



Oakfield Primary School Newsletter

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Edition: 97
22/09

Weekly News

Well done to our Reception children who have been in school for their first full week. They have spent the week learning new routines and expectations and participated in different learning opportunities.

We have now held all of our curriculum meetings. These presentations will be shared on our school website on each of the year group pages. Thank you to everyone that attended these meetings.

Our first **parent workshop** will be held on Thursday 9th October (8.50am-9.30am) in the main hall. This will be about Phonics and reading for all key stages and led by our phonics and reading leads.

Next week we have the **book fair** in school. This will be open after school on Monday (small hall) Wednesday (outside-weather dependent) and Friday (small hall) 3.15-3.45pm. This will be an opportunity to purchase a variety of children's books. This is card only please.

A reminder that the medication drop in for our Year 6 PGL Little Canada trip is being held on Wednesday 24th September in the treehouse (2.45-3.30pm)

Congratulations to our new house captains/ vice captains and sports house and vice captains in year 6.

	Normans	Romans	Saxons	Vikings
House captains	Jessica Riley	Lacey Chloe Bl	Thea Blake B	Penny Charlotte
Vice house captains	Aria Alfie	Freya Ethan	Tillie Matilda	Amelia Ollie
Sports captains	Mila Archie	Chloe Be Brooke	Eliza Jonny	Ava Harry Ma
Vice house captains	Amelie Darcie	Zoe George M	Isabelle K Bobby	Alba Harry C

As a **reminder** to all parents if you are giving your children grapes, cherry tomatoes, olives or silverskin onions as part of their pack lunch we kindly ask that they are cut in half (as a minimum) to reduce the risk of choking as per the advice from Essex County Council.

Online safety

We would like to remind you of the importance of talking to your child about online safety and having systems set up to monitor their devices and discuss things with them. Please see some guidance in the following link and the attached poster.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

Attendance

Congratulations to the classes who achieved or exceeded our school attendance target of 96%

EYFS & KS1	KS2	Whole School
Class 1 & 2 - 100%	Class 7 & 10 - 99.1%	96.9%
Class 4 - 96.7%	Class 8 - 98.3% Class 9 - 99.6%	
	Class 14 - 97.5%	

Our 3 school rules: Be safe. Be ready. Be respectful.

Dates for your diary

22/09/2025

Book Fair—Small Hall

Monday 22nd, Wednesday 24th
& Friday 26th

3.15—3.45pm

24/09/2025

YR6 PGL Medication drop off

Treehouse

2.30—3.00pm

YR6 Parents only

24/09/2025

National Fitness Day

Lunch Menu

Week commencing:

22/09/2025

Week 1 New Summer Menu

Please remember to discuss options with your child and pre-order meals on the MCAS App

Achievement Certificates

A big congratulations to all the children that were awarded with a certificate in Friday's celebration assembly.

Class 1	Celia E & Leigharna T	Class 8	Henry C & Luca N
Class 2	Scarlett DG & Albert M	Class 9	Isla C & Teddy H
Class 3	Jude O & Amelia W	Class 10	Isla F & Hudson H
Class 4	Sawyer M & Isla N	Class 11	Meesha G & Oscar S
Class 5	Erin S & Isabella T	Class 12	Libby L & Seb M
Class 6	Layla N & Jensen J	Class 13	Eva C & Blake L
Class 7	Conor C & Riley E	Class 14	Jonny A & Tillie W

**NATIONAL
FITNESS
DAY**

On Wednesday 24th September 2025
it is
National Fitness Day!

To celebrate this event the children can come into school wearing anything sports or physical movement related.

For example, they could wear a football kit, their martial arts uniform, horse riding clothing, dance outfits, or they could wear their PE kit.

Achievements from Home

Well done everyone. Great achievements!

Mia R got her 10 metre badge in swimming, as well as her stage 1 & 2 medals in gymnastics.



