



Oakfield Primary Academy Newsletter

Planting Seeds, Promoting Growth

Friday 10th October

www.oakfieldprimaryacademy.co.uk

School Photographs

There will be school photographs taking place on Monday 13th October.

The photographers will be taking class photographs, individual photographs and sibling photographs. This does include Nursery children.

Please ensure that your child is dressed in full school uniform, even if they usually have PE. Do not wear PE kits on Monday.

Full school uniform consists of the following:

Green jumper, white shirt or polo t-shirt (with collars), black or grey skirt or trousers.

Thank-you in advance for your support with this.

Parent Consultation Day

310 appointments have been booked already which is fantastic! Please engage with the process and attend Parent Consultation Day by booking your appointment. It is really important that you attend to hear about your child's progress and build the relationship with your child's class teacher so we can continue to work in partnership.

If you're unable to make the date/time, please email into admin@oakfieldprimaryacademy.co.uk

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to our stars of the week! We are so proud of you :)

Year 1 – Olivia & Robyn

Year 2 – Thora-Leigh & Yanis

Year 3 – Daisy-Lee & Devynn

Year 4 – Rory & Michael

Year 5 – Thomas & Masal

Year 6 – Adhvik & Daisy

Dates for the Diary

13th October – School Photos

15th October – Flu Vaccinations

14th October – Parent Consultation Day

23rd October – Y2 Harvest Assembly to Parents – 09:00 – 10:00

24th October – Sbooktacular Day (fancy dress optional)

27th – 31st October – Half Term

3rd November – INSET Day

5th November – Reception & KS1 Phonics Workshop – 14:30

6th November – Y5 Swimming continues

10th November – Anti-Bullying Week

11th November – Y3 Inspire Workshop – 09:00 – 10:00

13th November – Y1 Inspire Workshop – 09:00 – 10:00

19th November – Y1 Trip – St John's Museum

20th November – Y6 Trip – Beaumanor Hall

21st November – PTA Event: Flip & Dippy

Sbooktacular Day

On Friday 24th October, our children will be participating in 'Sbooktacular Day' which consists of children learning about age appropriate texts which may have a spooky element in them. An example of this is a text such as 'funnybones' in KS1.

Children are more than welcome to come dressed into school in something spooky to celebrate. If your child does not want to dress up, no problem, please allow them to attend school in school uniform. It is a joyous day to celebrate reading for pleasure.

Attendance

Attendance matters. Every day out of school is a day of missed opportunity to take another step forward in building the skills and knowledge needed for a bright future.

We firmly believe that good attendance is essential to a child's success – both academically and socially. Regular school attendance helps children build positive routines, strengthen relationships and achieve their full potential. Please ensure that your child attends everyday.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
- First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
- Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.