

Oakley Infant School



Newsletter

Autumn Term: Issue 1

8 Sept 2026



Thrive, strive and achieve together



Dear Parents,

Thank you to the new parents who stayed for coffee this morning and yesterday morning, it is always nice to see people getting to know the school and other people in the parent group.

On behalf of the staff we would like to thank you for your kind thoughts, words and gifts at the end of the summer term, it was very much appreciated by everyone.

I'm sure you will all join me in a warm welcome to our new members of staff to Oakley Infant School;

Mrs Thomas – Senior Admin Officer

Miss LeMaistre – Maple Class Teacher

Miss Russell – Beech Class Teacher

Mrs Owen – Cherry Class Learning Support Assistant

Mrs Denning – Sycamore Class Learning Support Assistant

Miss Barreto – Year R Learning Support Assistant

With today's newsletter you will be receiving the learning grids for this half term and I have included the focus for the PSHE curriculum this term on the last slide from Mrs Barrett.

This newsletter is full of new school year reminders, so there is a lot of information. To the new parents I promise they are not usually this long!

Jennie Clarke
Headteacher



INSET Days 2026-2027

We plan our INSET days with the junior school to minimise the disruption to parents with children at both schools.

23 Oct 2026

4 Jan 2027

1 Feb 2027

25 June 2027

Article 28

A right to an education.

The first reminder is that the newsletter always comes to you on a Tuesday, so look out for it as it will have everything you need to know. Every week the newsletter is also put on the school website so please refer to it for information. Year R parents this week we are sending you this newsletter via Arbor and email to ensure you receive it. Please check you have received via Arbor (check your junk) and let us know if you have not so that we can make sure you have been set up properly.

Dates

Last week we sent out an overview of dates for the first part of the Autumn term to aid in your planning. Over the next few weeks there are a number of meetings for your child’s year group curriculum information and Friends AGM.

Dates	
Thursday 17 th September	Year 1 – Information evening – School Hall, 7pm
	Year 2 – Information evening – School Hall, 8pm
Monday 21 st September	Friends – Bags to School
Wednesday 23 rd September	Friends – AGM, Room 2, 7pm
Thursday 24 th September	Year R – Information evening – School Hall, 7pm

Key Stage 1 and Year R Information Evening

There is an Information Evening for the parents of children in Year 1 and 2 scheduled for 17th September. These short meetings are to give to information about your child’s new year group, the expectations and the content of the curriculum they have moved to.

The Year 1 meeting will take place at 7pm with an opportunity to visit the classroom afterwards when the Year 2 meeting starts at 8pm.

Year R information evening will take place on 24 September at 7pm. Hearing the information first hand is always much better than reading a letter so please try to ensure that one parent is able to attend. This is not a meeting for children.

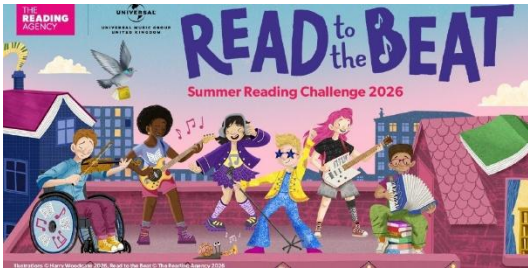
Reading

Reading remains central to everything we do at Oakley Infant School. Harvey Bear is excited to join his very first class of super readers this school year. Each week, he will be awarded during our Friday Celebration Assembly to the class with the highest percentage of pupils reading at home at least **four times a week**. Please encourage your child to read with you at home and then log their reading so their class can win Harvey Bear!

Year R will join the challenge once they are settled into school and have their first reading books sent home.

Summer Reading Challenge

A huge congratulations to our 34 pupils who have already completed the Hampshire Library Service Summer Reading Challenge!



If your child hasn't collected their certificate yet, this Saturday is the final deadline. Head over to your local library this weekend to finish the challenge and claim your prize—let's see how many more finishers we can add to our school total!

Volunteers

If you or a friend or family member would like to volunteer your time within school, your support will be welcomed! Please speak to your child’s class teacher or the school office so we can get you set up.

PE

Children’s PE kits remain in school for the half term. PE kits must be in a draw string bag, there is not the storage space available for backpacks. Please ensure long hair is tied up and remove earrings on the day of your child’s PE lessons. Year R will start their PE lessons w/c 28th September.

