



Oakfield Schools

20th March 2026



What a lovely end to the week! The children have all thoroughly enjoyed the sunshine over the last couple of days. We are very excited to announce our Easter competition coming up soon. We are asking the children to bring in a decorated hard-boiled egg on Wednesday 1st April. Please ensure that your child's name is on their entry with their year group. We are looking forward to seeing some amazing creative ideas.

What's happening next week...

Monday 23rd March	Year 6 PE Year 1/ 2 KM PE Year 1/ 2 CR Year 5 PE KS1 Karate Club (after school) KS2 Guitar Club (after school) Year 6 Booster Club (after school) Y 3/4 Gymnastics Trials
Tuesday 24th March	Reception PE Year 4 PE KS1 Little Kickers (before school) KS1 Games Club (after school) KS2 Karate (before school) KS2 Ukulele (after school) KS2 Dance Club (after school)
Wednesday 25th March	Year 1/ 2 BG PE Year 1/ 2 KM PE Year 5B PE – 5R Swimming Dance Festival Y 5/6 Gymnastics Trials
Thursday 26th March	Reception PE Year 4 PE KS2 Guitar Club (after school) Year 6 Football Match at Harlow Green
Friday 27th March	Year 1/ 2BG PE Year 1/ 2 CR Year 6 PE KS2 Oakfield Band 9:00-11:00 SEND coffee morning – Junior School Hall

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)

Diary Dates for 2025-2026		
New / amended events added are highlighted in yellow after week 1		
1/4/26	Easter Competition (details to follow)	
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
w/b 08/06/26	KS1 Phonics check week	
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
6	Fun run	22/05/26
	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

SEND COFFEE MORNING

REMINDER - next Friday (27th March) is our next SEND coffee morning, facilitated by Gateshead's Parent Carer Forum (PCF). The drop-in session will be held in the Junior School Hall and will be open between 9:00 and 11:00 (**PLEASE NOTE REVISED TIME**). The session offers an opportunity for parents/carers to ask any SEND related questions they may have, in a friendly, welcoming, peer-led space. The PCF can signpost families to support services and take up broader issues of improvement within school. Children do not need to have a diagnosis for parents/carers to attend.

If you would like to ask any questions ahead of the session, please email our school SENDCO, Mrs Debbie Simpson, directly - debbie.simpson@smartacademies.net

A Winning Start to League Season

Following last week's postponement due to rain and wind, the Year 6 football team got their league campaign off to a winning start last night. The weather was a vast improvement, although the wet Winter has taken its toll on school fields around Gateshead as, like ours, many are far too saturated to put heavy cutting machinery on.

However, the long grass and unmarked pitch was the same for both teams, and both adapted well (most of the time) in a game played in good spirits by all players. On this occasion, Oakfield ran out 5–0 winners with a hat trick from Findlay and two goals from Jude, while at the other end, a solid defence kept the opposition at bay. A great start to the league campaign!

Fantastic Performance from the Year 6 Hockey Team

Oakfield took two teams to the Year 5/6 mini hockey tournament at Whickham School on Wednesday, and we were really pleased with how both team 6D and 6M performed across the day. It did take a bit of time of adapting to playing on the all-weather pitch. We are so familiar with our tarmac (and the slope that comes with it!) that moving to a completely flat, sandy surface was a big change. That said, the children adapted quickly and it was great to see their confidence build as the matches went on, with clear improvements in their touch, passing, and positioning.

One of the standout moments was hearing the positive feedback from members of Gateshead Hockey Club about the standard of play – a lovely bit of recognition for the effort the children put in.

More than anything, I was impressed with how the pupils carried themselves. They showed great character throughout – supporting one another, respecting opponents and officials, and approaching every game with a positive attitude. 6D did well to finish 2nd in their group, while Team 6M battled hard to 5th place in a very competitive pool. Although we did not come away as winners, the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience, especially playing in the sunshine, and did themselves and school proud.



New Toothbrushing Guidance for Families

We are pleased to share the newly updated *Children's Toothbrushing Guide*, created with early years experts to help families build strong, healthy brushing habits from the very start. Baby teeth play a vital role in chewing, speech development, and guiding adult teeth into place, but tooth decay remains a significant issue for young children. In fact, removal of decayed teeth is the most common operation for children aged 5–9, even though most tooth decay is preventable.

