



Oakfield Schools

19th September 2025



Welcome to the end of another fabulous week in our amazing Oakfield Schools! We have had the most exciting time busily working away in our lessons. Please take time to congratulate your children on their learning behaviours in class and around school. They are being amazing role models and I am sure they would enjoy discussing this with you all.

We have been very impressed with the number of star points our children have been earning.

We have decided that rather than certificates, children can work towards earning 'Star' pin badges which they can wear with pride!

- **100 points = bronze**
- **500 points = silver**
- **1000 points = gold**

We have a number of children who already have over halfway to their bronze pin badge! I wonder who will be first?

Have a fantastic weekend.

Miss Chisholm

Diary Dates for 2025-2026		
New / amended events added are highlighted in yellow after week 1		
Date	Event	Time
01/09/25	PD day – School closed to children	All day
02/09/25	Autumn 1 begins	
24/09/25	Flu vaccinations	
1/10/25	Digital Reading Diaries drop-in session for parents	3.30
07/10/25	Family learning year 6	
08/10/25	Family learning year 5	
08/10/25	Phonics parents meeting – Reception parents	16.30
09/10/25	Family learning year 4	
10/10/25	Family learning year 3	
13/10/25	Family learning Year 1	am
14/10/25	Family Learning Year 2	am
15/10/25	Family Learning Reception	am
20/10/25	Individual school photographs	
w/b 20/10/25	Parents evenings	tbc
24/10/25	PD day – school closed to children	All day
w/b 27/10/25	Half term	
03/11/25	Autumn 2 term begins	
03/11/25	Year 1/2 parents meeting – review new grouping	16.30 pm
13/11/25-20/11/25	Scholastic Book Fair	
26/11/25 – 28/11/25	Year 6 residential	
03/12/25	School Christmas Fayre	15.30
8/12/25	Year 1/2 Christmas sing – Year 1 parents viewing	
9/12/25	Year 1/2 Christmas sing - Year 2 parents viewing	
10/12/25	Reception Nativity	tbc
15/12/25	Year 4 Christmas party	
16/12/25	Year 5 Christmas party	
17/12/25	Year 3 Christmas party	
17/12/25	Reception Christmas party	
18/12/25	Year 1/2 Christmas party	
18/12/25	Year 6 Christmas party	
19/12/25	Carols under the veranda (KS2)	13.45
20/12/25	Christmas Holidays	
05/01/26	PD day – school closed for children	
06/01/26	Start of Spring Term	
13/01/26	Family learning – year 6	am
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
15/07/26	Year1/2 summer picnic	pm
17/07/25	Occasional day – School closed	
18/07/26	Start of Summer holidays	

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 – 02/04/25
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	Wednesdays (1/2KM) and Fridays (1/2CR, 1/2 BG)
Year Three	Wednesday (Outdoors) Friday (indoor)
Year Four	Tuesday (Outdoors) Thursday (indoor)
Year Five	Monday (Outdoors) Wednesday, 5B Swimming / 5R (indoor) (<i>This will swap during the Spring term</i>)
Year Six	Monday (indoor / outdoors mix) - Friday (outdoors)

Show Racism the Red Card

SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

On Wednesday of this week, three members of the Show Racism the Red Card attended Oakfield to deliver workshops to children in Years 4, 5 and 6. The workshops were incredibly well received by all the pupils and visiting staff were very impressed with children's abilities to verbalise their thoughts and experiences. The workshops covered:

- ✚ Understanding our role as a global citizen.
- ✚ Discussing and debating current social issues.
- ✚ Identifying the role of racism in our everyday life and how this influences our own behaviours.
- ✚ Discussions around opinions around world issues – migration, immigration, media reporting.

Following the completion of the workshops, pupils revisited and evaluated what they had discussed and learnt. These are some of their comments on the workshop:

We realised how unique and different we all are, yet we all share 99.9% DNA - this amazed us!

It is not all right to 'just ignore' racism, it must be reported and spoken about so we can make a positive difference.

We looked at famous people around the world who are immigrants, from gypsy families, bald men with tattoos, successful sports person and realised that you cannot judge them on what they look like.