PE Days	
Year 2	Monday and Wednesday
Year 1	Tuesday and Thursday
Year R	Cherry Tuesday Apple Thursday

Library
Children visit the school library with their class once a week. Please make sure their library book is kept in their bookbag for exchanging on their day. The library is also open after school on a Thursday for you to share a book with your child.

Library Days	
Year 2	Monday
Year 1	Tuesday
Year R	Wednesday

Open afternoons
Thursday is also the day when you can visit your child’s classroom after school. We are aware that there is a long time between Parents’ Evenings so there may be occasions when your child would like to share something with you. This is a drop in event and the teacher may not present but you are welcome in the classroom.

Clubs

ActiveMe 360 Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs

A separate email has come to you today with information regarding ActiveMe 360 wraparound care. This club is open to all children at our school.

ActiveMe 360's provision at our school is Ofsted registered and they accept childcare vouchers and tax-free childcare. To book a space, scan the QR code on the flyer or visit [ActiveMe 360's Oakley booking page](#).

GOL Football – Fridays

The school will continue to manage the booking for GOL football club running on a Friday until 4.30pm. Unfortunately, this club is only open to Year 1 and 2 at this stage.

If you would like your child to attend please sign your child up on Arbor and make payment. Payment must be made before your child can attend the club.

GOL Football will start for the children who have signed up this week, Friday 11 September.

Collection Arrangements

Please complete the form coming home today to inform us of the people who have permission to collect your child from school. Please include anyone who may be sent to collect your child e.g. Grandparents with their names so they can be identified.

If your child has a very regular pattern of collection where it is often grandparents or a childminder or a mix of these people it is useful to put this in a letter for the class teacher. We generally get to know the pattern quite quickly but in the early stages of the term it is useful to give that directly to the teacher.

If you have two children in the school the older sibling can go to the younger sibling's classroom at the end of the day for collection from the same classroom. Please be patient as often you may be waiting for your older child, please stay put and wait for them to come to you. Often they are held up because they are looking for a jumper, water bottle or having a sociable chat with their friends!

If your child is staying for a club or after school session please collect from; the Year 1 side of the building for ActiveMe 360 and from the Year 2 side of the building for GOL Football on a Friday.

Illness

Please remember if your child is unwell that you need to call the school office or email using the parent messages email as soon as possible. If we have not heard from you by 10am, for safeguarding reasons, we will contact you. If we cannot get hold of you we will call the next contact on your list as we have check that your child is safe. If we cannot get hold of anyone a member of staff may make a home visit to ensure that everyone is safe.

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea they must not return to school for 48 hours after the last bout.

Friend's Trail

Unfortunately children are not permitted to use the climbing frames before or after school. Children are only insured to use the climbing frames when supervised by a member of staff. If your child trains for Oakley Football Club at the weekend please ensure they are not using the climbing frames on a Saturday morning.

Thank you for your understanding.

Drive

A reminder that parents are not permitted to drive up the school drive at the beginning or end of the day

Other reminders

Name everything! - Jumpers, cardigans, coats, t-shirts, shoes, all items of PE kit. If your child can take it off it can be lost. If you have purchased from the second hand uniform please make sure you re-name the uniform. Items that are named will make there way back to your child no matter where they may have put them down around school.

Bookbags - Please make sure your child only has **one small keyring** on their book bag and a name on the outside of the book bag is also really useful. Also a reminder to keep water bottles out of bookbags; each year we lose a lot of books due to water damage from water bottles.

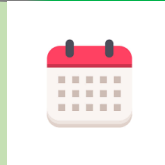
Water bottles - Only water is permitted in the children’s water bottle, please do not put juice in the water bottle as they are often spilt at school and it creates a sticky mess and attracts ants into the classroom as well as the risk of various allergies. We will get rid of any juice in bottles and replace with water. When replacing water bottles going forwards, please consider the bottle that is bought, bottles with a sports cap reduce spills in school.

Personal items – we request that all personal items remain at home, please ensure your child is not bringing toys etc to school in their pockets or bookbags to avoid items becoming misplaced.

Lunches - School menus remain the same until after October half term, these were shared last week and can also be found on our school website. It is useful to discuss with your child before school which option they might like to choose. If your child does not like either option please provide them with a home packed lunch.

