



Oakfield Schools

30th January 2026

Dear Parents



The CBBC series of Dumping Ground has returned and we are so excited to say that Henry one of our Year 5 children has returned in the role of Vinny. Henry will be appearing in all 10 episodes of series 14. If you want to look back, he first made an appearance in series 13, episode 7. We look forward to seeing the rest of the series. It is lovely to celebrate the many talents of our children at Oakfield.

Miss Chisholm

Diary Dates for 2025-2026		
New / amended events added are highlighted in yellow after week 1		
w/b 9/02/26	Science week	
w/b 16/02/26	Parents evenings – learning plan reviews	tbc
20/2/26	Wear Red for CHUF day	
w/b 23/02/26	Half term	
02/03/26	Spring 2 term begins	
03/03/26	Year 1 trip to Cromer Church	
03/03/26	Year 5 Residential Visit Parent Information Evening	15:45 & 17:15
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
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
	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)

Star points total per week

	05/01/26	12/01/26	19/01/26	23/01/26
R	232	396	224	404
1	187	483	333	514
2	218	606	352	520
3	61	177	245	608
4	139	273	279	664
5	106	303	289	256
6	197	624	218	443

REMINDER -

Next Friday (6th February) sees the launch of our first 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 10:00 and 12:00. 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

Gold Medal developments

Reminder- the Gold Medal Pub car park will be closed from 2nd February for around 16 weeks due to refurbishment and changes. Please take care when parking around the school during that time. We will update parents regarding parking once we have had updates from the new operators. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Mr and Mr Gallo for their support for school and Friends of Oakfield and wish them well for the future.

Learning with diaries (KS1 reading log)

Thank you to parents who are engaging well with the reading logs. Staff enjoy sharing the audio clips with the rest of the class to celebrate reading at home. Thank you for your continued support.

Safeguarding



School avoidance is a sharply increasing phenomenon, with tangible negative effects on children's wellbeing and education. The factors that come together to make a child consciously avoid seeing their classmates and teachers can be much more complicated than is often assumed. A careful, mindful approach from parents, carers and educators is required to help children return to an environment that may be causing them intense anxiety.

Our guide aims to help you understand the issue of school avoidance – not only its potential roots and ramifications, but also what you can do to help children and young people navigate these obstacles and continue their education.

School Attendance and Punctuality

School year	Attendance							
	Spring 1							
	Week 1		Week 2		Week 3		Week 4	
	Attendance	% Late	Attendance	% Late	Attendance	% Late	Attendance	% Late
Junior Overall	96.8	1.0	96.2	0.89	96.1	1.0	95.1	0.91
Infant Overall	95.3	0.94	96.0	0.71	96.3	0.85	98.5	0.5
6	98.6	1.0	97.2	1.12	98.2	1.2	95.6	1.0
5	90.2	0.8	93.9	0.58	94.2	1.1	92.7	0.2
4	97.7	0.3	96.6	1.57	97.2	1.2	96.7	1.73
3	99.6	1.6	96.6	0.31	94.7	0.4	95.3	0.65
2	94.4	0.4	94.3	0.73	95.6	0.36	98.5	0.18
1	98.9	2.22	96.4	1.26	97.4	1.0	97.9	1.0
R	94.4	0.48	97.6	0.22	96.3	1.3	98.2	0.43

Persistent absentees % of cohort	Inf	Jun	R	1	2	3	4	5	6
	8.0	5.9	7.1	5.5	10.6	3.4	4.1	8.7	3.3

Persistent absenteeism is a statistic which is closely tracked by the DFE. The above table shows the percentage of children in each school, and each year group which have an attendance which is below 90%. We understand that children do become unwell, but we must monitor those who have absences which are statistically significant compared to their peers. We will be asking parents to have a chat with us next half term if your child is showing to be persistently absent to see if we can offer any support to get their attendance back on track. If you have any concerns in the meantime, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Chisholm - Executive Head Teacher

Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head

Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head