Do not judge a book by its cover - we looked at stereotypes and how you might already have an opinion on these people, however, you need to get to know the person first before you make a judgement on them.

We looked at how words can be twisted, and rumours can start, often leading to lies being spread.

We had fun in a safe and respected environment where there were no judgements, and this helped us to learn lots about racism and how this can impact others.

It is not all right to 'just ignore' racism, it must be reported and spoken about so we can make a positive difference.

We learnt that misinformation and disinformation is shared to try and influence us. This is fake news. We need to check what is true before making a judgement.

Forest School @ Oakfield

Hello, I am Mrs Robinson (Year 5 teacher) and qualified Forest School practitioner. This year, we are delighted to offer pupils at Oakfield, forest school sessions as part of our curriculum. For Key Stage 2 this will be on a Thursday afternoon and will be on a rolling basis with each year group, beginning with Year 4 for six sessions until October half term. Please ensure that when it is your class's turn, your child is appropriately dressed in warm and waterproof layers and suitable waterproof footwear/wellies as we will be using the forest area in all weather conditions.



Appeal for Forest School Equipment

We are seeking equipment to help improve the activities we offer at forest school. We would gratefully accept donations of the following for forest school – please raid your garden sheds, and anything that is in a decent condition we would gratefully accept!

- ✓ Buckets and watering cans
- ✓ Large clean water carrying bottles
- ✓ Garden canes
- ✓ Dry kindling, fire lighters and logs for fires
- ✓ Tarpaulins – clean and waterproof please
- ✓ Camping equipment – groundsheets and mats, cooking equipment, campfire cooking/firepit equipment
- ✓ Warm and waterproof clothing of various sizes (for spares)
- ✓ Paracord and thin rope for den building
- ✓ Hammocks
- ✓ Vegetable peelers
- ✓ Kelly Kettle
- ✓ Gardening tools – trowels, secateurs, loppers
- ✓ Old yoga mats
- ✓ Fleece blankets
- ✓ Small plastic toy animals
- ✓ Any other suggestions of things that we may find useful! Please contact the school offices to check with us before donating!

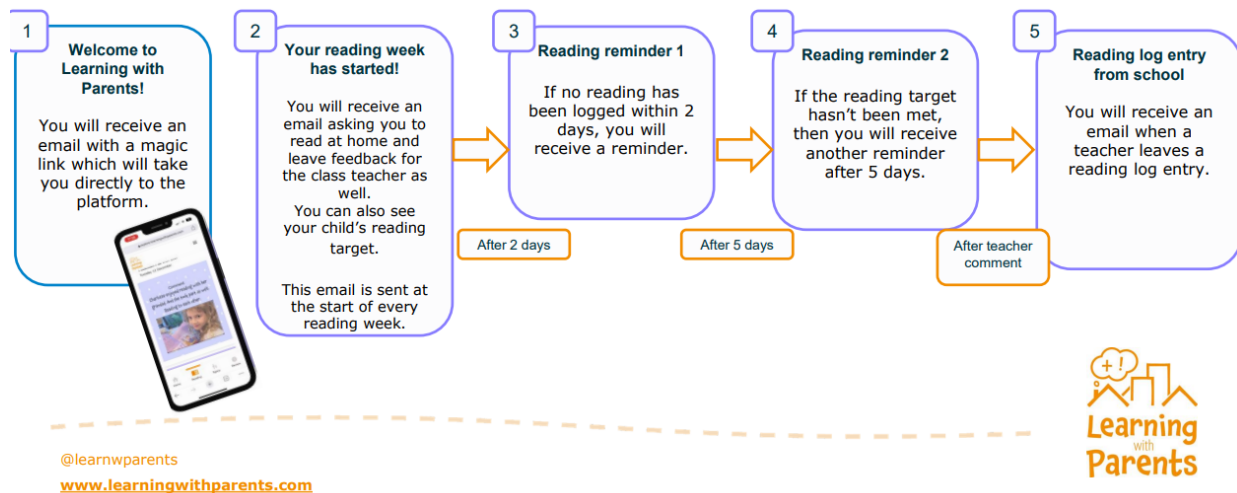
Little Acorn Baby and Toddler group

Our Baby and Toddler group started last week, and it was lovely to see some new faces attending which delighted our volunteers. For any parents wishing to attend the group is held every Friday from 9am to 10.30. It costs £1 per child and includes a snack for the children and hot drink and biscuit for adults.