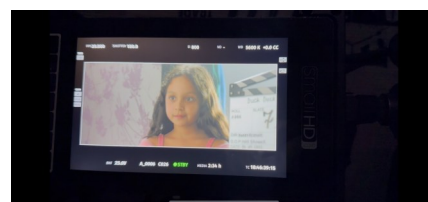
Lily K attended the ultimate victory dance championships. She won the following :
1st lyrical solo, 3rd tap solo, 2nd lyrical trio, 1st lyrical group, 2nd street group, 1st Jazz group

She also won a scholarship to attend an intensive workshop in London where she came top 5 out of 60 dancers.

Ellie B took part in a gymnastics competition where she came 1st in floor and bars. 3rd overall and 3rd as a team.

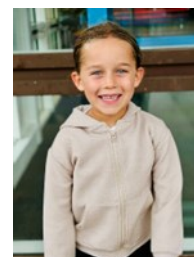


Bobby G was on set in London for a short film called 'Duck Duck Goose' which is directed by Harry Redding who is playing the main character. Bobbi played a small roll in it and even had some lines! She had a fantastic day.



Nico D completed a swimming trial with the Maldon Sharks, a competitive swimming club. During the demanding one-hour session, he swam an impressive 1500 metres across all stroke styles, demonstrating his skill, endurance and dedication.

Nico has been accepted into the Maldon Sharks swimming club.



Callum R returned to Teamsport Basildon where he developed his love of karting to compete in the British Indoor Karting Championship local finals. After qualifying first in his group he went into the final in 2nd place and finished the race in 3rd.

He has now qualified for the Regional Finals in October in Brighton.



Eco-Council News

LOCAL WICKFORD COUNCILLOR VISITED OAKFIELD!

At the end of the academic year Wickford's local councillor, Councillor George Jeffrey, came to visit to see our new bee corridor.

Four of our Key Stage 1 Eco councillors showed him around the school grounds and told him about the work they had been doing. He was very impressed with how much the bee corridor has flourished since his last visit a few months prior and with the three awards we had won- the Eco schools green flag with distinction, The Woodlands Trust Green Tree Gold Award and the RHS school gardening award Level 4.



Councillor George Jeffrey

16m · 🌐

A big congratulations to Oakfield Primary School and their brilliant Eco Councillors on a week of well-deserved recognition! 🌱🐝

Gold Award from the Woodland Trust ✓
Distinction in the Green Flag Award ✓
Level 4 RHS School Gardening Award ✓

It was a real pleasure to visit this afternoon, see the wonderful Bee Corridor, and hear from pupils about the work they're doing to protect nature and support our environment.

Huge credit to Mrs Pinchback and the whole eco team – your hard work is making a real difference, and Oakfield is a school to be proud of.

UPDATED AWARD NEWS!

Over the summer we were awarded our Level 5 RHS Gardening Award, the highest award that can be achieved from the Royal Horticultural Society. **A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST YEAR'S ECO-COUNCIL.**

Our new Eco-Council for the academic year 2025/2026 will be announced soon- we are pleased to see so many applications as it shows that our children are already starting the new year with a positive focus on

