



# Oakwood Academy Newsletter

"Living, learning and thriving"

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## 24th June 2022

### Goblin Go Karts - by Olivia C

On Wednesday 15th June, some of the Year 6's went to Mullion to take part in a Go Kart Competition. We were very lucky because it was such a beautiful day and a hot one. We took part in drag races, slalom races and a stadium race. Everyone tried really hard and did really well. In all the races, our teams were amazing.

There were also some stalls with STEM activities for us to do that were fun and educational and a stall selling bacon burgers, cheese burgers and cheesy chips. Near the end of the afternoon, a fire truck squirted out loads of water into the air and some of us ran under it to cool off.

Overall, it was a really fun day and everyone enjoyed it.



**Reminder - Monday 27th June - the school is closed!**

### Summer Fayre - Friday 8th July

In preparation for the Summer Fayre, pupils are able to wear Mufti to school for donations to the stalls as follows:

Friday 1st July - donation of Bottles (non-alcoholic)

Friday 8th July - donation of Cakes/Buns

(Family donations are welcome)



## Sports Week

Last week was incredibly active here at Oakwood with all things 'sporty'! From Brickfields to Sports Day and even a run on Plymouth Hoe, the children were extremely busy.

At Brickfields on Wednesday, a group of 19 children proudly represented the school when they competed in an athletics event against other intermediate schools in the city. Cara (Year 3) won Gold for Oakwood in the 60 metre sprint and the Year 3/4 girls' Relay Team made it all the way to the final!



Sports Day this year saw us all coming together as an Oakwood community once again, to enjoy the sunshine and the wonderful 'round-robin' events of the day. From tug-of-war to coconut shy the children had an excellent day and very much enjoyed taking part in the activities. Miss Kelly was also helped by some fabulous Year 6 children who went above and beyond to support the running of the day.



To finish off an almighty week of sports, 14 children attended Plymouth Hoe on Sunday afternoon to complete the final mile of their School's Challenge. The children that took part have been working hard over the past few weeks to run a mile every Monday and have now ran the equivalent of a half marathon – amazing!

Miss Kelly, as well as all other staff involved in the events of last week, is extremely proud of the dedication and enthusiasm shown by the children. The school was represented beautifully and displayed the epitome of sportsmanship and teamwork – well done Oakwood!

Miss Kelly  
PE Coordinator





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TWITCH

Twitch is a livestreaming service which tends to focus on gaming. Users can publicly broadcast their gameplay and commentary online for other users to watch. It's a community-driven platform where viewers can support their favourite streamers' channels through PayPal donations, 'Bits' and more. Each streamer or group creates their own community for fans to interact with each other. Twitch has more than 15 million daily active users and includes non-gaming topics such as music, cooking and art. Anyone can create a channel to livestream or watch videos.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### UNCENSORED STREAMS

Uncensored content obviously carries a greater risk of inappropriate language and behaviour (streamers can, however, list their broadcast as unsuitable for children). Twitch has strict rules for streamers to follow, but requires viewers to report any streams which breach these guidelines. Each livestream is accompanied by a text chat which is the streamer's responsibility to moderate.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most people are already aware that some video games feature adult content such as violence, sexual content, profanity and so on. Twitch does prevent certain games from being streamed on the platform, but most are still allowed. It is relatively simple, then, for a child to find livestreams of games that aren't suitable for them – including horror games.

### HIDDEN COSTS

Twitch is free to use because it's supported by advertisers. Removing the ads requires a subscription to Twitch Turbo – or the Twitch Prime package (free for anyone with an Amazon Prime account), which blocks the ads and offers additional goodies such as bonus games. Streamers earn most of their income by asking users for direct donations or gifts of the virtual currency Twitch Bits.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

As well as streamers talking directly to their audience, Twitch enables viewers to use text chat to speak to the person they're watching. It's a social platform which also allows viewers to interact with each other via text while they are watching livestreams – including exchanging private messages. This raises the possibility of a child being approached and messaged online by total strangers.

### WEBCAM SHARING

It's common for streamers to use their live webcam footage. This allows better interaction with their viewers, but also adds risk: the stream might include sponsored content or product placement that isn't child friendly. Using a webcam in livestreams increases the chance of malicious viewers finding out where the streamer lives and provides bullies with visual reactions to their hurtful behaviour.

### PRIVATE CHAT ROOMS

Twitch encourages streamers to create their own communities, which extend beyond its platform. Many create a public Discord group, for example, for viewers to join and communicate with each other. Discord is a completely separate entity to Twitch and offers a higher risk of predators, grooming and cyberbullying if your child gets involved in the voice or video chat with strangers.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### EXPLORE IT YOURSELF

Twitch doesn't have any parental controls, but it is possible to block troublesome users if it becomes necessary. The best solution is to watch some Twitch channels by yourself or with your child to find some that are suitable. Watching some streams by yourself is also a good route to understanding the sort of content that your child would be consuming regularly on Twitch.

