



Oakfield Schools

5th December 2025

Lockerbie



What a wonderful time we had at Lockerbie Monor last week on our annual outdoor adventure residential visit!

Despite encountering every weather type that Mother Nature could throw in our direction, our year 6 pupils thoroughly embraced all activities that they encountered. Whether it was climbing, kayaking, hill walking, archery, fencing or the assault course, each challenge was met with determination and a huge grin: these qualities were much needed as pupils succeeded in challenges that they had previously never dreamt of. Even Mrs McCormack can smile now about her unplanned paddle in the lake!

Thank you Year 6, we also enjoyed our time away with you!



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
	South shields leavers trip	10/07/26

Diary Dates for 2025-2026		
New / amended events added are highlighted in yellow after week 1		
8/12/25	Year 1/2 Christmas sing – Year 1 parents viewing	2pm
9/12/25	Year 1/2 Christmas sing – Year 2 parents viewing	2pm
10/12/25	Reception Nativity	2pm
11/12/25	Reception trip to Northern Stage	
12/12/25	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day	
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 – 02/04/26
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)



Gateshead Primary Panathlon Competition

We are delighted to share that eight of our KS2 pupils represented Oakfield at the Gateshead Primary Panathlon Competition this week. The children demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event, and their efforts were rewarded with gold medals. This is a wonderful achievement, and we are extremely proud of them all.

Of course, being successful at this level means that they have progressed to the county finals which will be held in June 2026 at Gateshead College. A bit of a wait, but one that will be well worth it!

Christmas Fayre

Thank you to all who attended the Christmas Fayre. It was wonderful to see so many people attend and some familiar children who have moved onto secondaries coming back to visit. The raffle has been drawn today and any lucky winners will be contacted by admin staff next week.

Driving on School Grounds



The roads into our schools are small and the car parks congested. In addition, all of our driveways are thoroughfares for children coming to and from school on foot. This means that safety for all children and adults is paramount for school and managed carefully. Please remember that parents are **not permitted** to drive onto the school site. This includes for Lamesley breakfast and afterschool clubs.

Parents organising children's Christmas visits.



We recognise that this time of year is especially busy for families, with exciting experiences such as Polar Express trips and visits to Father Christmas. While we understand the value of these activities, we would like to remind families that schools are not permitted to authorise absence for such events. This includes collecting children early or bringing them in late due to late-night activities.

We fully support extracurricular opportunities for children, and we are equally committed to protecting every child's right to a full and uninterrupted education.

We ask that you try and organise such events outside of school time. As there is no mechanism for us to authorise absence for these types of events, we ask that parents and carers complete a Leave of Absence form if they plan to take their child out of school during lesson time.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Year 1 and 2 Christmas Performances.

Staff have requested that Year One and Two children bring a Christmas jumper in a bag on Monday 8th December to wear for the performances and can leave it at school for the following day. If Christmas is not part of your family's celebrations, please feel free to send your child in their own jumper.

Xmas performances KS1

As always there will be raffles held on the day with 3 prizes available to win. Please bring cash in to purchase the tickets if you wish to. All funds raised are spent on the children.

Toddler Xmas party

Little Acorns will be having their Xmas party on Friday 12th from 9am to 10.30. Please ring the Infant office on 0191 329 3646 to book a ticket. Tickets cost £1 which includes the costs of food, crafts and there will be a special visitor.

Xmas Parties

Christmas parties will be held for each year group on the following dates:

- Monday 15th December Year 4
- Tuesday 16th December Year 5
- Wednesday 17th December Reception and Year 3
- Thursday 18th December Year 1/ 2 and Year 6

Children should come to school dressed in their party clothes on the morning of their party and can wear them all day.

Reception applications

General reminder for parents to apply for their child's Reception place for September 2026. The closing date for applications is January 15th.

Christmas Cards

For children who want to give Christmas Cards to friends, the school post box is open in both schools. Please can children post their cards here and let the Christmas elves work their magic in delivering them. Please help the school elves by writing the name of the child and the class on the envelopes– Ho, Ho, Ho!

KS2 Pantomime Visit – Thursday 11th December

As you are all aware, we are taking Key Stage 2 pupils to The Little Theatre to see Goldilocks and the 3 Bears. Year 3 and 5 will see the morning performance, with Year 4 and 6 the afternoon performance. With the show finishing at about 3.20 pm, can year 4 and 6 parents keep an eye on the In App Messaging service where we confirm the time these pupils will be back at school next week.

