



# NEWSLETTER

3RD SEPTEMBER 2021

## Welcome Back

It was wonderful welcome all our children back to school this week. Everyone has returned with a positive attitude and have taken all the new arrangements in their stride which is a credit to all of our children. It was also great to see so many parents again this week. Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for embracing the new normal, we appreciate your support.

### Changes to Collection and Drop off

The school day officially begins at 8:55 and ends at 3:15. However, children can arrive between 8:45 and 8:55 when we operate a staggered drop off. Gates open at 8:45 and children can be dropped off at any point between 8:45 and 8:55. The morning session for our Nursery children will begin at 8:50 am and finish at 11:50am with the afternoon session beginning at 12:30 and finishing at 3:30pm. Once again, the Nursery children can be dropped off from 8:45am.

Please note that the school drive is no longer be used to create a one-way system and parents and children should use the path at all times, particularly when using after school clubs when the driveway is most in use. At home time Foundation Stage and KS1 parents are able to come onto the playground at both the beginning and the end of the school day .

### PE Kit

Could we please remind you that your child should come into school wearing their Oakridge P.E. kit on the days on which they have a P.E. lesson. If your child attends a sporting club which falls on their P.E. day then they can simply stay in their P.E. kit. Should your child's club not coincide with their P.E. day then they can either bring their school kit to change in to, or some alternative sports clothing if they wish. This will help to prevent overuse of school P.E. kit.

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

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



## Covid Testing and Contact Tracing

As you will be aware, the government are moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, alongside targeted interventions to reduce risk.

### COVID-19 Symptoms

The most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia) For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if you have any of the symptoms above, even if your symptoms are mild, stay at home and arrange to have a test.

The guidance states that:-

***'If anyone arrives at your school or develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, you should send them home and they should follow public health advice. If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending your school, you can take the decision to refuse the pupil.'***

We all want all our children to attend school fully, however can we respectfully ask that if your child has any of the symptoms, please take them for a test to avoid any uncomfortable conversations on the school gate which can result in children becoming unnecessarily upset. Pupils, staff and other adults should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).

### What will happen if there is a positive case in a primary school?

From 16th August, school children will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are a contact of a positive case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test & Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and should take a PCR, not LFT, test. They only need to isolate if they test positive.

## BGFL Login

As we are still in uncertain times we are taking steps to ensure that should we need to, we are able to set learning remotely as soon as possible. With this in mind all children have been issued with their login details and passwords for BGFL. Could we please ask that you take some time over the weekend to check that they are able to log on and if you have any problems please let us know. Thank you.



## Music lessons

All Instrument Music lessons will start again next week. All lessons take place during the school day. Please remember to bring your instruments into school on these days:

**Keyboard** will take place during the school day on Thursday morning.

**Woodwind** will take place during the school day on Tuesday morning

**Strings** will take place during the school day on a Wednesday morning.

**Brass** will take place during the school day on Friday afternoon.

**Guitar** will be during the school day on a Friday Morning.

Tuition fees will be available to pay via ParentPay next week.



## Accelerated Reader

If they have not already done so, children in Year Two and above will take a Star Reading test next week. This will determine which book level they will start on this school year.

In the meantime, children have been given a book based on last year's reading range.

Could we please ask that you check that you are able to log on to the Accelerated Reader site over the weekend and let us know if you have any problems. Thank you.



## Sporting Clubs

After school sporting clubs will start on Monday 6th September. To reflect the school day, there will be a slight change in timings to our after-school clubs this year. Clubs will run from **3:30pm - 4:30pm** and will run from **Monday to Thursday**.

The clubs we will offer at the start of this Autumn term are as follows:

**Monday - Year 3/4 Girls & Boys' Football**

**Tuesday - Year 5/6 Girls' Football**

**Wednesday - Year 5/6 Girls & Boys' Cross-Country**

**\*Please note that this will change to Year 3/4 Cross-Country after half-term\***

**Thursday - Year 5/6 Boys' Football.**

If your child's club falls on their P.E. day then they can simply stay in their P.E. kit. Should your child's club not coincide with their P.E. day then they can either bring their school kit to change in to, or some alternative sports clothing if they wish. This will help to prevent overuse of school P.E. kit. For football after-school clubs, football boots and shinpads must be worn.

For Cross-country, children may wear boots or trainers. However, the field usually becomes quite slippery and muddy so football/rugby boots are advisable. Please ensure children have a waterproof coat with them too.

### Dates for your Diary

A full list of dates for your diary will be in next weeks' Newsletter.

## School Forms

**A**t the beginning of each school year we need to ensure that all of our pupil information is up to date and accurate and as a consequence there are a number of forms that we will email to you next week.

The following two forms are completed annually and we require a printed paper copy, however do not worry about photos as we can add these in school.

- Medicine care plan
- Asthma care plan

If you are new to Oakridge you will need to fill in three additional forms which ensure consent for the time that your child is at Oakridge unless you inform the school otherwise. These are electronic forms sent by ParentMail.

- Photo consent
- Local visits consent
- Food allergies, intolerances and dietary requirements

We are very aware of the administration that is involved, however we are legally obliged to obtain this information and we thank you all in advance for supporting the process.

## Cool Milk

**C**hildren in our Nursery and Reception classes enjoy drinking a carton of milk each morning.

Up until the age of 5 children are entitled to free milk but you need to register your child to receive this if you have not already done so.

Once your child has turned 5 they are still able to have a drink each day if you pay via the Coolmilk website.

If you do not have a form please ask a member of staff.

## Nut based products

**I**n school we have a number of children who are allergic to nuts. Please may we ask that children avoid bringing in any nut based foods, snacks or products that contain nuts such as almond, peanut or coconut. This also includes chocolate spreads such as Nutella, certain cakes such as Battenberg as well as some lipsalves. If your child requires a lipsalve can this be of a clear Vaseline type and nut safe.

We thank you for this consideration.



**C**hildren in Nursery, Reception, Year One, and Year Two will all receive a piece fruit as part of the government run scheme beginning the week commencing 6th September.

## Tuck

**W**e have a new menu for tuck which can be found on ParentPay and on our school website. Children from Year One to Year Six are able to order tuck—this must be ordered and paid for by 8.00am each morning.

Tuck will be available to order from Monday morning and we will continue to offer sausage sandwiches for £1 cash on a Friday.

*Toast and Butter—30p*

*Porridge Pot—35p*

*Breakfast Pot—60p*

*Daily Special—50p*

*Monday—cheesy oatcake, Tuesday—waffles, Wednesday—Cheese on Toast, Thursday—Flapjack, Friday—hot pork sausage roll*