

## Attendance

In their latest report, the Government have produced data which shows that more than 140,000 schoolchildren in England were officially "severely absent". According to official Department of Education figures, the number of these pupils, missing at least 50% of classes, is growing.

In May last year the Government produced a new document entitled 'Working together to improve school attendance.' from which we based our school Attendance Policy. A copy of the policy is available on the school website and at the start of next term we will ensure that all parents receive a summary version called Attendance Policy on a page. Our current school attendance is 93.1% compared to the national which is

### **Good attendance is important because:**

- Statistics show a direct link between under-achievement and poor attendance.
- Regular attenders make better progress, both socially and academically.
- Regular attenders find school routines, school work and friendships easier to cope with.
- Regular attenders find learning more satisfying.
- Regular attenders settle into Secondary school more easily.

## **Working together to improve school attendance**

Guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools, and local authorities

Published: May 2022

Applies from: September 2022



## Oakridge Primary School

### **Why?**

We believe in making our children world-class learners, developing in them a confidence and thirst for knowledge, enabling them to realise their talents and create their future.

### **How?**

By tenaciously challenging and developing our own understanding of learning, as well as providing for them a 'Disney Land' curriculum with a fantastic range of curricular and extra curricular opportunities, which engage, enrich and excite them as learners.

## **Meet the Teacher**

**2023-2024**

**Year 3**

**Mr Deakin**



**Reaching for the stars**

## Introduction

Welcome to Year Y3. Now that your child is in KS2 they will continue to follow all the National Curriculum subjects which they studied in KS1 with the addition of French. You can see an overview of all curriculum subjects on the school website by following this link: [Curriculum Overviews](#)

Below is a brief summary of the topic areas that your child will study.

Subject	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Science	Animals including humans	Light Forces and Magnets	Plants Rocks
History	How much did the Ancient Egyptians achieve?	Who was Josiah Wedgewood?	How has education changed over time?
Geography	Investigating Rivers	What is special about the Potteries?	Why is Liverpool a gateway to the world?
RE	Divali Christmas	Jesus's Miracles Easter	Hindu Beliefs Pilgrimage to the River Ganges
PSHE	Being Me in my World Celebrating Difference	Dreams and Goals Healthy Me	Relationships Changing Me
Music	Let your spirit fly—R n B basis Christmas performance	The Dragon Song Three Little Birds	Learning a brass instrument
Art / D and T	Egyptians Stable Structures	The Potteries Moving Monsters	Op/Pop Art Sandwiches

## Art and D and T

Mrs Holland will teach art/D&T on a Wednesday Morning: this will cover the PPA requirement.

## PE

For Year 3 PE will take place on a Monday afternoon and Thursday afternoon.

Please can you ensure that your child comes to school in their PE kit on these days.

## Other Key dates for your diary

### Autumn Term

Y2 AR workshop - Tuesday 3rd October 9:00 am and 6:00pm

Parents evening - Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Oct and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Oct

KS1 Nativity - Tuesday 19th December and Wednesday Dec 20<sup>th</sup>

KS2 carol concert - Thursday Dec 21st

### Spring Term

Parents Evening - Wednesday Feb 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday Feb 8<sup>th</sup>

Y5 Standon Bowers - Week beginning March 18<sup>th</sup>

### Summer Term

Y6 Ireland week - May 20<sup>th</sup> - May 24<sup>th</sup> 2024 (Proposed)

KS2 Production - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Year 6 Leavers Assembly - Thursday July 18<sup>th</sup> 2023

## Communication

If you wish to speak to us then do not hesitate to do so, either by coming to the school office before the day begins at 8:45, or after the day has ended. You can also make communication through our contact us email address.

## Tuck Shop

At morning break, the children will still have the opportunity to eat a piece of fruit. However, they also have the opportunity, if they want, to purchase items such as toast, cheese on toast or a breakfast pot from the tuck shop. A menu and price list will follow in September. All can be purchased on ParentPay.



## Dates for 2023–2024

In the first newsletter in September we will be providing a full date list for the year. However, we have included some important dates for your diary for next year.



### Term dates

#### Autumn Term 2023

Inset day: Monday 4th September  
Term starts: Tuesday 5th September  
Inset: Friday 27th October  
Holiday: Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November  
Term ends: Friday 22nd December  
Holiday: Monday 25th December - Monday 5th January

#### Spring Term 2024

Inset: Monday 8th January  
Term starts: Tuesday 9th January  
Holiday: Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February  
Term ends: Friday 22nd March  
Holiday: Monday 25th April - Friday 5th April

#### Summer Term 2024

Term starts: Monday 8th April  
May Day: Monday 6th May  
Holiday: Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May  
Inset: Monday 3rd June  
Term ends: Friday 19th July  
Inset: Monday 22nd July  
Holiday: Tuesday 23d July - Friday 30th August



## The Oakridge Way

In addition to the national curriculum, we will also continue to develop the children's understanding of themselves as learners. We will continue to do this through our 'Oakridge Way' which exemplifies both the learning mindframes and associated behaviours, as well as the personal attributes, we promote as part of our whole school ethos.

The roots of the tree are the personal attributes we promote both around school and outside. These are: being kind, well-mannered, trustworthy and respectful.



The canopy of the tree displays the four over-arching learning mindframes. On the following two pages you can see the learning mindframes and the associated behaviours that we use with the children throughout their learning.