### LEARN HOW TO BLOCK

'Security and Privacy' in Twitch's settings lets your child block messages from specific users. Teaching your child how this works will help them avoid online abuse. If they livestream, knowing how to block people in the chat also helps to prevent cyberbullying or harassment. Evading online interaction is impossible, of course, so talk to them in advance about boundaries and safe online communication.

### WATCH WHAT THEY WATCH

Twitch does have a lot of child-friendly content; some streamers use a 'family friendly' tag to highlight material that's suitable for children. However, anyone can use this tag – including users who (accidentally or otherwise) stream games with less appropriate adult themes. The best way to counter this is to view different streams and follow suitable channels for your child to watch.

### LIMIT PAYMENT OPTIONS

Reduce the chance of accidental purchases by ensuring your bank card isn't saved on Twitch or the Amazon account that Twitch Prime could be linked to. Restricting access to your PayPal account is also wise if your child watches Twitch on the device you use to make purchases. Explain to your child that they don't need to subscribe to channels to watch them and that donating or gifting 'Bits' is optional.

## Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.05.2022

## Celebration Shout Out!

Please feel free to email the school with any pupil achievements or special efforts you'd like celebrated! We would love to share them with everyone through our newsletter.



## Reading Parent Information Sessions

We were thrilled by the number of parents who attended the reading sessions with their children last term. It was wonderful to see so many children and parents enjoying many favourite and well-loved stories together. To continue to help support with reading, we are holding some parent information sessions on reading so that we can share some updates, resources and give parents an opportunity to ask any questions about the ways they can support their child with reading.



These reading sessions will be organised into separate afternoons to target each key stage and help you choose the one most suited to the age of your child. The remaining sessions are:

**KS1 Reading Session – Thursday 30th June at 2.45pm led by Miss Crocker**

**KS2 Reading Session – Thursday 7th July at 2.45 pm led by Miss Crocker**



All reading sessions will be held in the school hall, please enter by the community door, this will be opened at 2.40pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Renaissance Reading Program

When children have finished reading a book they take a Ren Reading quiz to answer questions on the book that they have completed. When quizzes are passed, the number of words in the books are totalled together and a weekly word count for each class is accumulated.

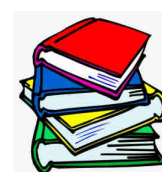
Each week we will look at the word count totals for each class. The winners of Key Stage 1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2 will get a few minutes extra play at breaktime! Our winners this week are:-

**KS1 - Thames Class - 13,617 words**

**Lower KS2 - Trent Class - 137,951 words**

**Upper KS2 - Tyne Class - 182,766 words**

Well done to those classes!





## Pre-Loved Uniform Shop

We all know how quickly children outgrow school uniform and that often families have items that have hardly been worn but no longer fit. It seems a real shame that these clothes either go to a recycle bank or simply get thrown away.



We have introduced a Pre-Loved school uniform system in our school. Donated items are available to families throughout the year and will, we hope, make sure that children get the best wear out of school uniform. If you have items of school uniform that your child has grown out of but are still in good condition, please send them into school clean. Coats and shoes will also be welcomed.

The uniform is situated in the school's external foyer. Thank you to those that have donated already!



St. Boniface's Catholic College

## Year 5 Open Morning



Thursday 7th July 2022 9am to 10.30am

### Pre-Booking Essential

To reserve your place please email:

[mailbox@stbonifaces.com](mailto:mailbox@stbonifaces.com) or call 01752 779051



St Boniface's Catholic College

**Honour, Integrity, Service**

## School Uniform Reminder

Please send your child in the correct uniform as outlined in the School Uniform Policy on our website. Children should wear grey trousers, skirt/pinafore or shorts **not leggings**.

Please remember that flat, sensible, safe, black shoes (no trainers) should be worn.

*Hairclips and headbands should be plain and should not cause obstruction to anyone's learning, or cause distraction to any learner.*

Children need to have their PE kit in school, as they will change in school for PE sessions. Please ensure that PE kit is as outlined in the uniform policy.

## Jewellery

Children may not wear jewellery to school at any time (except for small studs, which **must be 5mm in diameter or smaller**, and watches) other than for religious or cultural reasons. Children in **Foundation** may **not** wear earrings in view of the physical aspects of their learning.

