



NEWSLETTER

30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Golden Book

Congratulations to our Golden Book Winners who were presented with their certificates during assembly this morning. This week's theme for Golden Book was "Respect".



Reception -	Elouise and Stanley
Year One -	Emmerson and Ellie
Year Two -	Ruby, Millie and Oliver
Year Three -	Lili, Yashwant and Penny
Year Four -	Fleur, Sophia and Jeremi
Year Five -	Musa and Shayan

contactus@oakridge.staffs.sch.uk

Telephone No.
01785 337 300
Absence Reporting
ParentMail



Spelling

After careful consideration we have made the decision to end the use of our super spelling scheme and books. Changes in the curriculum and phonics scheme mean that they no longer fully link with the children's learning. After half term we will use Spelling Shed to set weekly spelling assignments which will be closely matched to the year group national curriculum spelling rules, vocabulary and phonics. The lists will also be linked to key vocabulary that the children will use across the curriculum for example historical or geographical vocabulary.

Using Spelling Shed will allow teaching staff to monitor children's spelling progress and engagement in their weekly spelling assignments. The children will then also be expected to apply their new spellings in class.

For the next few weeks the children will have a reflective list of spellings to practise until we launch Spelling Shed assignments the first week back after half term.



INSET DAY

FRIDAY 7TH OCTOBER

Just a reminder that next Friday is an inset day and school will be closed.

Data Collection Sheets

Tonight your child's Data Collection Sheet which contains details including home address, emergency contact telephone numbers, medical notes etc will be sent home for checking. **We have not included email addresses on the form as these do not need to be checked.** Could you please confirm whether the information currently held is correct and please amend if necessary.

It would help us if, for example, you only work Monday – Wednesday you could tell us so that if we need to contact you we know to where find you.

The school has a duty to protect this data and to share it with the Local Authority and other agencies; further details who we share your data with can be found in our Data Protection Policy on the school website.

To enable to school the claim additional funding we would also like to record whether your child is a "service child". Would you please let us know if either parent/guardian is a member of the Armed Forces if you haven't already informed us. Also, if your child has been adopted we can claim additional funding and we would be grateful if you could let us have this information if you haven't already informed us.

Please confirm the data and return the form to school no later than **Thursday 6th October.**

Thank you for your help and assistance in this matter.



Census Day—6th October

Thursday 6th October is our school census day and the data that is collected on this day is used to allocate school funding for the next 12 months. There a number of ways that you can help us increase our allocation.

Every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 is entitled to a **free school meal** so please do take up this option on **Thursday**.

If your circumstances have changed over the last few months you may now be entitled to free school meals. You can find out whether you are able to claim free school meals by following the following link: <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Overview.aspx>

Service families and Looked After children also provide an additional source of income for schools. If any of the above apply could you please speak to Mrs Edwards, in confidence, so that as a school we can maximise our income.

Reading

Our aim at Oakridge is to prioritise reading and ensure every child at Oakridge becomes a confident and fluent reader. To help support this we would like to ask if any parents/grandparents would be willing to commit to volunteering; to come into school and hear some children read on a regular weekly basis. This may also include supporting children with vocabulary and spelling learning too. We would offer some training on this (this would be subject to a DBS check).

Anyone who is willing to regularly support us could you please contact Mrs Paynter.

Phonics Workshops

We would like to thank all parents of Reception children who recently attended the Phonics workshops.

Thank you for your support.

Key Stage 2 SATS meeting

We are holding a meeting for parents of Year 6 children, regarding their KS2 SATs tests. During the meeting, we will be outlining the format of this year's SATs tests and how you can support your child.

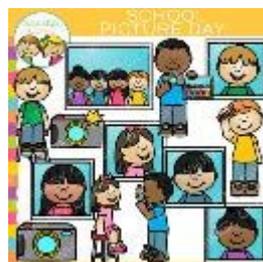
This will take place on 7th October at 6.30pm. This will enable us to share the information as early as possible.

We look forward to seeing as many Year Six parents as possible.

School Photographs

The proof of your child's school photograph taken by Tempest photography has been sent home this week.

This year all orders are to be made to Tempest Photography Direct via their website.



Weekly Attendance

As you are aware from our Meet the Teacher meetings and our school Newsletter, the Government are prioritising school attendance with a very clear message that low attendance results in lower academic achievement in school. The Government are now publishing weekly school attendance figures in order that schools can compare their attendance figures with the national percentages. Each week we will share with you both the national and school attendance figure for comparison. Over the past 20 years Oakridge's school attendance has been above the national figure and I know that with your support that this will continue.

	Weekly Attendance
Oakridge	96.3%
National	94.6%

Year Group Breakdown

Reception	93.3%
Year 1	95.0%
Year 2	92.0%
Year 3	94.4%
Year 4	100.0%
Year 5	100.0%
Year 6	98.8%

School Driveway

We are currently experiencing a number of issues with our school gate. It was recently damaged and as a result we are not always able to close them at the start and end of the school day.

Could we please remind parents and carers to use the pedestrian footpath when entering and exiting the school site and ask that you do not walk down the drive.

Thank you for your co-operation.

**41% of trips to school are
by car.** 

**If you do have to drive,
switch off when you drop off.**

**What one more thing can you
do to travel differently one
day a week?**

Pledge to stop idling at 


air
aware
Staffordshire

Year Three and Four Visit to Stonehenge

On Thursday this week our Year Three and Four children visited Stonehenge as part of their learning about the Stone Age this term. They had a wonderful time learning about the history of the stones and took part in a number of workshops learning about the Neolithic period and how Stonehenge was built.