2025-2026 Diary Dates

Autumn Term (1 st September – 19 th December 2025)		
Date	Event	Details
W/C: 22.09.25		
Monday 22 nd , Wednesday 24 th and Friday 26 th September 2025	Book Fair	3.15-3.45pm Small Hall
Wednesday 24 th September 2025	Year 6 PGL medication drop off	Year 6 parents in Treehouse 2.45-3.30pm
Wednesday 24th September 2025	National Fitness Day	Children to wear sports clothing
W/C: 29.09.25		
Monday 29 th September – 3 rd October 2025	Year 6 PGL – Little Canada	
Thursday 2 nd October 2025	Happy Circus – Circus Day	FOO event-more details to follow
W/C: 6.10.25		
TBC	Black History Month	
Thursday 9 th October 2025	Phonics and Reading parent workshop	8.50-9.30am Large Hall
W/C: 13.10.25		
Wednesday 15 th October 2025	PGL 2026 information meeting	Year 5 parents 3.20-4.00pm Large Hall
Thursday 16 th October 2025	Prospective Reception Intake 2026 Parent Tours	9.30am and 4.00pm (Pre book spaces with school office)
Friday 17 th October 2025	Autumn Disco (FOO)	EYFS & Year 1 – 2.00-3.00pm Years 2, 3 & 4 – 3.15 - 4.15pm Years 5 & 6 – 4.30 - 5.30pm
W/C: 20.10.25		
NO STAFF LED CLUBS this week. No external after school on Wednesday or Thursday		
Monday 20 th October 2025	Individual Photographs	
Wednesday 22 nd October 2025	Parents consultation meetings	3.30-6.00pm
Thursday 23 rd October 2025	Parent workshop: writing	8.50-9.30am
	Parents consultation meetings	3.30-6.30pm
27th – 31st October: Half Term		
Friday 31 st October 2025	Secondary school admissions 2026 application closes	Year 6 parents Via Essex County Council online
W/C: 3.11.25		
Monday 3 rd November 2025	INSET day	
TBC	Children in Need	
W/C: 10.11.25		
Monday 10 th November 2025	Odd Sock Day: Anti-bullying week	Children to wear odd socks to school
	Primary school admissions 2026 application opens	New intake reception 2026 parents via Essex County Council online
Tuesday 11 th November 2025	Remembrance Day	
Thursday 13 th November 2025	Prospective Reception Intake 2026 Parent Tours	9.30am and 4.00pm (Pre book spaces with school office)
W/C: 17.11.25		
Tuesday 18 th November 2025	Whole <u>school book</u> look	3.30-4.00pm

		Enter classrooms through pod door
Thursday 20 th November 2025	Prospective Reception Intake 2026 Parent Tours	9.30am (Pre book spaces with school office)
	Flu Immunisation (whole school)	During the school day
Friday 21st November	Bingo or Quiz TBC	FOO event – more details to follow
W/C: 24.11.25		
Thursday 27 th November 2025	Parent workshop: Maths	8.50-9.30am Large Hall
W/C: 1.12.25		
Wednesday 3 rd December 2025	Rocksteady concert	9am, Large Hall
Friday 5 th December 2025	Christmas Bazaar	FOO event 3:30-5:30pm
W/C: 8.12.25		
Monday 8 th December 2025	Years 4 and 5 Christmas performances	9.15am and 2.00pm
Tuesday 9 th December 2025	Years 2 and 3 Christmas performances	9.15am and 2.00pm
Wednesday 10 th December 2025	Years R and 1 Christmas performances	9.15am and 2.00pm
Friday 12 th December 2025	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas lunch Christmas Wishroom	FOO event
W/C: 15.12.25		
Wednesday 17 th December 2025	Whole school trip to the Towngate Theatre	During the morning, in school time
Thursday 18 th December 2025	Year 6 coffee and Christmas Carols assembly	9.00am Large Hall Year 6 parents
Friday 19 th December 2025	Last day of term	
W/C: 22.12.25	Christmas Holiday	
W/C: 29.12.25		

Spring Term (5 th January – 27 th March 2026)		
Date	Event	Details
W/C: 5.01.26		
Monday 5 th January 2026	First day back	
Thursday 8 th January 2026	Prospective Reception Intake 2026 Parent Tours	9.30am (Pre book spaces with school office)
W/C:12.01.26		
Thursday 15 th January 2026	Primary school admission 2026 application closes	New intake reception 2026 parents via Essex County Council online
W/C: 19.01.26		
Wednesday 21st January 2026	Year 6 trip to Duxford Imperial War Museum	
W/C:26.01.26		
W/C: 2.02.26		
W/C: 9.02.26	Children's Mental Health week	
Tuesday 10 th February 2026	Whole school book look	3.30-4.00pm