Christmas Parties

Thank you to those parents who have paid their donations for Christmas party food. Payment is still open for those that have not yet donated.

Last day of term

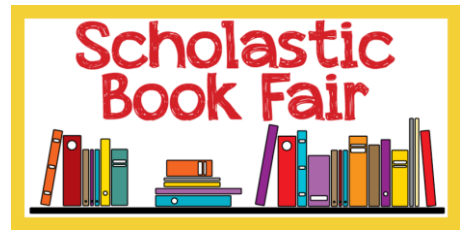
On the last day of term KS2 will sing Christmas songs under the veranda and KS1 children will be singing Christmas songs around the Christmas tree. After the Christmas songs have finished at approximately 2.30 pm the KS2 children can be collected to go home. KS1 children can also be collected at the same time if parents wish to do so. If you do not wish to collect your child at this time they will be kept in school until their normal collection times and handed over to parents/guardians or wrap around care.

As normal, parents are invited to Carols under the Veranda. It starts at 1.45pm on the main junior school car park. KS1 parents as we are aware pick-up arrangements might change can you please complete the form [Friday 19th December 2025 - Early collection Infant school – Fill in form](#)

Year 5 and 6 Parents – Please can you all complete the form on Arbor Parent Portal under notices to state how your child is getting home after Carols Under the Veranda. Please state if they can walk or, if they are being collected, the name of the person collecting. We must have this information with it being a different finishing time to the normal school day. Thank you!

Book Fair

Thank you so much for your continued support with our book fair. Across the 2 schools we raised a **total of £590**. This will be invested back into our libraries to ensure our children have a wonderful range of books to choose from.



Reading Champions

We had some amazing applications from Key Stage 2 for the position of Reading Champion. It was a very difficult decision and the children who were unsuccessful will all receive 6 start points for their efforts. We are delighted to announce the Reading Champions who will be leading our activities in the National Year of Reading in 2026 are:

3BM- Oscar M and Felicity

3F- Ezra B and Rose H

4G- Ella B and Freya O

4 R- Harry R and Harvey T

5B- Poppy H and Toby J

5R- Alice C and Harry B

6D and M- Betty G, Emily H, Aoife C, Sadie G, Isabella M

Sharing success

Star points total per week					
	3/11/25	10/11/25	17/11/25	24/11/25	5/12/25
R	223	455	476	476	321
1	319	284	407	413	265
2	461	225	528	534	321
3	140	60	540	771	409
4	20	93	309	309	192
5	316	57	259	358	627
6	97	488	159	180	151

Safeguarding



Whether you are an internet newbie or a pro at surfing the web, it is always important to keep online safety in mind. We have pulled together a list of top tips to make it easier for you to protect yourself and your devices in the digital world - helping you steer clear of hazards like misleading information and vicious viruses. There is never a bad time to refresh your internet safety knowledge, but it is an especially smart thing to do before you start using any shiny new devices!

In the guide, you will find tips such as double-checking your news sources, taking breaks from being online and not sharing personal information.

School Attendance and Punctuality

School year	Attendance									
	Autumn 2									
	Week 1		Week 2		Week 3		Week 4		Week 5	
	Attendance	% late	Attendance	% late	Attendance	% late	Attendance	% late	Attendance	% late
Junior Overall	96.5	0.78	96.3	0.97	95.2	2.0	97.1	1.8	95.4	0.69
Infant Overall	94.6	0.44	97.0	1.0	95.6	1.98	94.2	1.98	97.5	1.09
6	97.9	0.25	96.2	0.66	95.5	1.3	98.0	1.58	95.7	0.68
5	95.9	2.0	95.1	2.0	92.5	2.6	94.9	2.24	90.4	0.41
4	96.8	0.0	96.3	0.69	95.4	2.0	98.6	1.35	96.1	1.54
3	95.4	0.97	97.4	0.64	96.9	1.3	96.6	2.0	98.6	0.68
2	94.6	0.56	98.4	1.3	96.7	1.53	94.3	0.98	95.5	0.39
1	94.0	0.79	95.0	0.28	94.7	2.78	95.6	2.78	98.0	1.6
R	95.2	0.0	96.6	1.43	95.2	1.85	93.5	1.43	98.1	1.4

We hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Chisholm - Executive Head Teacher

Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head

Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head