Digital Reading Diaries (KS1)

We are looking forward to launching our digital reading diaries on 29th September. Can all parents please give consent on Arbor as requested to enable the link to be sent home. Please see this link for a video with information about the reading logs. [Parent Introduction to the Reading Log \(video\) - Learning with Parents](#)

Parent notifications – Digital Reading Log



XP Open Evening

We are pleased to be able to announce more details for our Open Evening on Tuesday 30th September at 5.45pm. This is an event for families that are considering XP Gateshead as a destination school for their children in the next academic year (from September 2026).

At this event our staff and students will present to you details of our school, our admissions process and importantly our 3-D approach: a relentless focus on Beautiful Work, Academic Success and Character Growth.

IMPORTANT – Signing up to the event is essential.

As we are anticipating a very high level of interest in these evenings, and due to our limited size and space in our current temporary building, you will need to **sign up for this event to be able to attend** as was detailed in the [Secondary Admissions Booklet](#).

We are limiting the number of places to three places per family, including your child in Year 6.

Last year there were some families that could not be accommodated on the evening as they had not booked in advance.

Please do not attempt to sign up if your children are currently in Year 5 or below. All the above will mean that we can accommodate as many Year 6 families as possible.

You will be able to sign up for the event from Tuesday the 9th September. Please check our website on Tuesday for that link.

School contact details.

Oakfield Infant School

Tel: - 0191 329 3646

Email - admin.ois@smartacademies.net

Oakfield Junior School

Tel: - 0191 4334086

Email - admin.ojs@smartacademies.net

Your Questions.....Answered!

This week's question is one that is asked frequently, and usually in conjunction with pupils walking home or to a pre-arranged meeting space. The question is: **Can my child bring their mobile phone to school?**

For children in Years 5 and 6, they can bring their phone, but only after parents have read the guidance on Arbor and given consent. Of course, guidance to schools has been updated recently, discouraging any use while in school. Because of this, we have strict rules that pupils must follow, or their right to bring a phone to school will be withdrawn. These rules include:

- ✓ The phone must be turned off (not just locked) prior to entering the school yard.
- ✓ The phone must be out of sight on the yard, not carried in a way that may be interpreted as being used. This is to safeguard children from allegations of photographing or filming another person.
- ✓ On entering the building, the phone is handed to the class teacher. Phones are then stored in the school office until the end of the school day.
- ✓ Phones are then not turned on until after leaving the school site.

Please can parents also not give their phone to younger children to play with on the school site. We do not want any allegations of misuse. Thank you.

Sharing success

Star points total per week			
	w/b 1/9/25	w/b 8/09/25	w/b 15/9/25
R	Reception children transitioning into school		
1	294	213	132
2	350	266	222
3	335	113	219
4	232	159	190
5	463	633	307
6	576	240	427

Safeguarding



Kindness Matters

Kindness can strengthen relationships, develop a sense of community and deepen solidarity. It seems an appropriate choice given the current times. This week, we wanted to help promote the message of displaying kindness and to remind people how often, doing something good can also do you good too.

School Attendance and Punctuality

School year	Attendance					
	Autumn 1					
	Week 1		Week 2		Week 3	
	Attendance	% late	Attendance	% late	Attendance	% late
Junior Overall	98.0	0.4	98.3	0.6	99.0	0.81
Infant Overall	96.0	0.1	98.0	0.14	98.0	0.26
6	98.0	0.25	97.8	0.6	99.2	0.78
5	97.0	0.9	97.9	0.7	97.7	0.69
4	99.0	0.0	99.3	0.4	99.6	1.03
3	98.0	0.5	98.3	1.0	97.8	0.74
2	98.0	0.4	96.0	0.0	99.0	0.22
1	100.0	0.0	98.2	0.4	97.0	0.31
R	-	-	98.8	0.3	97.0	0.26

Very well done to all children this week. Attendance is significantly above national average, and this only happens with the fabulous support from all our families.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Chisholm - Executive Head Teacher
Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head
Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head