If your child is having a packed lunch please remember we are a nut free school; do not send anything in your child’s lunchbox that contains nuts including cereal bars. Please note that lots of chocolate spreads contain nuts so check the ingredients carefully. We also request that Frubes or tube yogurts are avoided for school, as not only are they difficult to open they can be rather unpredictable and can often end up covering the child opposite. As there are children with milk and dairy allergies, we would like to avoid this happening. As a healthy school, please be snack size aware; do not put sweets or large chocolate bars in your child’s lunchbox.

Website Calendar



As we start to add dates to the school calendar I would like to bring to your attention the ability to sync the calendar on your mobile phone with the website calendar.

Just click on the calendar on the first page of the website and then at the top click *subscribe to this calendar*. Then all events will automatically populate your calendar.

Friends

As you will have seen last week a new WhatsApp group has been set up.

These new groups are linked to the school but are run by Friends, with a few simple guidelines shared by Friends, to help keep conversations respectful, helpful and inclusive.

We hope these groups make it easier to share useful information and build a positive, supportive school community.

Please also find a poster attached with some information from Friends regarding upcoming events for this term. Please note the annual AGM, which is statutory for the charity, will be held on Wednesday 23rd September 2026 at 7.00pm in Room 2 of the school. Further information on Friends events will be coming soon!

Pupil Premium

Although in an infant school all children receive the Universal Infant Lunch as parents you can apply for Pupil Premium if you are receiving certain benefits.

This money comes to the school and we can use it to support your child in school. In the past, if your child was eligible for this additional funding we have paid for school trips, events, equipment, enrichment activities; the list is endless. If you are not sure if you are eligible, our admin staff in the office are always on hand to support with any application, in the strictest of confidence. Pop them an email and they will look into it for you or please use this link to see if you are eligible

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants/>

Weather

At this time of year the weather is changeable! Please make sure your child is equipped for the weather conditions as the children go out to play even when it is looking a bit grey.



Jigsaw is a progressive scheme supports our work in our Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) curriculum.



'Being Me in My World'

This half term, our puzzle piece is ...

This puzzle piece includes learning about the children have similarities and differences from their friends and that is ok. They begin by working on and managing their feelings, identifying different ones and the causes these can have. The children talk about working with others and why it is good to be kind and use gentle hands. They discuss children's rights and what it means to be responsible, discussing and implementing their learning charter. The children talk about choices, the consequences of making different choices and how to make everyone feel safe in their class as well as recognising their own safety. The children talk about feeling worried and recognising who to ask for help as a trusted adult. The knowledge and skills are progressive but many of the knowledge and skills are reinforced every year for every year group. Please share to support your child's learning.

Key Vocabulary	Knowledge	Social and Emotional skills	Questions for Family learning
Kind/ Gentle Friend Similar/different Rights Responsibilities Feelings Angry Happy Excited Nervous Upset Proud Disappointed Praise Sharing Taking turns Safe Special Belonging Learning Charter Rewards Consequences Worries Hopes and Fears Belonging Responsible Problem-Solving Co-operate	Know special things about themselves Know that some people are different from themselves Know how happiness and sadness can be expressed Know that hands can be used kindly and unkindly Know that being kind is good Know they have a right to learn and play, safely and happily Understand the rights and responsibilities as a member of a class Understand that their views are important Understand that their choices have consequences Identifying hopes and fears for the year ahead Understand the rights and responsibilities of class Know that it is important to listen to other people Know about rewards and consequences and that these stem from choices Know that positive choices impact positively on self-learning and the learning of others	Identify feelings associated with belonging Identify feelings of happiness and sadness Skills to play cooperatively with others Be able to consider others' feelings Be responsible in the setting Understanding that they are special Understand that they safe in their class Identify helpful behaviours to make the class a safe place Identify what it's like to feel proud of an achievement Recognise feelings associated with positive and negative consequences Understand that they have choices Recognise own feelings and know when and where to get help Know how to make their class a safe and fair place Show good listening skills Recognise the feeling of being worried Be able to work cooperatively	What does it feel like to belong? What's special about you? How do people show they are happy or sad? What sort of things can you do to be kind? How do you play nicely with other children? How are you different from someone else? What do you do in class to help other people? What do you do to help your teacher? What does it feel like to be safe? Can you tell me something you were really proud of? How did it make you feel 'inside'? What sort of things does your teacher say or do when they are pleased? How does your teacher reward/praise children who make positive/helpful changes? What choices can you make to be helpful and kind in school and at home? What are your Jigsaw friends in your class called? Can you tell me about Calm Me time? What are you looking forward to this year? If you are worried about something, who can you ask for help in school and at home?