoes
Tinned Fruit	Peaches, Pineapples, Fruit Cocktail, Pears, Mandarin Oranges
Soup	Tinned or Instant Vegetable, Tomato, Chicken, Broth, Lentil, Potato & Leek
Cooking/ Baking Ingredients	Sugar-Caster & Granulated, Flour – SR & Plain, Jam, Coconut, Cocoa, Dried Fruit, Cooking Oil, Lentils, Broth Mix, Spices
Snacks	Pot Noodles, Pot Pasta, Crisps, Biscuits, Chocolate, Sweets, Cereal Bars
Drinks	UHT Milk, Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Cartons of Juice, Fruit Squash
Desserts	Rice Pudding, Jelly, Angel Delight, Instant & Tinned Custard, Evaporated Milk, Golden Syrup, Black Treacle
Tinned Meat	Ham, Corned Beef, Chilli, Curry, Minced Beef, Bolognese, Stewing Steak
Cooking Sauces	Indian, Thai, Chinese, Italian, Mexican, Coconut Milk
Condiments	Tomato Ketchup, Brown Sauce, Mayonnaise, Salt, Pepper
Pasta & Rice	Lasagne, Egg Noodles, Rice
Stock and Gravy	Vegetarian, Beef, Chicken, Onion
Toiletries	Soap, Mens Spray Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner,Shower Gel, Razors, Toothpaste and Brushes, Sanitary Products
Cleaning/Other	Washing Up Liquid, Washing Powder, Books, DVD's, DVD Players/ Small -Medium Flat Screen TV's
Rough Sleepers	Sleeping Bags, Rucksacks, Handwarmers, Flasks, Unlocked Mobile Phone
Pet Food	Dog & Cat Food – Wet, Dry and Treats
Clothing	Trainers, Waterproof Jackets, Joggers, , Jeans, Sweat Shirts, T Shirts, Socks, Gloves, Scarfs, Hats

We are grateful for your kind donations – We do not accept food if it is opened.
Clothing does not need to be new, but we ask for it to be in good condition and clean.
We do not need used duvets, suits, dress shirts, or summer clothing.

Harvest Festival

Thank you for all of the very kind donations we have received so far. Please send any donations into school from 12th October to 19th October, where they will be collected together before being passed on to The People's Kitchen. There is absolutely no expectation to donate, but every contribution, however small, will make a difference. It is also a lovely opportunity for our children to see our school values in action and understand the importance of caring for and supporting others in our community.

Harvest Festival Performance

Year 1 and 2 children will be hosting our Harvest Festival celebration in school on Wednesday 21st October at 2pm. We ask that no more than 2 attend the event and we look forward to seeing you there. Parents are invited to stay for tea and coffee afterwards. You will be able to collect your child after this if you wish.

Birthday Celebrations

SMART Academy Trust will be celebrating their tenth birthday on Monday 2nd November. As part of the celebrations the children will be taking part in 10 challenges. Further details to follow.

After-school Football Club

ODO sports coaching will be starting an after-school football club on a Monday night. For Autumn 2, this has been opened up to Year 3 only as spaces are limited to 15 pupils. Each half term, it will then change year groups. We are trying to find availability for a further after school or before club session. Watch this space.

Parent Sharing Assemblies

Please see attached leaflet with details of Parent Sharing assemblies which will happen across the year. We are delighted to invite parents and carers into school for our **Year Group Sharing Assemblies**. This is a lovely opportunity for the children to proudly share some of the exciting things they have been learning and enjoying in class across the year.

We hope you can join us to celebrate their hard work, achievements and enthusiasm for learning. The children are really looking forward to sharing their learning with you!

Snacks and Packed Lunches

Please cut grapes in half if sending them for a snack as they are a choke hazard for children.

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SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

A snapshot of learning from across Oakfield this week

Reception

Newsletter: Reception enjoyed listening to the story "Pumpkin Soup." This week we have tasted pumpkin soup. We explored the taste and smell, using describing words such as "tasty" and "salty"

Year 1 / 2

Year 1/ 2 have been learning about plants this term. The children explored our forest area this week to recognise key features of deciduous and evergreen trees.

