



Oakley Infant School



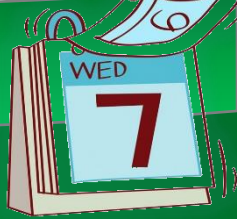
Newsletter

Autumn Term: Issue 9

11 Nov 2025



Strive, thrive and achieve together



Dear Parents,

I am sad to share the news that Miss Fretwell, class teacher in Hazel class, has decided to leave our school at Christmas. Miss Fretwell has been working at our school for the last 4 years and has become a valued member of our staff who will be missed as a kind colleague but family circumstances and the heavy workload of teaching means she has made a difficult choice.

I am pleased to be welcoming Mrs Nicola Gomarsall to join Mrs Moss in Hazel Class after Christmas. Mrs Gomarsall has been working at Oakley over the last year and I am delighted that she has decided to join us on a more permanent basis working both Monday and Tuesday in the first instance.

This week is anti-bullying week. Mrs Barrett has included some information about the focus of the week in this newsletter. I would like to invite all children to wear odd socks to school on Friday to demonstrate the message of individuality. This week is always a successful way to share messages with the children enabling them to recap information and support.

Tomorrow the children will also be part of the NSPCC assembly- Speak out, stay safe. There is some information coming out to you with this newsletter.

Niamh Hutchings
Headteacher

With this Newsletter

NSPCC information
Wreath Making poster- Friends
Christmas Fair poster
SEND Coffee Morning Poster

To Do

Christmas Performance ticket request
Christmas Fair Volunteer sign up
Santa's Grotto tickets

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.

Anti-Bullying week 2025



When? What?

During the week beginning **Monday 10th November**, we will be celebrating **Anti-Bullying Week!** The theme this year is **'Power for Good!**

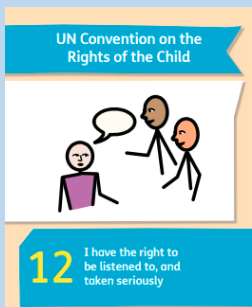


Week beginning
Monday 10th November 2025

Why?

Teachers and children wanted a theme that empowered them to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying behaviour causes.

Anti-Bullying Week will remind everyone whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, to remember to use 'Power for Good' and show each other support.



How?

ODD SOCKS DAY- FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

Odd socks is a key part to Anti-Bullying week! To celebrate that we are all unique, we ask that the children wear odd socks to school. Over 13'000 schools take part in Odd socks Day and this year, we are joining them again!

The whole family can get involved and wear odd socks to show that ...
It's ok to be different!'

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.

Reading

I am a bit concerned about the lack of home reading being done across the school. As I am currently running the tours for new parents I am reminded that even at that point I am very clear about how important reading at home with your child is. It is the building block of all learning.

The expectation is that children read **at least 4 times a week**. I appreciate that in Apple and Cherry class if your child is on wordless books it is more difficult to keep on reading but at this stage sharing their library book, reading home books and most importantly, practising their phonic sounds all count as home reading. Until they retain the phonics they will not be ready to take home books with words in.

For all children re-reading books several times is also a strategy to ensure fluency is developed.

This is the warning that I will be starting to contact parents who are not meeting the minimum expectation of home reading.

Sign Up

Please remember the following items are available for sign up-

- Santa's Grotto tickets are available using Arbor, please book your time slot at the Christmas Fair- closing date- 12 November
- Santa's Grotto photos can be booked and paid for using Arbor
Christmas Fair information on attached poster
- Big Emotions parent meeting run by PBS- please register your interest by following the link- [Parent Workshop – Fill in form](#)
- 'Baubles' Christmas Performance- please pick your preferred slot for your two tickets- Please make sure you have requested your Christmas Performance tickets for your chosen date and time so that we can allocate any spares over the next few weeks, details will come soon.

Year R

As part of the 'Celebration' topic we will be talking about birthdays. Please send in **one photograph** of your child celebrating their last birthday to share with the class. It would be helpful if you could discuss the photograph, to remind them of details of the event, before they bring it in. We would like the photographs in school by **Friday 21st November** as we will be looking at them as a group after this.

Thank you, the YR Team

Christmas Fair- 28 November 2025

Last week I attended a meeting about the Christmas Fair where the finishing touches to the evening were being discussed.

Coming home in bookbags tomorrow are the raffle tickets which is being run alongside the Junior School this year and will be drawn on the evening of the Christmas Fair.

Please complete the slips and return them with the money in the envelope provided. Any books you are not able to buy please return to the school and we will re-distribute them. If you would like more tickets please come and ask at the office, we would be delighted to provide more.

Please think about how you would be able to help to make the event a successful one for the children, the more volunteers the more stalls we will be able to run for the children. If there are not enough volunteers some stalls will not be able to run.
https://signup.com/mobileweb/2.0/vspot.html?activitykey=9758100120#choose_event_page

If you are able to offer an extra raffle prize, run a local business or just something you can donate please let the committee members know or pop into the school office.

Christmas Wreath Making- Friends will be running their popular Christmas Wreath Fundraiser. Please see the poster for information and email for a place, spaces are limited.

Thank you.

Celebration Assembly- advance warning

This term there will be no Celebration Assembly or GOL session on 28 November so that Friends can get set up for the Christmas Fair. On the final Friday of this term Celebration Assembly will take place at 9.10am rather than the end of the school day.

28 Nov- No Celebration Assembly

19 Dec- Celebration Assembly at 9.10am, after drop off

Extra Help

With Christmas fast approaching we are aware that some families may be finding things difficult. If you are NOT a Pupil Premium family but finding things tough we may be able to help, please contact the Office in the strictest of confidence and we can take it from there, please make us aware.

Nearly New Uniform

The nearly new uniform is overflowing at the current time. Unfortunately only donations of badged items and PE kit in good or reusable condition can be accepted. Please only donate items that can be resold, items with holes are not reusable.

Skoolkit offers a recycling box where items can be dropped off.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
18 November	Big Emotions Information Evening
18 November	SEND Coffee morning- Chalk Ridge Primary School- 10-12
28 November	Non-school uniform day- in exchange for chocolates and bottles
28 November	Christmas Fair with Santa's Grotto
28 November	No Celebration Assembly
3 December	Friends Wreath making- see poster
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	Children's Christmas Treat from Friends
19 December	Celebration Assembly at 9.10am