



Oakley Infant School



Newsletter

Autumn Term: Issue 3

23 Sept 2025



Strive, thrive and achieve together



Dear Parents,

A reminder that tomorrow evening we will host the Key Stage 1 Information Evening. This is a chance for parents of children of Year 1 and 2 to find out about the expectations for your children in their new class. The Year 1 evening will start at 7pm with a presentation in the hall. You will then be invited to your child's classroom so that the Year 2 evening can begin at 8pm. Year 1 parents will exit through the classroom as the Year 2 meeting will be going on in the hall. I look forward to seeing all children represented tomorrow evening.

The Year R Information Evening will take place next Tuesday 30 September at 7pm in the school hall. This is an opportunity to share the curriculum expectations with you and help you as you start your child's educational journey with them.

A reminder that Friends will be holding their AGM next week on 2 October. The AGM is a statutory meeting to fulfil the charity obligations and is a short part of the meeting. If you are interested in joining Friends, finding out how important they are to the school or would just like to meet a few (very nice) people please come along and join us, there is ALWAYS a drink and nibbles on offer.

Next week we will be opening up the appointment slots on Arbor for you to book Parents' Evening. This will take place on 21 and 23 October. This is a good opportunity to meet your child's teacher and update us about any changes for your child.

Niamh Hutchings
Headteacher



INSET Days 2025-2026

24 Oct 2025

5 Jan 2026

13 Feb 2026

26 June 2026

Article 28

A right to an education.

Rotary Club Christmas Boxes

This year we will be supporting the Rotary Club Christmas collection where gifts are collected for children less fortunate for distribution during the Christmas period. As there is a long customs process the gift boxes need to be completed by 10 October. We are going to repeat our collaborative effort from last year. On the next slide please take a look at what each year group can donate so that the School Voice can make up the boxes.

Please start donating now! Please give any donations to your child's teacher.

If you would like to fill your own gift box as a family please come and collect a box from the school Office.

St Leonard's Pre-school is 50!

St Leonard's pre-school is celebrating their 50th anniversary on 27 September with an Open Afternoon from 2-4pm, everyone is welcome. Please take a look at the attached poster to find out how to join in with the celebrations.

School Library

The library will be open after school on Thursday for you to share a story with your child. Please pop along to see Mrs Mears.

School Census- 2 October 2025

We are fast approaching School Census day. This is an important day for setting a school budget. Many calculations are made based on this day in October including funding for the **Universal Free Infant Lunch**. Of course you may think we are funded for each child but it is not that simple. We are funded for the year on whoever has a school dinner on 2 October. So, as you can see it is important that as many children as possible have a dinner on Census day, otherwise the school has to fund the 'Free Infant Lunch' from the normal budget next year. As a result there will be a change to the menu to try to hit the highest number possible. Please complete the form coming out today to make a choice for your child. We are very grateful for any help you are able to give us.

On this census there is also an audit of Pupil Premium children. Again if children go on at a later date we do not receive any funding. So I would urge everyone to follow the link to see if you are entitled to the payment. <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants/>

We are also grateful if you can make us aware if your child is from a military family. Please email the office to confirm or if there has been a change in your child's status, please let us know.

New Year R Intake- September 2026

Well, unbelievably it is that time of year again where we start to look towards the admissions process for Year R in September 2026. The platform will open for applications on 1 November but we are now starting to book tours for parents to look around our lovely school. The dates are on the school website and I would ask everyone to remind family, friends and neighbours that if they have a child due to start next year that they must apply for a place. Unless you are in the school system it is sometimes missed by people.

I know that often if you are out of catchment and have a sibling to start this can be a source of anxiety so please catch me for a chat and I will talk you through it and hopefully reassure you.

A starting school leaflet will accompany today's newsletter.

Equally I would like to remind the Year 2 parents that you have to make an application for Key Stage 2. This is done on the same platform as Year R and it also opens on 1 November.

Cooking Money

Please continue to send in your child's cooking contribution so we are able to start purchasing ingredients so we can get going.. We ask for a donation of £1 in a named envelope for the children to take part
Thank you.