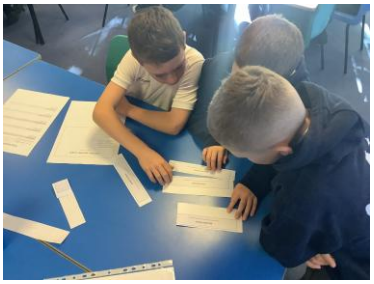
Year 3

Year 3 enjoyed an online author meet this morning, finding out the inspiration behind the book 'The Neverland Thieves' and listening to an extract read by the authors, Kevin and Katie Tsang.

Year 4

Year 4 are really enjoying their class novel **The Witches by Roald Dahl**. They have been exploring the story and completing lots of exciting English work linked to the book. It has been wonderful to see their ideas and imagination shine through their learning.

Year 5



Year 5's new English unit got off to an exciting start when the children received a mysterious message from the **Ministry of Secrets!** They had to solve a series of puzzles, follow the clues and use their inference skills to uncover the secret setting for our new writing unit.

Year 6

Year 6 have been working in groups to research and create posters about climate change. Each group was assigned a one of the following three questions to research and create a poster. The questions were: What causes climate change? What can people do about climate change? How does climate change affect people? Well done Year 6, fantastic teamwork!

2026-2027 Term Dates	
Term	Dates
Autumn 1 Autumn 2	02/09/26 – 22/10/26 02/11/26 – 18/12/26
Spring 1 Spring 2	04/01/27 - 12/02/27 22/02/27 – 25/03/27
Summer 1 Summer 2	12/04/27 – 28/05/27 07/06/27 – 15/07/27
PD days & other non-school days	01/09/26 23/10/26 03/05/27 – bank holiday 16/07/27 - occasional day

School attendance and Punctuality

School year	Attendance	
	This Week	
	Attendance	% marks late
Junior Overall	97.5%	0.26%
Infant Overall	97.4%	0.49%
6	96.1%	0.00%
5	99.6%	0.21%
4	98.0%	0.69%
3	96.3%	0.00%
2	98.9%	0.00%
1	95.8%	1.0%
R	97.9%	0.36%

Safeguarding

We have a duty of care to safeguard all children and pass on any concerns to Children's Services.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr. M. Thompson. Deputy safeguarding leads are Miss H Hartness, Mrs. J McCormack, Mrs. D Simpson, and Mrs. C Allan. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

H. Hartness, Acting Head Teacher

Thank you for your continued support!

Diary Dates for 2026-2027		
New / amended events added are highlighted in yellow after week 1		
	Autumn Term	
W/B 12/10/26	Parents' Evenings	
19/10/26	Tempest Photographs	
21/10/26	Year 1/ 2 Harvest Festival	2pm
23/10/26	Half term holiday	
3/11/26	Year 6 visit to Saltwell Park Field of Remembrance	am
6/11/26	Non uniform day (Donation of Chocolates or Bottle)	
9/11/26	Year 3 Family Learning	
10/11/26	Flu Vaccinations	
11/11/26	School Council, Head Boy and Head Girl Laying Wreath at War Memorial Low Fell	
11/11/26	Year 4 Family Learning Rec Family Learning	
12/11/26	Year 5 Family Learning Year 1 Family Learning	
13/11/26	Year 6 Family Learning Year 2 Family Learning	
13/11/26	Children in Need	
W/B 16/11/26	Anti bullying Week	
17/11/26	Year 4 Assembly	2.30
20/11/26	Road Safety Day	
18/11/26-20/11/26	Year 6 at Lockerbie	
1/12/26	Christmas Fayre	
8/12/26	Reception Nativity	2pm
9/12/26	Year 1/ 2 Christmas Singalong	2pm
10/12/26	Year 1/ 2 Northern Stage Trip	
10/12/26	KS2 Pantomime	
14/12/26	Year 5 Christmas party	PM
15/12/26	Year 4 Christmas party	PM
16/12/26	Year 3 Christmas party	PM
17/12/26	Year 6 Christmas party	PM
18/12/26	KS2 Carols Under the Veranda	TBC
Spring Term		
13/1/27	Year 5 Assembly	2.30
3/2/26	Year 6 Assembly	2.30
4/2/26	Year 1 Assembly	2.30
4/3/27	Year 3 Assembly	2.30
15/3/27	Year 1 Walk to Cromer Church	
23/4/27	Year 2 Assembly	2.30
30/6/27	Reception Assembly	2.30