



OAKDENE PRIMARY ACADEMY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Tuesday 16th June

Growing Through Excellence

Welcome Back to our Summer Term Newsletter!

Key Dates

19/6/26

Class & Year 6 Photographs

26/6/26

Year 6 Trip to Western Approaches

26/6/26

Summer Fete

29/6/26

Moving on up morning

03/7/26

Inset Day School Closed

08/7/26

Year 6 Trip to Gullivers World

It has been a fantastic start to the summer term at Oakdene, with children returning happy, settled and truly raring to go. There is a real sense of excitement across school, and it has been wonderful to see our pupils embracing their learning with such enthusiasm.

We have already enjoyed some brilliant experiences, including a fabulous farm visit for our Year 1 children, where they had the opportunity to explore and learn in a real-life setting. Our Year 3 children also had an exciting BFG Experience Day, which inspired curiosity and teamwork.

We are delighted to introduce the newest members of our Oakdene family – Reggie and Ray, our guinea pigs! The children have absolutely loved welcoming them into school and have taken great responsibility in caring for them. They are being incredibly well looked after (and very well fed!), which is clear to see as they continue to grow rapidly!

Looking ahead, there is so much more to look forward to this term. Year 2 will be visiting Knowsley Safari Park, and our Year 6 pupils are eagerly anticipating their trip to Gulliver's World. Alongside this, some year groups will be completing important assessments, and Year 6 have their end-of-year play and graduation to prepare for – truly special moments in their Oakdene journey.

What a term this promises to be – full of opportunity, celebration and memorable experiences as we continue Growing Through Excellence together.

Acorn Class

In Acorn Class, the children were thrilled to meet our new pet guinea pigs, Ray and Reggie. The little ones enjoyed getting to know them, taking turns to hold and stroke them. It was a delightful experience, and we learned how important it is to care for them properly, ensuring they have a happy and healthy environment.

In Maths, we have been practising our number bonds to 10. The children have engaged in various activities and games to help them understand the concept of number bonds, which is a crucial building block for their mathematical development.

Our Literacy focus this week involved writing sentences in the voice of the frog from our current story, 'Oi Frog'. The children also enjoyed writing responses from the cat, sparking their



RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT, FRIENDSHIP, HONESTY, DETERMINATION & PRIDE



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Tuesday 16th June

It is really important that each child reaches our school attendance target of 97%. Please make sure your child is in school and on time everyday!

Our whole school attendance figure for last week

95.3%

97%

Attendance percentage we aim for every week

Attendance Awards



Year 1
98.1%



Year 6
97.2%



Year 3
96%

The winning class will receive an additional playtime this week as a reward. Well done to Year 1 who had 98.1% attendance!

10/7/26
Year 6
Rugby
Tournament

15/7/26
Year 6
Production
1.30pm

16/7/26
Year 6
Production
6.30pm

16/7/26
Year 6
Adventurous
Kitchen

21/7/26
Year 6
Graduation
9.30am

creativity and honing their sentence-formation skills. This activity has allowed them to explore character perspectives and enhance their storytelling abilities.

In Drawing Club, we have been delving into key vocabulary and events from the story 'Jack and The Beanstalk'. The children have used their imaginations to go on exciting adventures, coming up with ideas related to the story's events. This creative exploration helps them visualize narratives and express their understanding in artistic ways.

Overall, it has been a week full of exploration and learning, with our new furry friends adding a touch of joy to our classroom. We look forward to more fun and educational activities in the coming weeks.

Maple Class

What a fantastic start to the new half term our Year 1 class has had! The first two weeks back have been incredibly busy, full of hands-on learning, new experiences, and lots of excitement.

One of the highlights was our special visit from the farm. The children were thrilled to welcome the animals into school and had the wonderful opportunity to see them up close. They carefully held and interacted with the animals, learning all about how they live, what they eat, and how they are cared for. The experience sparked lots of curiosity, and the children asked brilliant questions and shared their ideas. It was a fantastic way to bring learning to life!

We have also been exploring healthy eating in a very practical (and delicious!) way. The children made their own fruit smoothies, taking on roles such as chopping, blending, and juicing. They loved being involved in the whole process—from preparing the fruit to taste testing their creations at the end. There were plenty of smiles and enthusiastic reactions as everyone tried the different flavours!





OAKDENE PRIMARY ACADEMY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Tuesday 16th June

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE AT OAKDENE PRIMARY IS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY!

