Oakfield

Friday Letter

Building strong foundations. Inspiring bright futures.

DATE
Friday 2nd October

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Oakfield Families,

We wanted to share with you that, at the end of this half term, we will be saying a very fond farewell to Mrs McNall, who will be leaving Oakfield to begin an exciting new chapter in both her career and family life.

Mrs McNall has secured a well-deserved promotion to the role of **SENDCO**, where she will be able to build on her experience, skills and passion for ensuring that every child receives the support they need to thrive. Her new role will also give her the opportunity to spend more precious time with her family.

Whilst we are delighted for her, we will be incredibly sad to see her leave. Mrs McNall has been a much-valued member of our Oakfield team and has brought such warmth, care and commitment to her role. She has built wonderful relationships with our children and families and has made a real difference to so many during her time with us.

We know that she will flourish in her new role and that her kindness, dedication and commitment to children will be a huge asset to her new school.

We hope you will join us in thanking Mrs McNall for everything she has given to Oakfield and wishing her every happiness and success for the future. She will be very much missed by children, families and colleagues alike, but she leaves with our warmest wishes. We will be welcoming Miss Fawcett to the KS1 team and the children and parents in Mrs McNall's current class will have the opportunity to meet her.

Best wishes,
Helen Hartness
Acting Headteacher

What's happening next week

Monday	Year 1/ 2 KM PE Year 1/ 2 CR PE Year 3 Outdoor PE Year 6 Indoor PE
Tuesday	Reception PE
Wednesday	Year 1/ 2 BG PE Year 1/ 2 KM PE Year 4 Outdoor PE 5M Indoor PE (Until February) 5D Swimming (Until February)
Thursday	Reception PE Year 4 Indoor PE Year 6 Outdoor PE (Forest School)
Friday	Year 1/ 2 BG PE Year 1/ 2 CR PE Year 3 Indoor PE Year 5 Outdoor PE

OUR SIX CHARACTER THEMES	RESPECT	FAIRNESS	RESPONSIBILITY	CARING	CITIZENSHIP	TRUSTWORTHINESS
	We value ourselves and others.	We treat people fairly.	We own our choices.	We show kindness.	We contribute	We are honest and reliable.

★ CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Star points total	
	This Week
R	357
1	2068
2	1070
3	2261
4	3364
5	2324
6	2754

✷ SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

Hot Chocolate with the Head Teacher

Well done to all of the children who received their Hot Chocolate award this week. They are Mira, Emilie, Mitchell, Jet, Ella H, Felicity and Thomas Z, Max B, Maya K, Isla H.

NOTICES & REMINDERS

Parents Evenings

You will have received a message about parent appointments this week. Staff are looking forward to sharing how your child has settled into their new class and their achievements.

Healthy Snacks

Reminder about choices of snacks- snacks should be fruit, nut free cereal bars or cheese. We have seen an increase in items such crisps and Oreos and this does not meet the standards that the DFE legally require us to maintain.

Hometime

A little reminder about home time.

We kindly ask that, once children have been collected at the end of the school day, families **make their way off the school site promptly**.

We know that home time is a lovely opportunity to catch up with other families; however, a prompt departure helps us to keep the site safe and secure, allows staff to supervise effectively and ensures that after-school activities can begin smoothly. Our wrap around care leases the site after school so yards need to be clear so they can use the yards.

Thank you for your understanding and for helping us to keep everyone safe at the end of the day.

THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN est. 1985 NEWCASTLE

FOOD FRIENDSHIP FUTURES

HOW YOU CAN HELP THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN

Our work is only made possible thanks to your kindness and generosity. The People's Kitchen is run entirely by volunteers so every penny donated goes directly to helping our vulnerable Friends who might be homeless, at risk, unemployed, lonely, or living in poverty.

Items we need	Examples
Tinned Veg	Tomatoes Plum & Chopped, Peas, Carrots, Sweetcorn, Potatoes
Tinned Fruit	Peaches, Pineapples, Fruit Cocktail, Pears, Mandarin Oranges
Soup	Tinned or Instant Vegetable, Tomato, Chicken, Broth, Lentil, Potato & Leek
Cooking/ Baking Ingredients	Sugar-Caster & Granulated, Flour – SR & Plain, Jam, Coconut, Cocoa, Dried Fruit, Cooking Oil, Lentils, Broth Mix, Spices
Snacks	Pot Noodles, Pot Pasta, Crisps, Biscuits, Chocolate, Sweets, Cereal Bars
Drinks	UHT Milk, Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Cartons of Juice, Fruit Squash
Desserts	Rice Pudding, Jelly, Angel Delight, Instant & Tinned Custard, Evaporated Milk, Golden Syrup, Black Treacle
Tinned Meat	Ham, Corned Beef, Chilli, Curry, Minced Beef, Bolognese, Stewing Steak
Cooking Sauces	Indian, Thai, Chinese, Italian, Mexican, Coconut Milk
Condiments	Tomato Ketchup, Brown Sauce, Mayonnaise, Salt, Pepper
Pasta & Rice	Lasagne, Egg Noodles, Rice
Stock and Gravy	Vegetarian, Beef, Chicken, Onion
Toiletries	Soap, Mens Spray Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner,Shower Gel, Razors, Toothpaste and Brushes, Sanitary Products
Cleaning/Other	Washing Up Liquid, Washing Powder, Books, DVD's, DVD Players/ Small -Medium Flat Screen TV's
Rough Sleepers	Sleeping Bags, Rucksacks, Handwarmers, Flasks, Unlocked Mobile Phone
Pet Food	Dog & Cat Food – Wet, Dry and Treats
Clothing	Trainers, Waterproof Jackets, Joggers, , Jeans, Sweat Shirts, T Shirts, Socks, Gloves, Scarfs, Hats

We are grateful for your kind donations – We do not accept food if it is opened.
Clothing does not need to be new, but we ask for it to be in good condition and clean.
We do not need used duvets, suits, dress shirts, or summer clothing.