		Enter classrooms through pod door
	Safer Internet Day	
Friday 13 th February 2026	Break the Rules Day	FOO event
16th – 20th February: Half Term		
W/C: 23.02.26		
Monday 23 rd February	INSET day	
W/C: 2.03.26		
TBC	Comic Relief/ Sports Relief	Organised by the School Council. More information to follow
Monday 2 nd March 2026	Secondary school places offered	Year 6 parents From Essex County Council
Tuesday 3 rd March 2026	Zactiv	In school event organised by FOO
Wednesday 4 th March 2026	Rocksteady concert	9am Large Hall
Thursday 5 th March 2026	World Book Day	More information to follow
W/C: 9.03.26		
Friday 13 th March 2026	Mother's Day Wishroom	In school event organised by FOO
W/C: 16.03.26		
W/C: 23.03.26		
Wednesday 25 th March 2026	Parents consultation meetings	3.30-6pm
Thursday 26 th March 2026	Parents consultation meetings	3.30-6.30pm
Friday 27 th March 2026	Oakfield's Got Talent	In school event
	Last day of term	
W/C: 30.03.26	Easter Holiday	
W/C: 6.04.26		

Summer Term (13 th April – 20 th July 2026)		
Date	Event	Details
W/C: 13.04.26		
Monday 13 th April 2026	First day back	
Thursday 16 th April 2026	Primary school allocations 2026	New intake 2026 parents From Essex County Council
W/C: 20.04.26		
Wednesday 22 nd April 2026	Earth Day	Organised by the Eco-Council. More information to follow
Friday 24 th April 2026	Spring Disco (FOO)	EYFS & Year 1 – 2.00-3.00pm Years 2, 3 & 4 – 3.15 - 4.15pm Years 5 & 6 – 4.30 - 5.30pm
W/C: 27.04.26		
Thursday 30th April 2026	Year 4 trip to Layer Marney Tower	
W/C: 4.05.26		
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday	
W/C: 11.05.26		
Monday 11 th - Thursday 14 th May 2026	Year 6 SATs week	
Wednesday 13 th May 2026	Reception Journey around the Curriculum	2.30pm Large Hall Reception parents
Thursday 14 th May 2026	Year 1 Journey around the Curriculum	2.30pm Large Hall Year 1 parents
Friday 15 th May 2026	Year 2 Journey around the Curriculum	2.30pm Large Hall Year 2 parents

	Year 6 park visit	(Weather dependent)
W/C: 18.05.26		
Monday 18 th , Wednesday 20 th and Friday 22 nd May 2026	Book Fair	3.15-3.45pm Small Hall
Monday 18 th May 2026	Year 3 Journey around the Curriculum	2.30pm Large Hall Year 3 parents
Tuesday 19 th May 2026	Year 4 Journey around the Curriculum	2.30pm Large Hall Year 4 parents
Wednesday 20 th May 2026	Year 5 Journey around the Curriculum	2.30pm Large Hall Year 5 parents
Thursday 21 st May 2026	Year 6 Journey around the Curriculum	2.30pm Large Hall Year 6 parents
Friday 22 nd May 2026	Stay and play coffee morning – new reception intake 2026	9.00-10.00am Reception new intake parents 2026
25th- 29th May: Half Term		
W/C: 1.06.26		
Monday 1 st June 2026	INSET day	
Tuesday 2 nd June 2026	INSET day	
Wednesday 3 rd – Friday 5 th June 2026	Year 4 Multiplication Check	
Saturday 6 th June 2026	Summer Fete (FOO event)	12.00-3.00pm
W/C: 8.06.26		
Monday 8 th – Friday 12 th June 2026	Year 4 Multiplication Check	
Monday 8 th – Friday 12 th June 2026	Year 1 Phonics Screening	
Wednesday 10th June 2026	Reception trip to Barleylands	
W/C: 15.06.26		
Thursday 18 th June 2026	Father's Day Wishroom	In school event organised by FOO
Friday 19 th June 2026	Sports day and picnic	KS2: 9.00-11.30am Picnic: 11.45am-12.45pm KS1: 1.00-3.00pm
W/C: 22.06.26		
Tuesday 23 rd June 2026	Sports day and picnic reserve date in the event of inclement weather on 19.06.26	KS2: 9.00-11.30am Picnic: 11.45am-12.45pm KS1: 1.00-3.00pm
Wednesday 24 th June 2026	Wickford Arts Festival	
Thursday 25 th June 2026	Year 6 Transition Day	
	New Reception intake <u>stay</u> , play and storytime session	9.30-11.00am Reception intake 2026 children and parents
	Book look and meet the new teacher	3.30-4.30pm – parents to enter classrooms through pod door
Friday 26 th June 2026	Year 6 Transition Day	
	New Reception intake <u>stay</u> , play and storytime session	9.30-11.00am Reception intake 2026 children and parents
W/C: 29.06.26		
Wednesday 1 st July 2026	Rocksteady concert	9am Large Hall
Friday 3 rd July 2026	Reception intake 2026 meeting and Teddy Bear's Picnic	9.30-11.15am – Large Hall
	Rainbow Run	FOO event
W/C: 6.07.26		
Tuesday 7 th July 2026	Year 6 play	5.00pm Large Hall