Alongside all of these exciting activities, the children have been working incredibly hard in their learning. We are so proud of them for successfully completing their phonics check. Their dedication and effort have truly shone through, and they should all feel very proud of themselves.

It really has been a very busy but exciting first two weeks back, and we are looking forward to continuing this enthusiasm and energy as the final half term goes on!

Chestnut Class

In Chestnut Class this week, we have been busy Scientists and creative learners as we continued our exciting learning across the curriculum.

In Science, we began our new topic all about plants. The children showed great enthusiasm as they explored the differences between fruits and vegetables. We learned an important rule to help us: if a food has seeds, it is a fruit, and if it does not have seeds, it is a vegetable! The children were fascinated to discover that fruits do not grow underground, and vegetables do not grow on trees! We enjoyed sorting different foods and discussing our ideas, building our confidence in speaking and reasoning like real Scientists.

We also investigated a variety of seeds, looking closely at their size, shape and texture. The children loved using their observation skills and asking thoughtful questions about how seeds grow into new plants.

In Computing, we have successfully completed our Computer Science topic using Scratch Junior. The children were fully engaged and absolutely loved creating their own video games. They showed fantastic creativity and resilience as they designed characters, backgrounds and simple algorithms to make their games work. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they developed their programming skills.

In English, we have been enjoying our new text 'The Bear and the Piano'. The children have been inspired by the story and have worked hard to develop their writing. This week, they interviewed the bear and then used their ideas to write detailed newspaper reports. They included all of our Year 2 writing skills, such as expanded noun phrases, conjunctions and accurate punctuation.



RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT, FRIENDSHIP, HONESTY, DETERMINATION & PRIDE



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Tuesday 16th June



It has been a fantastic week of learning in Chestnut Class, and we are so proud of how engaged and enthusiastic the children have been!

Cherry Class

Cherry Class have proudly finished their exciting topic on Ancient Egypt with a fantastic class museum! To celebrate all of their hard work, the children transformed the hall into a vibrant exhibition, showcasing their learning in both History and Art.

The museum displayed a range of wonderful creations, including carefully crafted clay pots and beautifully designed scarab beetles. The children took great care in producing these pieces, using their knowledge of Ancient Egyptian patterns and symbols. Alongside their artwork, we included a selection of books and artefacts to help bring the museum to life and deepen our understanding of this fascinating civilisation.

We were delighted to invite children from other classes to visit our museum. Cherry Class took on the role of expert guides, confidently sharing their knowledge about Ancient Egypt, including information about daily life, beliefs, and important artefacts. It was wonderful to see the children speaking so enthusiastically and proudly about what they had learned.

This special event was a brilliant way to celebrate the end of our topic, and the children should be very proud of their hard work, creativity, and teamwork. Well done, Cherry Class!



Rowan Class

The last two weeks have been packed with creativity, innovation, and important life skills.

In Writing, we stepped into the shoes of 'Percy Jackson', the hero from Greek Mythology. Inspired by his adventures, our pupils crafted their own odes. Each pupil brought their imagination to life, using powerful words to create vivid imagery of Ancient Greek villains. It was wonderful to see how everyone expressed their creativity and developed their appreciation for poetry.

Over in Design and Technology, our budding engineers took on the challenge of creating prototype slingshot cars. With a blend of ingenuity and teamwork, our pupils worked tirelessly to design and build their vehicles. They tested different materials and mechanisms to see which would make their cars go the farthest and fastest. The air was filled with cheers as each car zoomed down the inversions!





WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Tuesday 16th June



Maths lessons have been ticking along with our focus on time-telling. Pupils have been mastering both analogue and digital clocks. Whether it's reading the hour hand or converting time formats, our pupils are becoming time-telling experts. This essential skill is helping them manage their daily schedules more effectively.

In Science, we embarked on a journey to explore the states of matter. Pupils engaged in hands-on experiments to distinguish between solids, liquids, and gases. By observing various substances and their properties, they gained a deeper understanding of the world around them.

Finally, in PSHE, we discussed the vital topic of drowning prevention. Our pupils learned about water safety and the importance of staying vigilant around bodies of water. This discussion equipped them with knowledge and strategies to keep themselves and others safe.

In Rowan Class, we are filled with learning and laughter.

