










# NEWSLETTER

8TH DECEMBER 2023



COME & JOIN US AT  
THE OAKRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Christmas Fair

-  TOMBOLA
-  RAFFLE
-  BAR
-  CAKE STALL
-  LUCKY DIP
-  MEET SANTA
-  TUCK STALL

FRIDAY  
DECEMBER

8<sup>TH</sup>

AND MUCH,  
MUCH MORE ...

50<sup>p</sup>  
Entry

@ 5.30<sup>PM</sup>  
- 7.30<sup>PM</sup>

SUPPORT US!  
VOLUNTEERS WANTED  
FOR MANNING STALLS  
[PLEASE CONTACT THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE]



JOIN US!  
ALL PROCEEDS  
DIRECTLY BENEFIT  
OUR CHILDREN

[contactus@oakridge.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:contactus@oakridge.staffs.sch.uk)

Telephone No.  
**01785 337 300**  
Absence Reporting  
ParentMail



## 'Tread' Panto & Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 22nd December 'Tread' Panto will be with us to perform their Aladdin Pantomime for the whole school. With it being the last day of term we will be having another Christmas jumper day. We are asking for contributions of £3 towards the cost of the production.

We will set this up on ParentPay next week.

Below are some promo photos to give you an idea of what 'Tread' deliver.



## Nursery and Reception

Present:

### 'Away In A Manger'

12th and 13th December at 10.30am

We will **not** be formally issuing tickets, for any of our Nativity performances, but we do ask for a £2 donation towards costumes, performance licences etc on the door.



## Polite Notice

In order to respect the wishes of all parents and carers in school could we kindly ask that you do not record or take any photographs during the nativity.

You will be provided with an opportunity to take photographs at the end of each performance.

Could we also please remind all parents and carers to refrain for uploading any group photos of our Nativity plays on to any social media sites.

If you are putting photos on please ensure that it is only your own child in the shot with no one else in the background. Thank you.



## Reception Visit to Stanley Head



The Reception children enjoyed their day out at Stanley Head Outdoor Education Centre. They were involved in map reading, they enjoyed stroking lots of friendly chickens and they also met Chloe the Barn Owl.



## Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who brought in a donation for this years' Poppy Appeal.

We collected a wonderful £299.55 for the Royal British Legion.



## Comfort Appeal

**T**hank you to everyone who donated to our Christmas Comfort Appeal to support Staffordshire Women's Aid and a Child of Mine.



## Farewell..... for now

**O**ur wonderful Year 4 teaching assistant and lunchtime supervisor Miss Hughes is leaving today to have a baby.

We wish her all our best wishes as she begins her maternity leave.



## Flu Vaccinations

**A**ll children from Reception to Year 11 are eligible for the free flu vaccination. Given as a painless nasal spray, the vaccine not only helps protect children but can also help prevent them spreading the virus to more vulnerable family members and friends over the winter months.

Parents and guardians of children who may have either missed their flu vaccination in school, are invited to book an appointment at one of the catch-up clinics taking place in Staffordshire:

Saturday 9th December	Barton FS	9.30am-3pm
Saturday 9th December	Sandyford	9.30am-3pm
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Rising Brook HC Stafford	10am-6pm
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Tamworth Rugby Club	3pm-7pm
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Meir Matters	3pm-6pm
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Leek (LMH) Room 10	10am-5pm
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Smallthorne HC	9:30am-3pm

These clinics are only available by appointment only. To book a clinic appointment please call the service on 0300 124 0366. Lines are open 8:30-4pm Monday-Friday.

## Christmas Market

**M**ore tickets for the Christmas Market, next Friday 15th December, have now been released.

You can find these via your ParentPay account.

Ticket sales will close on Monday 11th December.



Please note that after school Sporting Clubs have now finished for the rest of this year.

Mr Rowell will be in touch shortly with details of which clubs will be running in January.

Our website is : [www.oakridge.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.oakridge.staffs.sch.uk)





## KS2 Christmas Carol Concert

**T**his year Key Stage 2 are holding their Christmas Carol Concert at Holy Trinity Church, Baswich Lane on Thursday 21st December at **6.30pm**. All KS2 children are taking part. It should be a very exciting evening.

### **Arrangements on the evening:**

All children should arrive at the church hall at 6.15pm.

They must wear school uniform – but no sweatshirts please – as it will be too hot.

The concert should last about an hour. Please make arrangements for your child to be picked up after the concert.

***Please can we kindly ask all parents not to bring young children as the concert is not suitable for young children to attend.***

Admittance to the Carol Concert is by ticket only. These can be purchased via ParentPay from early next at a cost of £3.50 each and are limited to 2 tickets per family. Anyone who arrives with additional family members who do not have a ticket will not be admitted into the Church and will be turned away. Extra children will not be permitted to sit on a parent's knee as there will simply will not be enough space.

We apologise for any disappointment this may cause.

### **Before**

On Thursday 21st, the children will be rehearsing at Church all day. We will be leaving school at 9:15am and returning to school for 3:15pm. Children will walk down to the Church on the Thursday morning and will be closely supervised; if it is raining they will need waterproofs.

Parents can, if they wish, pick their child up at 2:30pm from the church if they have completed the ParentMail form that will be issued on Monday. We will not be able to send children home with other parents unless we have been informed beforehand. Children will also not be allowed to walk home by themselves from the church.