Coats

Please make sure your child has a coat in school with them every day. The children go out to play even when it is a bit chilly and drizzly so please make sure your child is prepared with the right outdoor clothes. This week morning play looks set to be cold.

Late for Collection

We know that occasionally parents and carers can be held up on their way to school for collection. If this happens please give the office a call so that we are aware and can share this with your child. As there are many places the staff need to take children; childminders and the after school club as well as attending meetings, if you are late your child will wait in the school office for you to arrive so that they can be supervised properly. We can have your child added to the after school register to help ease your sense of panic.

Volunteers

Please speak to your child's teacher if you are able to help hear children read or would like to help with cooking in school. Thank you.

Maths homework

Children in **Year R** will be using Mathseeds <https://mathseeds.co.uk/>

Children in **Year 1 and Year 2** will be using Mathletics <https://www.mathletics.com/uk/>

Your child's class teacher will set a homework task each Friday linked to the learning that has taken place in school that week. The activities are designed to be accessible and enjoyable, with a focus on developing key maths skills. We recommend that children spend no more than **20 minutes** on their homework each week.

Please find your child's log in details in the cover of their green reading diary.

Balance Ability Bikes- Year R

Going home today with your child is some information regarding Balance Ability which will be delivered by the Hampshire Outdoor Team for the Year R children. Please complete the form and return with your child. Thank you.

Library Days

The children will get to change their library books once a week. Please make sure your child has their library book with them in school so that they can change it during their class session.

Year 2- Monday

Year1- Tuesday

Year R- Wednesday

Labels

To help us keep track of your child's items and reduce lost property, we kindly ask that all belongings are clearly labelled.

You can purchase high-quality, personalised name stickers from **My Name Tags** at www.mynametags.com.

Use our school ID:19097

Inset Day Cover

Please find information going home with this newsletter for the INSET day cover which is being provided by Active Me on 24 October. Please use the QR code to book a space.

Rotary Christmas Shoebox Collection

Once again we will be taking part in the Christmas Appeal from the Rotary Club.

We have noticed that the number of boxes being completed has been reducing over the last few years and this year the deadline from the Rotary Club is early. So, we feel that a more collaborative approach is the way forwards so that more people can be included without feeling overwhelmed.

Therefore, we are going to ask year groups for donations of certain items which will be collated in school by the School Voice children and then sorted ready to be sent.

We do not need anything to be donated before 22 September so please have a think about what you would like to donate, there is no hurry.

Year Group	Donations
Year R	Toothbrush and toothpaste, pencils, notebook, warm hat, small toy car, small doll.
Year 1	Soap and flannel/sponge, crayons, colouring book, socks, bouncy ball, yo-yo, small building or construction set/toy
Year 2	Hairbrush, hair accessories, felt tip pens, picture book, gloves, small soft toy, skipping rope

Please donate something from the selection for your child's year group so that we get a selection of things to make the boxes exciting for the children receiving them.

Please make sure that your item will fit in a shoebox and please do not donate any food items, things that require batteries, liquids, war related items, medicines, large toys or clothing items or anything sharp.

Donation Dates- 22 September- 8 October 2025

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
24 September	Key Stage 1 Information Evening 7pm- Year 1 8pm- Year 2
30 September	Year R Information evening- 7pm
2 October	Friends AGM- all welcome- see poster sent last week
W/C 29 Sept	Harvest Foodbank Collection
3 October	Nasal flu spray- run by school nursing service
8 October	Deadline for Rotary Shoebox Collection Donations
13 October	Bags 2 School collection- from 8-9am at the bottom of the school drive
8 October	Individual Photos and sibling photos- details will follow
10 October	Open Afternoon- Book Focus (NO CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY)
16 October	Movie Night
20 October	Bikeability- YR- details to follow
20 October	Friends Bake Off- details to follow
21 October	Book Fair in school- sale after school
21 and 23 October	Parents' Evening- appointments will follow via Arbor
24 October	INSET Day