Harvest Festival

As part of our commitment to supporting our wider community, we are collecting donations for **The People's Kitchen**, a local charity.We would be very grateful for any donations families are able to contribute. Useful items include **tinned foods, pasta, rice, cereals, biscuits, tea, coffee, toiletries as you can see from the list above.** Please send any donations into school from 12th October to 19th October, where they will be collected together before being passed on to The People's Kitchen. There is absolutely no expectation to donate, but every contribution, however small, will make a difference. It is also a lovely opportunity for our children to see our school values in action and understand the importance of caring for and supporting others in our community.

Year 1 and 2 children will be hosting our Harvest Festival celebration in school on Wednesday 21st October at 2pm. We ask that no more than 2 attend the event and we look forward to seeing you there.

Jewellery in school

We have a number of occasions where children have been wearing jewellery such as bracelets in school. Due to Health and Safety reasons and possible loss of item we are asking parents to remove them before school. We also wanted to provide some clarification around earrings. They must be removed on PE days as this can be very dangerous during active sessions. However, the small clear plastic earrings that are flat to the ear are safe to wear so they can be used as we do understand that parents do not want the piercing hole to close. Unfortunately, if a child is wearing earrings on a PE day and is unable to remove them, they will be unable to take part. Thank you for your support with this.

Coats

Can we please ensure that your child has a coat every day. As the weather is so changeable at the minute and the children may be going into the forest or will be outside for playtimes and lunchtimes.

🌟 Superstar Athletes 🌟

A huge well done to the Year 1/2 children who went along to the KS1 Indoor Athletics Festival 2026 this week. The children had a brilliant experience. They loved the long jump, hurdles, throwing and sprinting activities!

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SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

A snapshot of learning from across Oakfield this week

Reception

This week Reception have been working hard on writing our names! We have been spotting sounds we have learned in phonics in our names and practicing letter formation.

Year 1 / 2

Year 1 have had lots of fun exploring maths patterns this week. We have made repeating patterns with natural materials, numicon, paints, cubes and pasta. We have mastered AB, AAB and ABC patterns! Great job everyone.

Year 3

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed investigating muscles in their science work. They learned that muscles work in pairs to pull the bones which makes us move! They investigated the link between thigh length, circumference and how long we can jump

Year 4

Year 4 are enjoying their music topic. We have been using both body percussion and Instruments to create sounds from each layer of the rainforest.

Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been channelling their inner rockstars as we have been **singing and accompanying ourselves on instruments to 'Livin' on a Prayer' by Bon Jovi!** Today, we started to transform ourselves into our very own **Year 5 School of Rock**! Our guitars and violins joined the glockenspiels, while everyone sang along like true rockstars. It was fantastic to hear all the different sounds coming together to create our own class band! We're only just getting started… Next week, we'll be adding **even more instruments** and beginning to develop our **own compositions** to accompany the song. Who knows… we might just have the next big rock band in Year 5!

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been showing their creative side by making collages in forest school and using photo editing in art to design an album cover.

School attendance and Punctuality

2026-2027 Term Dates	
Term	Dates
Autumn 1 Autumn 2	02/09/26 – 22/10/26 02/11/26 – 18/12/26
Spring 1 Spring 2	04/01/27 - 12/02/27 22/02/27 – 25/03/27
Summer 1 Summer 2	12/04/27 – 28/05/27 07/06/27 – 15/07/27
PD days & other non-school days	01/09/26 23/10/26 03/05/27 – bank holiday 16/07/27 - occasional day

School year	Attendance	
	This Week	
	Attendance	% marks late
Junior Overall	95.8%	0.42%
Infant Overall	97.9%	0.29%
6	93.4%	0.87%
5	96.7%	0.22%
4	96.8%	0.18%
3	95.8%	0.87%
2	98.1%	0.28%
1	97.0%	0.52%
R	98.9%	0%

Safeguarding

We have a duty of care to safeguard all children and pass on any concerns to Children's Services.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr. M. Thompson. Deputy safeguarding leads are Miss H Hartness, Mrs. J McCormack, Mrs. D Simpson, and Mrs. C Allan. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

H. Hartness, Acting Head Teacher

Thank you for your continued support!

Diary Dates for 2026-2027

New / amended events added are highlighted in yellow after week 1		
2/09/26	Autumn 1 begin	
	Reception Phonics Family Learning	
W/B 12/10/26	Parents' Evenings	
19/10/26	Tempus Photographs	
21/10/26	Year 1/ 2 Harvest Festival	2pm
23/10/26	Half term holiday	
9/11/26	Year 3 Family Learning	
10/11/26	Flu Vaccinations	
11/11/26	Year 4 Family Learning Rec Family Learning	
12/11/26	Year 5 Family Learning Year 1 Family Learning	
13/11/26	Year 6 Family Learning Year 2 Family Learning	
18/11/26	Year 6 at Lockerbie	
1/12/26	Christmas Fayre	
8/12/26	Reception Nativity	2pm
9/12/26	Year 1/ 2 Christmas Singalong	2pm
10/12/26	KS2 Pantomime	
14/12/26	Year 5 Christmas party	PM
15/12/26	Year 4 Christmas party	PM
16/12/26	Year 3 Christmas party	PM
17/12/26	Year 6 Christmas party	PM
18/12/26	KS2 Carols Under the Veranda	TBC