



Oakley Infant School



Newsletter

Autumn Term: Issue 8

4 Nov 2025



Strive, thrive and achieve together



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the busiest half term of the school year. There are a few things to action this week and I have scheduled them together deliberately so that you can work through them carefully in one go.

- 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

Each family can have 2 tickets for each child attending our school. Please make sure you have booked your preferred time slot by 14 November. Any spare tickets will be offered on a first come, first served basis from Monday 17 November, details will follow. Please see cast information on the sidebar on this page.

I would remind everyone that for the Christmas performance it is an adult only audience, no other children are welcome. It is always nice for your child to have your attention on them for half an hour. This is your notice that you may need to organise child care or divide your tickets so 1 is used for each performance your child will take part in.

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 Fair- Friday 28 November 2025

This year's Christmas Fair will take place on 28 November from 5.30pm. Please see the poster for further details. I am currently working with Friends to put the final details on the arrangements but there will be a request for helpers before hand and on the evening. IF you can help please contact Friends.



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.

School Nurse Drop In- 5 November

The School Nurse is running a drop in session for any questions after the school drop off on Wednesday. This will take place in Room 2 which is the middle classroom on the Year 1 side. They are happy to answer anything, even for children not at our school. They have been able to access services or signpost more effectively than 'joining a list' which in some cases is all we have to offer.

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported the Scholastic Book Fair before half term. We are delighted to tell you that we have been able to claim £486 in books for our school library and classrooms. Thank you!

Primary Behaviour Support- Big Emotions- 18 November

We are pleased to be hosting a parent information evening on Big Emotions delivered by Primary Behaviour Support. If you have ever asked for advice from the GP, school nursing team or school staff then it would be useful to attend. We may even make a suggestion to you about attending as we have found their training to be useful and realistic so please do not be offended if we talk to you about it.

So that we have an idea of numbers please use the link to book on.

[Parent Workshop – Fill in form](#)

Thank you.

Knowledge Organisers

Along with the newsletter you will find information about your child's learning for this half term.

Apple and Cherry class will be thinking about Celebrations this half term with Sycamore and Hazel learning about Toys and the Year 2 children will be learning about The Great Fire of London, a popular topic with everyone.

Please take the opportunity to have a read so that you can ask your child questions about what they have been doing in school.

Jigsaw

Mrs Barrett has included the focus for the PSHE teaching this term on the next slide; Celebrating Differences.

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

Year R Gazette class Photo

Please remember to order a copy of the Year R Gazette photo by 7 November. These are £1 each and copies are available to order in the school office.

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.

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



'Celebrating Differences'

This half term, our puzzle piece is ...

This puzzle piece includes children being encouraged to think about things that they are good at whilst understanding that everyone is good at different things.

They talk about the differences between people and that these make us unique and special but also the similarities and recognising that we are the same in some ways.

The children talk about friendship, how to make friends, how to be a kind friend and that it is ok to have differences from their friends. The children learn how to stand up for themselves if someone says or does something unkind to them. They begin to learn what bullying is and what it isn't. They talk about how it might feel to be bullied and when and who to ask for help. In Year 2, the class talk about gender stereotypes and that boys and girls can have differences and similarities and that is OK.

Key Vocabulary	Knowledge	Social and Emotional skills	Questions for Family learning
<p>different, difference same, similar similarity special, unique friends, feelings emotions, proud kind, unkind, happy sad, angry, lonely frightened, friends family, safe, bully bullying, behaviour bullied, deliberate, fairness, fair, unfair, deliberate, on purpose, included celebrations, boys, girls, assumptions, stereotypes, help stand up for, male female, diversity friends, value</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know what being proud means and that people can be proud of different things. • Know the names of some emotions such as happy, sad, frightened, angry. • Know that people have differences and similarities. • Know that people can be good at different things. • Know what being unique means. • Know that families can be different. • Know some qualities of a positive friendship. • Know that they don't have to be 'the same as' to be a friend. • Know different ways of making friends. • Know different ways to stand up for myself. • Know what bullying means. • Know who to tell if they or someone else is being bullied or is feeling unhappy. • Know skills to make friendships. • Know that people are unique and that it is OK to be different. • Know there are stereotypes about boys and girls • Know that it is OK not to conform to gender stereotypes • Know that sometimes people get bullied because of difference • Know the difference between right and wrong and the role that choice has to play in this • Know that friends can be different and still be friends • Know where to get help if being bullied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify feelings associated with being proud • Identify things they are good at and verbalise attributes that make them unique and special. • Identify some ways they can be different and the same as others • Recognise similarities and differences between their family and other families • Identify and use skills to make a friend • Identify and use skills to stand up for themselves • Recognise emotions when they or someone else is upset, frightened or angry • Recognise ways in which they are the same as their friends and ways they are different • Identify what is bullying and what isn't • Understand and explain how being bullied might feel • Know ways to help a person who is being bullied • Know how to stand up for themselves when they need to • Identify emotions associated with making a new friend • Understand that boys and girls can be similar in lots of ways and that is OK • Recognise that they shouldn't judge people because they are different • Understand that everyone's differences make them special and unique 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are you good at doing? • Can you say how you are different from a friend? • Can you say how you are the same as a friend? • What makes a family? • What makes you proud? • Are all families the same? • What can you do to make a friend? • How can you tell when someone is feeling sad, angry or upset? • If someone is making you feel sad or upset what can you do about it? • What is bullying? • Do all boys have to be the same, and all girls have to be the same? • How do you feel about this? • Are stereotypes fair? • Can a person be friends with someone who is different from them? • Can we choose how we treat other people? • Can being different be used as a reason for bullying? • How do you feel about that? • If you were worried about bullying what could you do?

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
3 November	Start of new half term
5 November	School Nurse Drop in (Room 2- 9am)
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
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