*"For health and safety reasons, all pupils are required to remove earrings during PE lessons."*

## Reminder - Alternative Pick-Ups

If you know that your child/ren will need to be collected by someone other than the usual parent/carer please contact the school office to notify us, if possible before 2:45pm. Thank you!



### StreetSafe

Want to improve the safety of our local area? If you feel unsafe in any area in Plymouth please use this website to report it:

[StreetSafe | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](http://www.police.uk)

StreetSafe is a pilot service for anyone to anonymously tell us about public places where you have felt or feel unsafe, because of environmental issues, e.g. street lighting, abandoned buildings or vandalism and/or because of some behaviours, e.g. being followed or verbally abused.

## Scooters & bikes

Please ensure that all bikes and scooters are **locked** when you leave them in the bike/scooter shelter near the main gate.  
Thank you.



## Uniform Store Plymouth

The Uniform Store Plymouth is a free service for families to kit out their children for school. Through donations of good quality school uniform, we give these items out to those in need, free of charge – no referral is needed. We operate a pop-up shop in Plymouth City Centre throughout the school summer holidays, and a 'Click & Collect' service that operates throughout the year, where parents/carers can order the uniform that they need for their children and collect it from our collection point.



To place an order for school uniform, families can visit our website:

[www.uniformstoreplymouth.co.uk](http://www.uniformstoreplymouth.co.uk) and select the items required. Our collection point is at Redeemer Church, St Barnabas Terrace, Plymouth PL1 5NN and is open every Wednesday and Friday from 10am to 12pm. For more information please email us: [hello@uniformstoreplymouth.co.uk](mailto:hello@uniformstoreplymouth.co.uk)

## Current Covid-19 Guidance

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting. Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

### Children and young people aged 18 years and under who have a positive test result

It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.



### Attendance For Week Ending 17th Jun 2022

The expected average percentage attendance for a child is 96%.

**Well done to Lynher KS1 and  
Clyde KS2 for the highest attendance!**



Tamar	88.6%
<b>Lynher</b>	<b>97.2%</b>
Fowey	93.9%
Avon	89.8%
Thames	91.7%

Severn	91.4%
Medway	93.7%
Trent	93.9%
Lagan	96.1%
<b>Clyde</b>	<b>99.2%</b>
Mersey	84.4%
Tyne	94.9%
Wye	93.5%

## Diary Dates

(Dates maybe subject to change)



### 2021/2022 TERM DATES

**Mon 27th Jun**

**Thu 30th Jun**

**Fri 1st July**

**Thu 7th July**

**Fri 8th July**

**Fri 8th July**

**Fri 15th July**

**Thur 21st July**

**Tue 26th July**

**Wed 27th July**

**Non-Pupil Day (Jubilee day given)**

KS1 Reading Session 2:45pm (via Community Doors)

Year 5 Clyde & Mersey Learning Assembly 2:40pm

KS2 Reading Session 2:45pm (via Community Doors)

Year 2 Avon & Thames Learning Assembly 2:40pm

**Summer Fayre**

Fdn Tamar & Lynher Learning Assembly 2:40pm

Year 6 Tyne & Wye Leaver's Assembly 2pm

School finishes at 3.15 pm

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS START**

### 2022/2023 TERM DATES

**Wed 7th Sep 2022**

**Fri 21st Oct**

**Mon 24th - Fri 28th Oct**

**Fri 25th Nov**

**Fri 16th Dec**

**Mon 19th Dec 2022 - Mon 2nd Jan 2023**

**Tue 3rd Jan 2023**

**Mon 13th Feb - Fri 17th Feb**

**Mon 20th Feb**

**Fri 31st Mar**

**Mon 3rd April - Fri 14th April**

**Mon 17th April**

**Mon 1st May**

**Mon 29th May - Fri 2nd Jun**

**Fri 23rd Jun**

**Tue 25th Jul**

**Wed 26th Jul**

School starts 8:45am

School finishes 3:15pm

**HALF TERM**

**Non-Pupil Day**

School finishes 3:15pm

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**

School starts 8:45am

**HALF TERM**

**Non-Pupil Day**

School finishes 3:15pm

**EASTER HOLIDAYS**

School starts 8:45am

**Bank Holiday**

**HALF TERM**

**Non-Pupil Day**

School finishes 3:15pm

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS START**

#### **Contacting School**

If you are contacting school to report an absence or you have a query, please leave a message on the answer phone with your child's name and class (& reason for absence, if applicable) and we will log/get back to you. Alternatively, email [oakwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:oakwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk) Thank you.

#### **Newsletter Ideas**



If you have any ideas about information or updates that you would find useful additions to our newsletter, please email your suggestions to:

[oakwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:oakwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk)



*Have a lovely weekend!*  
*Jackie Sparrow - Head of School*