The updated guidance provides clear advice on when and how to brush, how much toothpaste to use, and simple ways to make brushing part of your daily routine. It also includes practical tips and support for children with additional needs.

We hope you find the guide helpful in supporting happy, healthy smiles at home!

Do you know someone who could use a donated device?



The [Tech4Communities scheme](#) has now opened to applications from people living in Gateshead who need access to a mobile phone, tablet or laptop.

Devices that were donated locally over the last six months have been securely wiped and professional refurbished for redistribution into our communities, with support from The Digital Poverty Alliance and Connected Voice.

Who can apply for a donated advice

The donations are open to:

- Anyone who is 18+
- And has a Gateshead address
- Does not have a device

How to apply

A simple application form has been created to verify the eligibility requirements listed above as well as a professional (who is unrelated to them) to act as their verifier.

After verification is confirmed and the application is approved, the Digital Poverty Alliance team will ship the device to the address listed on the application. People will also be provided with support information on using their new device.

For full details and the application form, visit <https://digitalpovertyalliance.org/tech4communities/>

Please note the number of devices is limited, and these will be assigned on a first come first served basis, once the applications have been verified.

Star points total per week			
	02/03/26	08/03/26	16/03/26
R	359	435	565
1	116	260	400
2	174	253	579
3	157	468	878
4	354	548	460
5	408	549	382
6	293	293	267

Safeguarding



Stress is something we all experience – but for children and young people, it can feel especially overwhelming. This guide presents 10 simple, actionable strategies to help young people manage stress in a healthy and balanced manner. Whether it is noticing early signs, encouraging open conversations, or modelling calm responses, there are plenty of ideas here to support positive change.

Perfect for both school and home settings, the guide equips adults to identify subtle signals of stress and create safe spaces for pupils to open up. It also suggests mindful habits and healthy routines that can become part of daily life, promoting long-term emotional strength and mental wellbeing.

School Attendance and Punctuality

School year	Attendance					
	Spring 2					
	Week 1		Week 2		Week 3	
	Attendance	% late	Attendance	% late	Attendance	% late
Junior Overall	95.2	1.11	95.8	0.74	96.9	0.6
Infant Overall	95.7	0.59	96.7	1.0	95.2	0.57
6	96.0	1.54	95.4	1.75	99.3	0.96
5	93.4	0.82	95.2	0.0	96.9	0.71
4	95.9	1.2	96.7	0.64	96.4	0.2
3	95.3	0.85	95.7	0.42	94.7	0.46
2	98.0	0.75	96.9	0.69	94.5	0.1
1	99.6	0.35	97.1	2.3	93.1	0.7
R	89.4	0.62	96.1	0.4	98.0	0.89

EVERY DAY IN SCHOOL COUNTS...

and every minute counts...

Late by these minutes per day? Here's what it means...



*** EASTER HOLIDAY CLUBS ***
Michelangelo's, Ryton, 10-3pm

Wednesday 8th, Thursday 9th,
Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th April

Order a delicious Italian takeaway to be delivered to the woods! (£35 per day with own food / £40 per day with food)
Suitable for children from Reception age and upwards.

Activities can include campfire and s'mores, fire lighting, mud, sand and water play, outdoor crafts, mud kitchen, tools, hammocks, messy play, hill climbing and free time to explore.



<https://bookwhen.com/forestadventurers>
suzanne@forestadventurers.co.uk
07711461409

Contact us for more information on:

- Corporate Events
- Parent and Preschool Groups
- After School Clubs
- Birthday Parties
- School Trips



COME AND JOIN US AT
OUR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB!

ALL WELCOME FROM
RECEPTION TO YEAR 6!
Limited places available.

Mondays from 16th March
until 5pm

<https://bookwhen.com/forestadventurers>

Children will have opportunities to build dens, cook over a campfire, use tools, experience hammocks and tree swings, hill roll, take part in outdoor crafts and so much more.

Our sessions will take place in all weathers. Children will need to bring old, outdoor clothing suitable for the weather that day to change into as well as a snack and a drink to have during the session.



Forest Adventurers is run by experienced Forest School Practitioners (DBS checked, paediatric first aid trained).

<https://www.facebook.com/forestadventurers.co.uk/>
suzanne@forestadventurers.co.uk
07711 461 409

We hope you have a wonderful weekend!

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

Contact us for more information if you're interested in

Holiday Clubs

Parent and Preschool Groups

After School Clubs at your school

Birthday Parties

Corporate Events

School Trips