



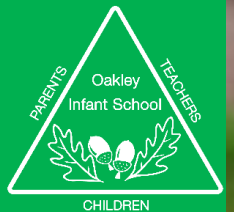
Oakley Infant School



Newsletter

Autumn Term: Issue 12

2 Dec 2025



Strive, thrive and achieve together



Dear Parents,

A huge THANK YOU to Friends for organising and putting on the Christmas Fair on Friday evening. A massive thank you to anyone who volunteered their time, resources, perhaps a family member to take on a certain role! I am really grateful to families who volunteered and worked on different stalls or swapped over at the end to help with the clearing up, it is noticed and I am thankful to all of you. Thank you to everyone who donated a raffle prize to help the raffle go with a bang. I am delighted to inform you that the event raised approximately £2800, an amazing total, thank you for coming and spending your pounds.

Thank you to the children who entered the snow globe colouring competition, there were some really creative entrants that we loved looking at in school. The winners in Year R were Elsie and Elissa. In Year 1 it was Isaac and Jesse with the Year 2 winners being Willow and Ezra.

This term Friends is going to help finance the playground toys we are currently updating and purchasing as well as a refurbishment project we are hoping to complete along with the groundsmen to create a new playground zone.

Our thoughts now turn to the Christmas Shopping event for the children. This will take place on 16 December and all children will have the opportunity to purchase some small gifts for family members. We will be sending home the shopping lists next week for you to complete appropriately with your child. The children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper with their school uniform that day and the following day when they will be having their Christmas dinner. If your child does not own a Christmas jumper please wear anything they are comfortable in that is not their school jumper. We would still like some mum, dad and grandparent gift donations, please send donations into the school office.

Niamh Hutchings
Headteacher

INSET Days 2025-2026

5 Jan 2026

13 Feb 2026

26 June 2026

10 December at 10am- Cast A- Holly, Hazel and Cherry

10 December at 2pm- Cast B- Willow, Sycamore and Apple

11 December at 10am- Cast B- Willow, Sycamore and Apple

11 December at 2pm- Cast A- Holly, Hazel and Cherry



Article 28

A right to an education.

Christmas Postbox

The postbox has arrived! If your child would like to write a Christmas card for their friends these can be posted and delivered by the Oakley Postal Service.

Please try to write both first and surname on the envelope and the child's class. Unfortunately we cannot deliver to any grandparents, cousins or children who do not attend our school. When the cards have been written the children **can bring them into school to post after they have arrived**; it is a fun trip to the office! Please do not come to the office before school.

Santa Sleigh Drive

We are very lucky to be a recipient of the fundraising associated with the village Santa Slight Drive which this year will be taking place on 8, 9, 10 and 11 December between 5.30-7.30pm. They are in need of help on Wednesday and Thursday evening in particular so if you are able to help on one of the evenings please use the [link](#) to sign up.

It is always good to help when we are so lucky to receive a percentage of the donations.

Baubles Performance

Rehearsals are reaching fever pitch in school this week and we are looking forward to sharing the show next week. Please remember to only come to the performance you are booked into, we do check the register so we remain within the safety limits of the room.

Please remember no other children or babies should attend, it is 40 minutes max for your childcare organisation.

There is always a retiring collection at the end of the performance and I am currently finalising the cause with staff but this is your warning that it is a cash collection, I know cash is hard to come by nowadays.

If you or a family member attend the 2pm performances you will be able to take your child home after the performance.

There will also be group photos taken of the children this week in school. These will be for sale from next week. Again we are asking for cash payment as the charge on the machines makes it uneconomical and helps us to keep the cost low.

Costumes

Please make sure your child's costumes are in school if you had to provide something. This will be all of Year R and some Children in Year 1 and 2. Most of the main characters will use school costumes and they have been fitted this week.



Christmas Dinner

This year Christmas Dinner will be on Wednesday 17 December. Christmas dinner is served a bit differently to a normal school lunch with all children eating at the same time.

In order to order and prepare properly we are asking for dinner choices by following the link.

Thank you.

[Christmas Lunch Choice - Wednesday 17th December 2025 – Fill in form](#)

Christmas Holidays

ActiveMe will be running for some days during the Christmas holidays at the Infant School. Please use the link to book

<https://bookings.activeme360.co.uk/project/65368>

With this Newsletter

Anxiety Information workshop
St Leonard's Events

To Do

Anxiety workshop sign up
Get your cash ready for the retiring collection

Year 2- Great Fire of London

The Year 2s would like to invite parents/collecting adults to share their work on the Great Fire of London after school on 4 December.

St Leonard's Church

There are several community events being run by St Leonard's Church over the Christmas period. We have included some information with this newsletter so you can make the most of what Oakley is offering.

7 Dec at 3pm- A mini-Christingle for the little ones

14 Dec at 7pm- Candlelit Carol Service

20 Dec at 3.30pm- Blue Christmas for anyone facing a difficult Christmas

20 Dec at 6pm- Carols round the pond



Admissions

The portal for admissions is now open for the new Year R children for September 2026 and for Year 3 places, the current Year 2.

Please make sure you have been on to the portal to set up an account to apply for your child's place.

Lunchtime Supervisors

I am looking for some lunchtime supervisors to join the team after Christmas. If you have not worked for a while this is a great way to get back into work and springboard back in other work places with a reference. If you might be interested please email the office or catch me around the school.

Collection Arrangements

If your child is going home for a play date and is being collected by a different parent, we ask that your child does not change classrooms at the end of the day. The only children who move classrooms at the end of the day are siblings. The teacher will hold on to your child until the parent arrives to collect. For safeguarding reasons it is better for the class teacher to release a child to a different adult by arrangement rather than a teacher who is not your child's teacher.

Thank you for your understanding.

Anxiety Workshop- 20 January 2026

PBS will be providing an information evening on anxiety in the school hall on 20 January at 6pm. Please use the link below to sign up so that once again I can ensure I have enough tea, coffee and mugs for you all. Information is on the poster sent with this newsletter.

[Parent Workshop – Fill in form](#)

Attendance

Recently there has been quite a lot of press about school attendance. I have received the data for our attendance first half of the autumn term where we are compared to 20 other similar schools. I am disappointed to report that our attendance was 20 out of the 21 schools. I am not sure I can remember Oakley Infant School coming so low in any data set in all my time here at Oakley. For comparison the other school I am supporting came top of their 21 schools.

I know there have been a lot of bugs and viruses since September, more than usual, but I would like to remind you that it is your legal responsibility to ensure your child attends school when school is open. The only time I would ask you not to send your child is when they are running a temperature or if they have been sick or had diarrhoea. Coughs and colds are acceptable symptoms in a school of young children.

I will keep you informed of the data for the second half of the Autumn term and hope for an improvement in our results.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
4 December	Year 2 parents invited to share their Great Fire of London work after school
10 December	Christmas Performance- 10am and 2pm Cast A at 10am- Holly, Hazel and Cherry Cast B at 2pm- Willow, Sycamore and Apple Ticket allocations after half term
11 December	Christmas Performance- 10am and 2pm Cast A at 10am- Willow, Sycamore and Apple Cast B at 2pm- Holly, Hazel and Cherry Ticket allocations after half term
16 December	Christmas Jumper Day and Children's Christmas Shopping
17 December	Christmas Dinner Children's Christmas Treat from Friends- wear your Christmas jumper
19 December	Celebration Assembly at 9.10am
19 December	End of term at 3.15pm
5 January	INSET Day- no children to attend
6 January	Return to school for the children