Sycamore Class

Over the past two weeks, since returning from half term, Sycamore Class have thrown themselves, wholeheartedly into their new writing topic, 'High-Rise Mystery' by Sharna Jackson. From the very first chapter, the children have been completely hooked!

Our classroom has been transformed into a hive of detective work, with pupils carefully collecting clues and recording their ideas in their very own "case files." It has been wonderful to see how thoughtful and observant they have been, picking up on small details and using these to form their own theories. The discussions have been full of excitement, with everyone eager to share who they think might be responsible. There have even been audible gasps when particularly shocking clues have been revealed!

As a teacher, there is truly no better feeling than reading a book aloud and seeing a class so captivated. Even though the story centres around an untimely death, the engagement, curiosity and enthusiasm from the children has been incredible - they are quite literally hanging on every word!

Alongside this, in both our History and Reading lessons, we have begun a deep dive into the fascinating and tragic story of the Titanic. The children have been exploring ambitious vocabulary such as lavish, pinnacle, and dilapidated, which has really helped to develop a richer and more meaningful understanding of the topic.





OAKDENE PRIMARY ACADEMY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Tuesday 16th June



Year 5 are already showing great curiosity about life on board the ship, and they are particularly interested in learning about the different classes of passengers and the inequalities that existed. This line of enquiry has come directly from the children's own thoughtful questions, demonstrating just how invested they are in their learning.

Within our Maths, we are getting to grips with long division through following careful steps to success. This is something that we will keep practising in the upcoming weeks before Year Six so that they can hit the ground running after the summer holidays!

It has been a fantastic start to the half term, and I am incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, curiosity, and maturity Sycamore Class are showing. I cannot wait to see where both our mystery-solving and historical investigations take us next!

Elder Class

Year 6 have been working hard on 2 very different aspects of the English curriculum. We have been producing our final pieces of writing for our end of key stage assessment: we focused on the events of the Derby in 1913 and the incident in this big race where Suffragette 'Emily Davison' was killed. We researched the incident and used it to write both a historical narrative and a newspaper recount. In our other English work, we have been working on our big end-of-school production 'The Amazing Adventures of Superstan'. All roles have been cast and the children have now been reading through the script in role, in readiness for rehearsals to start properly next week. We've also been learning the dances and songs, with some nifty box steps taking place in PE this week!

Money has been a key theme in our other curriculum work as we began learning about how the use of money developed in our new Computing unit, whilst post-SATs Maths has started to look at salaries and taxation, figuring out monthly and annual salaries before and after tax (using our knowledge of percentages). This has also enabled us to start using calculators in readiness for Year 7.

In Music, we have learned how to play a 12-bar blues chord sequence on the keyboards and are now ready to compose a melody to go with it.

In Year 6, we've got the blues!



RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT, FRIENDSHIP, HONESTY, DETERMINATION & PRIDE



OAKDENE PRIMARY ACADEMY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Tuesday 16th June

Friends

A huge thank you to our wonderful Friends of Oakdene, who are working incredibly hard to organise our Summer Fete on Friday 26th June. We are really looking forward to what promises to be a fantastic community event.

We hope as many families as possible are able to join us to celebrate together, support the school and help raise much-needed funds for Oakdene.

Thank you also to all our parents for your continued support – particularly for supporting the recent non-uniform days and for providing generous donations for our hampers and stalls. Your kindness and contribution make such a difference and are truly appreciated.

Water Safety Reminder for Our Oakdene Community

Following recent national news reports of tragic incidents involving children in open water across England, we want to take a moment to remind all families about the importance of water safety.

At Oakdene Primary Academy, keeping our children safe is always our top priority. This week, children have participated in a whole-school assembly focused on recognising dangers and making safe choices around water.

Key messages we will be sharing with pupils:

- Never enter open water, even on hot days
- Stay well away from the edges of rivers, canals and reservoirs
- Cold water shock can happen quickly, even in warm weather
- Always tell an adult where you are going and stay with friends
- In an emergency, call 999 and ask for Fire and Rescue

We encourage all parents and carers to talk about these important messages at home to help reinforce this life-saving learning. By working together, we can help our children stay safe and make sensible choices – truly growing through excellence both in and beyond the classroom.

Attendance Matters – Every Day Counts

At Oakdene Primary Academy, we are proud of the commitment many of our families show towards excellent attendance. Being in school every day really does make a difference – not just to learning, but to children's confidence, friendships and sense of belonging.



RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT, FRIENDSHIP, HONESTY, DETERMINATION & PRIDE



OAKDENE PRIMARY ACADEMY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Tuesday 16th June



We'd like to gently remind families that holidays should not be taken during term time. In line with national guidance, these absences cannot be authorised except in exceptional circumstances.

Even a short time away from school can have a significant impact:

- Children miss key learning that builds day by day
- It can be difficult to catch up and keep up with the class
- Confidence and progress may be affected
- Important experiences, friendships and routines are disrupted

Learning is carefully planned and sequenced, and every lesson counts. Missing school can mean missing vital steps in that journey.

We know how important family time is, and we ask that holidays are planned during the school holiday periods wherever possible. By working together, we can ensure every child has the very best chance to thrive, achieve and feel successful.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



Footwear

At Oakdene Primary Academy, we ask that all children come to school wearing black trainers for PE, in line with our long-established uniform policy. This helps us to maintain consistency, keep costs manageable for families, and ensure that children are safe, comfortable and ready for their day.

We really understand that, from time to time, there may be genuine reasons why a child arrives in different footwear – for example, if shoes have been damaged or there has been an unexpected situation at home. We have also been happy recently to show some flexibility by allowing a small amount of colour on trainers where needed.

If this does happen, we would really appreciate a quick message via ClassDojo or a conversation with a member of the Oakdene team so that we are aware and can support where needed.

However, we do need to ensure that this flexibility does not become the norm. Our expectation remains that children wear black trainers as part of their daily PE uniform, and this has been consistently communicated over a number of years.

As always, thank you to the many families who continue to support us by ensuring children are ready for school each day – we really do appreciate it.



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Tuesday 16th June

SCHOOL SHOES

Acceptable school shoes



✓ Black leather or leather-look



✓ Plain style



✓ Smart, formal appearance



✓ Black fastenings or buckles only



✓ No logos or branding



✓ Black soles only

ACCEPTABLE – ALL BLACK TRAINERS

All black trainers are acceptable. Logos are permitted.



NOT ACCEPTABLE

Trainers must not be white or grey.



White
(e.g. New Balance)



Grey
(e.g. On Cloud)

Oakdene Primary Academy
We Chase Your Best!

OAKDENE PRIMARY ACADEMY
GROWING THROUGH EXCELLENCE

WELL DONE CHILDREN!

A HUGE CELEBRATION THIS WEEK!

★ YEAR 1 PUPILS ★

We are so proud of you for your amazing effort in your **PHONICS SCREENING CHECK!**

You have shown:

- ★ Determination
- ★ Confidence
- ★ Fantastic sounding out and blending

You are becoming brilliant readers – keep it up!

★ YEAR 4 PUPILS ★

A massive well done for your hard work in your **MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK!**

You have shown:

- ★ Focus
- ★ Resilience
- ★ Super speedy recall

Your effort and practise have really paid off!

AT OAKDENE WE ARE:
READY • RESPECTFUL • RESILIENT

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU ALL!

Keep shining, keep trying, and keep believing in yourselves!

Oakdene Primary Academy
We Chase Your Best!

OAKDENE PRIMARY ACADEMY
GROWING THROUGH EXCELLENCE

PARENTS!

We invite you to become **DREAMCATCHERS** at Oakdene Primary Academy!

Share your career. Inspire the next generation. Empower our young people.

There are lots of ways you can get involved:

TALK ABOUT YOUR CAREER

Share your career journey, skills and experiences with our pupils.

DELIVER AN ASSEMBLY

Inspire our school community by talking about your career and the difference it makes.

LEAD A WORKSHOP

Bring your expertise to life with a fun and engaging workshop for our pupils.

FEATURE A STALL AT OUR AUTUMN CAREERS FAIR

Showcase your career and connect with our pupils and families.

Together, you can help open minds, raise aspirations and shape bright futures.

Thank you for making a difference!

If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the school office.



The Week in Pictures...

Tuesday 16th June



We had a wonderful celebration for Mr Dyas as we marked his time here at Oakdene Primary Academy. It was a truly special occasion, filled with warmth and appreciation.

Mr Dyas shared how much he has loved being part of our school community, and he was incredibly touched by the kindness and generosity shown by our families. He said he felt genuinely valued, loved and appreciated – which means such a lot.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to making this celebration so memorable. It was a perfect way to recognise everything Mr Dyas has given to Oakdene.