



Oakfield Schools

7th March 2025

World Book Day

'Witches, Wizards and Muggles'



OAKFIELD WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATION

We had a fanatastic celebration of books this week on World book Day. It was wonderful to see some amazing costumes on Thursday and the excitement from children was superb. A big thank you to parents who had clearly put in a lot of effort to support their children with costumes and for the Wooden Book character entries for our competition. Winners will be announced in assembly this week and prizes awarded in the Celebration assemblies next week. Please see the facebook page for photographs and videos of some of the brilliant experiences the children had. These included wand making, potion making, a woodland trail, sharing our favourite books and a Hogwart themed escape room. A great first week at school.

Diary Dates for 2024-2025		
New / amended events added are highlighted in yellow after week 1		
KS1 = Year 1 & 2 / KS2 = Junior school		
Date	Event	Time
12/3/24	Year One visit to Cromer Church	
21/3/24	Comic Relief	
23/03/25	Friends of Oakfield - Quiz night Gold medal	19.00
w/b 07/04/25	Year R – 5 Parents’ evenings (face to face)	
11/04/25	Year 5 trip – Centre for Life	
	Easter Holidays	
	Start of Summer 1 term	
30/04/25	Year 4 trip – Jarrow Hall	
05/05/25	Spring Bank Holiday	
w/b 12/05/25	SATS week	All week
w/b 19/05/25	Sports Week	All week
19/05/25	Year 3 Trip - Segedunum	
23/5/25	Saltwell Park Fun Run	
24/05/25	Whit Half Term	
	Start of Summer 2 term	
3/6/25	Year 1 trip to Gibside	
5/6/25	Year 2 trip to Washington Wetlands	
June 2025 (TBC)	Year 1 / 2 phonics check	All week
17/06/25	Summer Fayre	15:30 – 17.00
2-3/ 07/25	Transition days	
10/7/25	Reception trip to Wallington Hall	
10/7/25	Year 3 trip – Oriental Museum	
11/07/25	Reports out to parents	
15/07/25	Year 6 leavers concert	17.30
16-17/07/25	Infant Summer Picnics	tbc
17/07/25	Last day of term	
18/07/25	Occasional day – School closed	

2024 - 2025 Term Dates	
Term	Dates
Autumn 1	04/09/24 – 25/10/24
Autumn 2	04/11/24 – 20/12/24
Spring 1	06/01/25 – 20/02/25
Spring 2	03/03/25 – 11/04/25
Summer 1	28/04/25 – 23/05/25
Summer 2	02/06/25 – 17/07/25
PD days for the year	02/09/24 03/09/24 25/10/24 21/02/25

PE Days	
Reception	Tuesday and Friday
Year One	Monday and Thursday
Year Two	Wednesday and Friday
Year Three	Wednesday and Thursday
Year Four	Wednesday and Friday
Year Five	Monday and Wednesday (Swimming)
Year Six	Tuesday and Friday

Mr Renwick – Our linguistic champion!

Oakfield's own Mr Renwick became the first non-native Chinese speaker to win a prize at the European English Speaking Countries Annual Chinese Teacher Contest held in London over Half-Term.

Following the Semi-Finals held at the School of Oriental and African Studies last November, Mr R placed third in the Grand Final at UCL on February 23rd.

"It was a privilege to show off my teaching skills and represent Oakfield and the Newcastle University Confucius Institute in front of a panel of judges. I taught a lesson on food likes and dislikes using songs, chanting, chef's props and -of course- the ukulele to keep the audience engaged."

"This is the tenth year; we have worked with the Confucius Institute to teach our Children Chinese and it's a wonderful way of broadening horizons and building relationships with friends from other cultures."

We are delighted to be able to congratulate James on his endeavours!