		Year 6 parents
Wednesday 8 th July 2026	PGL Little Canada 2026 Information meeting	Year 5 parents 3.20-4.00pm Large Hall
Thursday 9th July 2026	Year 5 taster day – Beauchamps	Year 5 children
Friday 10 th July 2026	Reception end of year celebration assembly	9.00am Large Hall Reception parents
	Reports out to parents	
	Contingency date – Rainbow Run	FOO event
W/C: 13.07.26		
Monday 13 th July 2026	Year 1 end of year celebration assembly	9.00am Large Hall Year 1 parents
Tuesday 14 th July 2026	Year 2 end of year celebration assembly	9.00am Large Hall Year 2 parents
Wednesday 15 th July 2026	Year 3 end of year celebration assembly	9.00am Large Hall Year 3 parents
Thursday 16 th July 2026	Year 4 end of year celebration assembly	9.00am Large Hall Year 4 parents
Friday 17 th July 2026	Year 5 end of year celebration assembly	9.00am Large Hall Year 5 parents
W/C: 20.07.26		
Monday 20 th July 2026	Year 6 leavers assembly	9.00am Large Hall Year 6 parents
	Last day of term	

Community News



Families
InFocus Essex

Understanding special needs



PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Connect, Share and Support

Are you looking for support, advice or just a place to connect with other SEND Parent/Carers? Join our friendly support group where we share experiences, offer guidance and find encouragement from others who understand.

Whether you're facing specific challenges or just looking for a supportive SEND community, we'd love you to join us!

<p>When Last Monday of the month 10.30am to 12.30pm</p>		<p>Where Christ Church 164 New London Road Chelmsford CM2 0AW</p>
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Supporting young people online

Information and advice for parents and carers



The internet – an inspiring and positive place

The internet is an amazing resource which enables children and young people to connect, communicate and be creative in a number of different ways, on a range of devices. However, the internet is always changing, and being able to keep up to date with your children's use of technology can be a challenge. You may sometimes feel that your child has better technical skills than you do, however children and young people still need advice and protection when it comes to managing their lives online. Issues that your child may encounter on the internet will vary depending on their age and online activities. We have grouped potential online risks into these 4 categories.

Conduct: Children need to be aware of the impact that their online activity can have on both themselves and other people, and the digital footprint that they create on the internet. It's easy to feel anonymous online and it's important that children are aware of who is able to view, and potentially share, the information that they may have posted. When using the internet, it's important to keep personal information safe and not share it with strangers. Encourage your child to be respectful and responsible when communicating with others online, and to consider how what they share may reflect on them. Discuss with your child the importance of reporting inappropriate conversations, messages, images and behaviours and how this can be done.

Content: Some online content is not suitable for children and may be hurtful or harmful. This is true for content accessed and viewed via social networks, online games, blogs and websites. It's important for children to consider the reliability of online material and be aware that it might not be true or written with a bias. Children may need your help as they begin to assess content in this way. There can be legal consequences for using or downloading copyrighted content, without seeking the author's permission.