The children will continue to earn house points, golden book certificates,



positive notes and Head and Deputy Headteacher stickers. Our house names are star constellations to support our motto of 'Reaching for the Stars'. They are:

Red - Draco - The Dragon  
Yellow - Orion - The Hunter  
Blue - Pegasus - The Flying Horse  
Green - Ursa - The Great Bear



## Resourceful

I make links in my learning

I am curious and can ask good questions

I use my imagination

I know when to think for myself and when to ask for help

I can select the resources I need to help me learn

## Resilient

I don't give up

I say 'I can'

I stay focussed and manage my distractions

When things go wrong I keep a positive attitude



## Supporting pupils' emotional well-being



All children and young people have their ups and downs and experience all kinds of thoughts and feelings as they grow up. We have received training which has helped them to support children's mental health and well-being, by utilising emotion coaching. We will be encouraging children to ask for a listening ear if they are experiencing some emotional challenges. As parents, you can also let us know if you feel that your child needs some support.

## School Uniform

At Oakridge the Governors and staff believe that the wearing of school uniform gives pupils confidence in themselves, pride in the school and helps to promote a feeling of belonging to the school community. It is both practical and economical and helps prevent needless comparisons in dress.

Recommended items of clothing are as follows:-

### Boys

White shirt

School tie

Navy blue sweatshirt embroidered with the school logo

Grey school trousers

Black school shoes

Grey / black socks

### Girls

White blouse

School tie

Navy blue sweatshirt / cardigan embroidered with the school logo

Grey skirt or grey pinafore dress

Grey school trousers

Black school shoes

Light blue / white gingham dress for the summer if desired

Navy blue tights / navy blue or white socks



### PE Kit

School navy and sky blue embroidered shirt

School navy and sky blue shorts

Navy socks

Trainers





### Reading

We ask the children to read every day. The importance of daily personalised reading practise cannot be overstated. Recent studies indicate that when children spend 25 minutes a day reading suitably challenging books which they successfully comprehend then they will achieve optimal reading age growth.

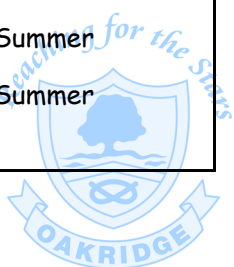
### Spelling

Children will be working on learning their common exception words (orange words) and the spelling rules as outlined in the Year Three curriculum. Each week children will have a focused spelling rule that they have been working on in class that will be set as a class assignment on spelling shed. They will be tested on this spelling rule the following week to check their understanding and retainment of those particular spellings. Sometimes children will have personalised spelling targets that will be set on spelling shed for them to work on at home.

### Enrichment

We continue to plan trips, visits and special themed days to support and enhance children's learning. Some of the proposed enrichment activities are shown below. Others will be added during the year.

Enrichment Activities	Subject	Term
Cardingmill Valley	Geography	Autumn
Egyptian Day	History	Autumn
Gladstone Museum	History	Spring
Dudley Canals	Science	Summer
Visit to Liverpool	Geography	Summer
Blisthill	History	Summer



### Reciprocity

I am respectful  
I can learn in a team  
I co-operate  
I listen, I think and respond  
I mag-pie ideas to make my learning  
the best it can be



### Reflective

I learn from mistakes  
I try to be better than the last time  
I use feedback to keep improving  
I compare myself to myself, not  
others  
I review my learning using my  
success criteria



# What 'The Oakridge Way' means to our children



**Year 4:** 'It's about reaching for the stars and being the best person you can be, and being the best learner you can be.'

**Reception:** 'The way we learn and behave at Oakridge.'

**Year 6:** 'It's about who we are as a school. We all follow and reach new heights with learning and behaviour, linking the school together. It unites it.'

**Year 2:** 'The way we do things around here, it's the way Oakridge does things.'



## Home Learning

We appreciate how important the links between home and school are, and the need for us to work together to ensure a good education for your child. For home learning we will continue to re-enforce the basic skills associated with English and Maths. Each week the children will therefore be expected to learn spellings, read daily and practice quick recall of number facts.

In KS2 home learning will be outlined on a document in each child's individual file on BGFL. Electronic learning conversations, which are attached to the document will be used for children and teachers to comment. The comments will be checked by Mr Deakin on Wednesday Mornings. Parents can also comment through this, or the contactus email if it is more appropriate.

### Reading

Daily home reading - 20 -30 mins daily

### Spelling

Spelling assignments on spelling shed

### Mental Maths

On-going practice of mathematical recall facts such as + and - within 20 or times tables.

### Subject learning

As part of our wider curriculum we may ask children to undertake supplementary activities to support the topic

### Maths

The number facts the children are expected to know in year 3 are:

- Know pairs of multiples of 100 which total 1000
- Recall all the 3x 4x and 8x tables and the corresponding division facts
- Know doubles and halves within 100

Regular practice of quick recall of these number facts will help the children with their Maths learning. It is also important that when the facts are learnt, they are rehearsed regularly so that they are not forgotten.

### End of chapter Reviews

Children will continue to bring home their end of chapter reviews so that you can see the progress that they are making in each maths topic. It will also be encouraged that the children take ownership for their maths development by reviewing and reflecting and then practising any areas that they found particularly tricky and these can be practised in their home learning journals.