World Book Day Competition

Thank you to children and parents for all of the amazing entries into the wooden spoon book character competition. The children have clearly spent a lot of time thinking about the characters and their artwork and creativity was fantastic. Well done to all of the winners below.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Winner</u>
Rec H	Edie	3B	Max R
Rec M	Alfie C	3F	Travis
1CR	Olivia	4G	Dotty
1P	Autumn	4R	Sophie P
2C	Billy	5R	Sadie
2M	Florence	5CB	Layla G
		6D	Hector S
		6M	Betsy M

School Bookfair – Friday 14th March to Wednesday 19th March

Following on from the great success of World Book Day, the Scholastic Book Fair returns to Oakfield between Friday 14th March and Wednesday 19th March inclusive. Please see the times that the book fairs are open in both schools. When visiting, there are 2 payment options for any purchase:

Cash

Paying by a QR code using a phone (adults only)

The option to pay by the QR code is only available if you are at the book fair in person. We will have a QR code for you to scan at the fair and you will show us the confirmed payment while you are there and then you will be able to take your selected books. Remember to bring your World Book Token to get £1 off a book; this can't be taken off stationary.

Please understand that books can't be reserved or taken until payment has been made.

We look forward to seeing the children's excitement when choosing their books to buy.

Infant Book Fair opening Times

	AM 8.30am- 8.45am	PM 3.15pm-3.45pm
Friday 14 th March	Open	Open
Monday 17 th March	Open	Open
Tuesday 18 th March	Open	Open
Wednesday 19 th March	Open	Open

Junior Book Fair opening Times

	AM 8.30am- 8.45am	Lunchtime 12.45pm-1.00pm	PM 3.30pm-4.00pm
Friday 14 th March	Open	Open	Open
Monday 17 th March	Closed	Open	Open
Tuesday 18 th March	Open	Open	Closed
Wednesday 19 th March	Open	Open	Open

Introduction of Arbor for communication – A reminder

Arbor Portal Invites were sent out on Wednesday, please click in and follow the instructions on the invite as soon as possible. This will be the new way for communication. You will be kept informed of dates for the next steps.

Key Stage 2 Sporting Updates

As Spring is in the air, the days are getting longer, and dare one say, slightly drier and warmer, various school sporting competitions resume. There have been two such competitions recently.

On Tuesday, three Year 3 teams went to represent school at a Quicksticks Hockey Tournament at Whickham School. Each were placed in a group before playing all other teams in a 4 v 4 format; this leads to quick, action-packed games and many goals. All the children reported that they thoroughly enjoyed the experience. To cap what was a great morning, two of the teams came away with bronze recognition for coming third over all in their group; well done to everyone.

On the Thursday evening that we broke up for half term, a year 6 team played two group games in a Gateshead/Felling FA knock out cup competition. On a blustery, cool evening, on long grass that still had not been cut, they battled superbly and earnt a 2-0 victory in their first game. This was followed by a 0-1 defeat meaning that unfortunately, they did not progress to the final. Despite this, I saw 7 players give big hearted performances and leave the pitch still smiling, proud in how they had done. Well done and thank you!

Year 4's visit to The Discovery Museum

Y4 had a fantastic time at the Discovery Museum on Tuesday. We split the day between a science workshop about sound and visiting the range of different permanent and temporary exhibitions there. The Destination Tyneside Exhibition taught us that people come from all over the world to live in our part of the country. We also looked at a STEAM exhibition about renewable energy. We even spotted our own school governor Les Milne - a committed environmentalist- on the wall.



Lockdowns across Gateshead schools, Thursday 06/03/25

We were made aware that some schools in Gateshead had implemented lockdown procedures due to an email threat, we did not receive such a threat but as a precaution, we ensured our school site was secure, and children remained within the school building and normal school activities continued. There was no risk to pupils, staff, or visitors. This was in place for a short duration until police confirmed that it was safe to lift the lockdown as the investigations revealed that there was no credible threat.

Safeguarding



The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a significant role in modern literacy.

To help struggling readers, many digital platforms offer tools that enhance readability by making text more accessible and engaging. There's also a broad range of accessibility features available, such as screen customisation and text-to-voice technology, which may help children and young people improve their literary confidence. This free guide offers ten top tips on how you can help young readers engage in text and foster a love for reading.

School Attendance and Punctuality

School year	Spring 2	
	Week 1	
	Attendance	% late
Junior Overall	96.5	1.25%
Infant Overall	95.9	0.65%
6	96.7	0.98%
5	97.2	1.55%
4	95.6	1.3%
3	96.7	1.17%
2	95.8	0.78%
1	96.8	0.49%
R	94.7	0.67%

Thank you all for continuing to support with our attendance.

Miss Chisholm - Executive Head Teacher

Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head

Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head