The vicar has made the church hall available for us to eat our lunch so please remember on Thursday that your child will need a packed lunch and a drink. Please remember to cancel any meal or tuck orders beforehand.



## Year 5/6 District Basketball Competition

**O**n Wednesday Oakridge took part in the first ever District Basketball competition at Alleyne's Sports Centre in Stone. There were 6 schools involved with each school playing against each other once in a group format to determine the four team's that would qualify for the semi-finals. After their 5 games Oakridge won 3, drew 1 and lost 1 meaning they would qualify for a semi-final match against Walton Priory Middle. The semi-final was a very tight affair which finished 2-2 and went into extra-time where unfortunately Walton Priory scored 2 quick baskets to win 6-2. Oakridge went on to play a 3rd place play-off against Barnfields which Oakridge won 10-0 to gain the bronze medal position. Well done to all the boys and girls who took part and displayed excellent skill, determination and teamwork in what was a really enjoyable event.



## Brass Tuition

**T**he children who are currently in Year 4 have now been receiving Brass tuition for two terms - the cost of this has been partly covered by a grant that we received from Staffordshire Music Service. The whole class lessons will finish before we break-up for Christmas.

If your child has enjoyed learning to play either a cornet, trumpet or trombone and would like to continue they may do so. Mr Walker, their teacher, will be taking small group lessons at a cost of around £100 for the two terms; this can be paid in 2 instalments. We need at least 4 children to continue and the amount will be confirmed as soon as we know final numbers. There is no cost to hire the instrument.

If your child would like to continue learning to play, could you please complete the ParentMail

## Christmas Dinner

**O**n Thursday 14th December our Kitchen Staff will be serving a traditional Christmas dinner for the children.

ParentPay has been updated to reflect the change in Menu. The meal for Wednesday has also been changed and ParentPay shows the correct menu options for both days.

The meal can be selected and paid for via ParentPay in the usual way.

If you want to make the meal a little more festive your child may bring in a Christmas Cracker.

## Tesco Stronger Starts

We are delighted to let you know that our application to the Tesco Stronger Starts has been successful and our project will be put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores. Voting will commence in store from Mid January 2024 until the end of March 2024.

Our project of choice is for play equipment to make outdoor playtimes more enjoyable by providing equipment such as bats, balls, hoops and other engaging apparatus.

Please see below a list of stores taking part in the voting on our project.

3244 Stafford Express, Small unit, Rising Brook, ST17 9DH

3398 Stafford Extra, Large unit, Main Supermarket, Newport Road, Stafford, ST16 2HE

6569 Stafford Express, Small unit, Stone Road, ST16 2TQ

To check the location of any of the above stores, please go to the Tesco website here:

<http://www.tesco.com/store-locator/uk>

To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction and it's not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token.

**Stronger  
Starts.**

In partnership with



Our School Attendance Target is **96%**

This weeks attendance is **94.5%** which is  
**below** our school target.

Reception	93.7%
Year One	98.3%
Year Two	94.3%
Year Three	92.7%
Year Four	93.4%
Year Five	95.3%
Year Six	93.8%

## Year 6 Ireland Visit

Deposits for the Year 6 visit to Ireland next year should be paid by today—Friday 8th December please.

If you haven't yet paid, please can you ensure to do this by the end of the day via ParentPay. This will enable us to book and confirm numbers.

Many thanks.





# Poem of the Week

## People Need People

By Benjamin Zephaniah

People need people,  
To walk to  
To talk to  
To cry and rely on,  
People will always need people.  
To love and to miss  
To hug and to kiss,  
It's useful to have other people.  
To whom to moan  
If you're all alone,  
It's so hard to share  
When no one is there.  
There's not much to do  
When there's no one but you.  
People will always need people.

To please  
To tease  
To put you at ease,  
People will always need people.  
To make life appealing  
And give life some meaning,  
It's useful to have other people.  
It you need a change  
To whom will you turn.  
If you need a lesson  
From whom will you learn.  
If you need to play  
You'll know why I say  
People will always need people.

As girlfriends  
As boyfriends  
From Bombay  
To Ostend,  
People will always need people-  
To have friendly fights with  
And share tasty bites with,  
It's useful to have other people.  
People live in families  
Gangs, posses and packs,  
Its seems we need company  
Before we relax,  
So stop making enemies  
And let's face the facts,  
People will always need people,  
Yes  
People will always need people.



**Christmas** Ho Ho Ho

**BIG BOUNCE**  
Huge Indoor Inflatable Play Event

**WEDNESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JAN**  
**STAFFORD LEISURE CENTRE**

Unlimited Play on a Arena Full of  
Supervised Inflatables & Interactive Games  
Festive Fun for Primary School Aged Children

Meet the  
**GRINCH**

**BOOK NOW!**



or  
**The ELF**

**www.BigBounceEvents.co.uk**

**ATTRACTIONS**

Christmas Winter Wonderland Snow Globe  
Rockin'Rodeo Rudolph - Festive treasure Hunt  
Slides - Obstacle Courses - Sports Games  
Bungee Run - Speed Cones - Wrecking Ball  
Nerf Shootout - ToTal Wipeout Sweeper

Hosted  
by...

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