



Oakfield Schools

12th September 2025

Ready to learn check list!	
	✓ Have you walked sensibly and safely to your learning environments?
	✓ Are your eyes stuck on the class teacher- ready to learn?
	✓ Have you stopped talking?
	✓ Are your ears ready for great listening?

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We hope over the 1st week your children have come home full of enthusiasm and you have been able to see your child's star points mounting up on Arbor! Your children have had such a positive start to the year with the junior school awarding 2278 star points and the Infants awarding 1456. One of the ways we are encouraging our children to have opportunities to achieve star points is by having excellent behaviour for learning. We have introduced the above 'Ready to Learn' check list and this is now consistently applied across all areas of school. You might hear your children talking about 'wonderful walking' or 'magnet eyes'. These habits have been proven to improve children's success in the classroom as it reduces distraction and dysregulation.

We are excited to observe how your children have responded to this and how much focus the children have in their lessons.

I'm sure when you come to visit on our family learning days you will see this in action! Don't forget to check our dates list below and see what exciting things we have coming up in the school calendar. Trips for the year will also be added very soon.

Many thanks
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) (This will swap during the Spring term)
Year Six	Monday (indoor / outdoors mix) - Friday (outdoors)

School Sport Partnership

If your child is taking part in a sports event through the SSP, when you receive the consent and letter, you will now also be informed which sporting values are linked to the event. There are 6 values which have been created

nationally, based on input from children and young people. Events will follow some, or all these 6 values. This means there is an opportunity for participants, officials or staff taking part to be identified by other school staff /children when displaying any of these values during the event, and badges are awarded accordingly.

Some events will have an individual 'focus' value assigned to an event. the school/group/team that best embodies this value during the event, will be presented with a value certificate and badges for participating children.

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KS 2 School Council

Ada and Leo, our Head Girl, and Head Boy, together with the four prefects, would like a representative from each class in Years 3, 4 and 5 to join them to form a school council. If your child is interested, can you please support them in putting together a short set of reasons why they would make a good representative for their class. Next week, they will be given time to share this with their class, who will then, in a democratic style, vote on their class's representative on the school council. Good luck candidates.

Curriculum Overviews – Key Stage 1 and 2

Attached to the newsletter are the curriculum overviews for each year group. These outline the content for each subject for the Autumn term, as well as giving an overview of year group information such as PE days, the days homework is set and needs to be returned, and any unique events planned for your child's year group. Homework will be set from next week. This will consist of spellings and grammar, Maths, and an English task. Reading books should already be coming home.

Digital Reading Diaries (KS1)

We will be launching our new digital reading diaries soon which we have been able to secure for this year. We do need parents to approve the consent as soon as possible to aid us in launching the event. Please remember to give consent through Arbor. Communication will be sent out next week explaining how to access the website and you will receive a Magic link to log on. Staff were trained this week and we are very excited to see it in action. There will be a drop-in session for parents on Wednesday 1st October at 3.30pm for any parents who need support. In the meantime, Year One and Two children will bring home their reading books as normal.

Your Questions.....Answered!

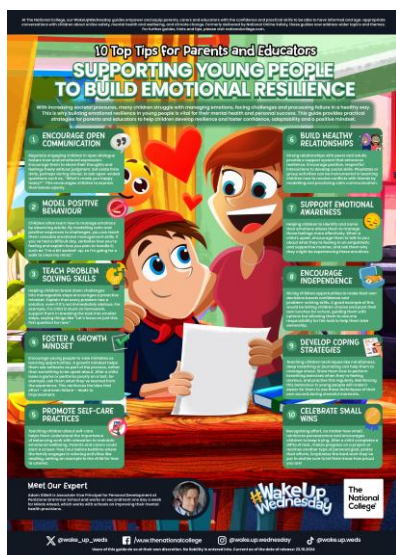
We regularly receive questions from parents about school protocol, arrangements, policies etc. which are obviously pertinent to them, but also are questions that may have been on other parent's minds. This week's question has been asked by three parents so far this term:

Can my upper key stage child collect and walk a younger sibling home or to a pre-arranged meeting place?

At the end of the school day, we want pupils in Year 4 and below to be collected by a parent, or other contact that you have made us aware of. In Years 5 and 6, children may walk themselves if consent has been given by a parent via Arbor. The reason we have said that younger children cannot walk off site alone, or an older child cannot take a younger sibling is one of Safeguarding. Staff will only dismiss a child to someone who is on the designated contact list unless parents inform us of a different arrangement e.g. for tea at another child's house meaning a different collection arrangement)

We regularly have conversations with annoyed parents who inform us of cars mounting pavements at pick up and drop off time, close to pedestrians. Therefore, we do not consider it appropriate for a child who is a minor to escort another minor, as they are generally unaware of these dangers, increasing the risk of an accident. It is not that we want to make it difficult for parents, but we do need to act to make our environment and routines that we oversee, as safe as possible. We would also report these near misses to both the police and highways department with the hope that it would help ease these problems, and should this be the case, we would again review our procedures.

Safeguarding



Facing unpleasant feelings can be a challenge, even for adults – let alone for children and young people, whose minds are still developing. To many youngsters, a mistake in an exam, a hurtful word or even losing in a game can sometimes feel like the worst thing in the world, causing them to react accordingly.

However, this is not always an effective way to deal with difficult emotions or life's setbacks, so it is important that parents and educators are able to impress a healthy approach to these feelings on the children in their care. This guide offers you expert tips on how to instil emotional resilience in young people, helping them to learn from unexpected feelings and situations – and to process them in a mature, effective manner.

School Attendance and Punctuality

School year	Attendance			
	Autumn 1			
	Week 1		Week 2	
	Attendance	% late	Attendance	% late
Junior Overall	98.0	0.4	98.3	0.6
Infant Overall	96.0	0.1	98.0	0.14
6	98.0	0.25	97.8	0.6
5	97.0	0.9	97.9	0.7
4	99.0	0.0	99.3	0.4
3	98.0	0.5	98.3	1.0
2	98.0	0.4	96.0	0.0
1	100.0	0.0	98.2	0.4
R	-	-	98.8	0.3

Thank you all for making the first 2 weeks fantastic 😊

Miss Chisholm - Executive Head Teacher

Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head

Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head