Contact: It is important for children to realise that new friends made online may not be who they say they are and that once a friend is added to an online account, you may be sharing your personal information with them. Regularly reviewing friends lists and removing unwanted contacts is a useful step. Privacy settings online may also allow you to customise the information that each friend is able to access. If you have concerns that your child is, or has been, the subject of inappropriate sexual contact or approach by another person, it's vital that you report it to the police via the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (www.ceop.police.uk). If your child is bullied online, this can also be reported online and offline. Reinforce with your child the importance of telling a trusted adult straight away if someone is bullying them or making them feel uncomfortable, or if one of their friends is being bullied online.

Commercialism: Young people's privacy and enjoyment online can sometimes be affected by advertising and marketing schemes, which can also mean inadvertently spending money online, for example within apps. Encourage your child to keep their personal information private, learn how to block both pop ups and spam emails, turn off in-app purchasing on devices where possible, and use a family email address when filling in online forms. Make your child aware of scams that may seek to gain access to their accounts, and advise them to be wary in following links or opening attachments in emails that appear to be from organisations such as banks and service providers.

There are real advantages in maintaining an open dialogue with your child about their internet use. Not sure where to begin? These conversation starter suggestions can help.

1 Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.

2 Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?

3 Ask them if they know where to go for help, where to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use.

4 Encourage them to help someone! Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend who would benefit from their help and support.

5 Think about how you each use the internet. What more could you do to use the internet together? Are there activities that you could enjoy as a family?

What can I do right now?

- Maintain an open dialogue with your child and encourage them to talk to you about their internet use: for example who they're talking to, services they're using, and any issues they may be experiencing.
- Create a family agreement to establish your children's boundaries, and your expectations, when on the internet. A template agreement can be found at www.childnet.com/have-a-conversation
- Give your child strategies to deal with any online content that they are not comfortable with – such as turning off the screen, telling an adult they trust and using online reporting facilities.
- Consider using filtering software to block unwanted content. In addition to filtering, remember that discussion with your child, and involvement in their internet use, are both effective ways to educate them about the internet.
- Encourage your child to 'think before you post.' Online actions can impact not only yourself but the lives of others. Content posted privately online can be publicly shared by others, and may remain online forever.
- Understand the law. Some online behaviour may break the law, for example when downloading or sharing content with others. Be able to recommend legal services.
- Familiarise yourself with the privacy settings and reporting features available on popular sites, services and apps.
- If your child is being bullied online, save all available evidence and know where to report the incident, for example to the school, service provider, or the police if the law has been broken.
- Familiarise yourself with the age ratings for games and apps which can help to indicate the level and suitability of the content. Also see if online reviews are available from other parents as these may be helpful.
- Set up a family email address that your children can use when signing up to new games and websites online.
- Encourage your child to use nicknames (where possible) instead of their full name online, to protect their personal information, and create strong passwords for every account.

Sign up to our Childnet newsletter at www.childnet.com.

Help make sure that your children know how to stay safe online, by using our SMART Rules for primary aged children, or 6 Tips for Teens.

SMART Rules for primary aged children:

S Safe: Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too.

M Meet: Do not meet up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, as they are still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/ videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk

A Accepting: Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) and do not accept something if you are unsure who the person is or what they've sent you.

R Reliable: You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. Always compare 3 websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you find online.

T Tell: Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. You could talk to a teacher, parent, carer or a helpline like **Childline 0800 11 11**.

Heart: Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

6 Tips for Teens:

1 Protect your online reputation: use the tools provided by online services to manage your digital footprints and 'think before you post.' Content posted online can last forever and could be shared publicly by anyone.

2 Know where to find help: understand how to report to service providers and use blocking and deleting tools. If something happens that upsets you online, it's never too late to tell someone.

3 Don't give in to pressure: if you lose your inhibitions you've lost control; once you've pressed send you can't take it back.

4 Respect the law: use reliable services and know how to legally access the music, film and TV you want.

5 Acknowledge your sources: use trustworthy content and remember to give credit when using other people's work/ ideas.

6 Be a critical thinker: not everything or everyone is trustworthy; think carefully about what you see and experience on sites, social media and apps.



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