OAKWOOD PRIMARY ACADEMY

FAMILY NEWSLETTER | Friday 9th October | Issue 05

THIS WEEK AT OAKWOOD

Celebrating World Sight Day!

We were delighted to welcome Dr Zahidi, Lecturer in Optometry, and six students to our school for a series of fun and interactive sessions all about eye health. Through exciting activities, games and practical advice, the children learnt about the importance of looking after their eyesight, having regular eye examinations and developing healthy everyday habits to protect their vision. Children across the school thoroughly enjoyed their sessions and had a fantastic time learning how to keep their eyes healthy! A huge thank you to Dr Zahidi and the students for giving up their time, sharing their expertise and making learning about eye health so engaging and enjoyable.







A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

What another wonderful week we have had in school! It has been lovely to see the children so engaged in their learning, showing enthusiasm, curiosity and a real determination to do their very best. There has been so much fantastic learning taking place across the school, and I am incredibly proud of the effort and positive attitudes our children continue to demonstrate.

We have also welcomed visitors into school this week, who have been full of praise for our children. They have commented on their wonderful manners, politeness and the respect they show towards others. It is always lovely to hear such positive feedback, and it makes us incredibly proud. These are qualities we value highly as a school, and it is wonderful to see our children demonstrating them so naturally.

Exciting Developments to Our Lunchtimes!

We are really excited to share the next phase of improvements to our lunchtime provision, beginning on **Monday 12th October**.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 14th October
School photographs
8am families and siblings
School Day – individual photos

Friday 23rd October – last day of Term 1
PTFA Halloween Disco (Reception - Year 2 3:30-4:30 and Y3-6 4:45-5:45)

Wednesday 4th November

SEND ILP Parent Meetings

Friday 6th November
Flu Vaccinations

We want lunchtimes to be a happy, active and enjoyable part of every child's school day, with plenty of opportunities to play, explore, be creative and spend time with friends.

As part of this next phase, we will be introducing a wider range of activities across our playgrounds, including construction and big builds, small-world play, board games, music and dancing, traditional playground games, sports, bikes and trikes, and much more! We will also be introducing organised football sessions for different year groups, with a special Friday football session as a reward for our Class of the Week.

Our wonderful lunchtime team will be supporting children to try new activities, develop friendships and enjoy positive, inclusive play.

Can You Help Us Develop Our Play Provision?

We are looking to introduce more *loose parts play*, giving children opportunities to use their imagination, creativity and problem-solving skills to build, design and invent their own games.

We would be incredibly grateful for donations of:

- Old car tyres
- Toy trains and train tracks
- Plastic guttering
- Wooden pallets
- Dressing-up costumes and accessories
- Plastic crates

If you have any of these items at home that you no longer need, please consider donating them to school. All donations will be checked for suitability and safety before being used. Your support really does make a difference!

School Photographs

Our professional school photographer will be visiting on Wednesday 14th October to take the children's photographs. If you would like family or sibling photographs, these will take place between 8:00am and 8:40am in the school hall. Please arrive via the community entrance during this time. Individual photographs of all children will be taken during the normal school day.

After-School Clubs

A little reminder that there will be no after-school clubs during the final two weeks of this half term. Next week, we will be sharing our exciting programme of clubs for Autumn 2, so please keep an eye out for further information.

PTFA Halloween Fun!

Thursday 12th November

Smeaton and Firestone 'Learn With Us' parent sessions (8:40-10am)

Monday 16th November

Interhouse mini cake decorating (entries to the Community Entrance)

Thursday 19th November

Saltram and Mount Batten 'Learn With Us' parent sessions (8:40-10am)

Friday 20th November

Reception/Year 1 – school trip to 'The Box'

Thursday 26th November

Burrator and Mayflower 'Learn With Us' parent sessions (8:40-10am)

Thursday 3rd December

Dockyard and Raleigh 'Learn With Us' parent sessions (8:40-10am)

Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd December

Parents Evenings

Friday 18th December – last day of Term 2

PTFA Christmas Event from 3:30pm onwards

ATTENDANCE

95.4%

Whole-school attendance this week

TOP CLASS

Firestone— 99.4%

We are also looking forward to some spooky fun with our PTFA Halloween Disco and Halloween Competition! These are always lovely opportunities for our school community to come together, and we hope lots of children will get involved.

A huge thank you to our fantastic PTFA for their continued hard work in organising these events and creating such special experiences for our children. We really appreciate everything they do to support our school.

As always, thank you to all our families for your continued support. It is such a privilege to see our children learning, growing in confidence and making the most of the opportunities available to them. **Wishing you all a lovely weekend!**

CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN

SHOUT-OUT

A huge shout-out to Year 3!



This week, we are celebrating our fantastic Year 3 children for their brilliant determination, positive attitudes and excellent behaviour during their brass lessons!



The children have been working hard to develop their understanding of musical notation and learning to play different notes. Some children were even given the exciting opportunity to try a new instrument, moving from the cornet to the baritone.

We are so proud of the enthusiasm, perseverance and respect Year 3 have shown during their music sessions.

Well done, Year 3 – keep up the fantastic work!

Early Birds & Busy Bees – Wraparound Care

Don't forget that our wraparound care is available to support families before and after the school day. Early Birds runs from 7:00–8:40am, giving children a welcoming and positive start to their school day. Busy Bees runs from 3:30–5:30pm, providing after-school care in a safe and familiar environment.

School Lunches

Please order your child's school lunch through ParentPay by midnight the night before.

Free School Meals – Please Check!

Eligibility has changed, so all families are encouraged to check, even if you have applied before. This is important even for Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils who already receive Universal Infant Free School Meals. Registration can unlock additional Pupil Premium funding and reduce some costs for eligible families.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Pendeen Crescent, Southway, Plymouth, PL6 6QS • 01752 775478
oakwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk • www.oakwood-primary.co.uk

Oakwood Primary Academy PTFA

HALLOWEEN COMPETITION

Get creative and make something spooky!

Create anything Halloween-inspired:

- Decorations
- Spooky scenes
- Crafts and models
- Or any other Halloween creation!

Bring your entry into school by
Tuesday 20th October

Please ensure all entries are clearly labelled with your child's name and class.

One winner from each class will be chosen by the teachers.

Winners will be announced and prizes awarded in assembly on
Thursday 22nd October

Good luck – we can't wait to see your fang-tastic creations!





Wedofootball
October Half Term Holiday Club

Oakwood Primary Academy

Monday 26th October
Tuesday 27th October
Wednesday 28th October
Thursday 29th October
Friday 30th October

Ages 5 to 12

10.00am till 15.00pm

Just £15 per child per day

Maximum fun, with no pressure and a safe learning environment.

Can all players please bring a packed lunch and drink, moulded studs and trainers. If you require any further information, contact: Joe Geraghty on 07795804127 or email wedofootball1@gmail.com.

Drop off from 09.15am no extra cost





FA Affiliated and Full Liability Insurance

School Terms and Holidays
2026/2027 Academic Year

DISCOVERY

September 2026						
M			7	14	21	28
T		1	8	15	22	29
W		2	9	16	23	30
Th		3	10	17	24	
F		4	11	18	25	
Sa		5	12	19	26	
Su		6	13	20	27	

October 2026						
Mo			5	12	19	26
Tu			6	13	20	27
We			7	14	21	28
Th		1	8	15	22	29
Fr		2	9	16	23	30
Sa		3	10	17	24	31
Su		4	11	18	25	

November 2026						
M		2	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	
W		4	11	18	25	
Th		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	

December 2026						
M			7	14	21	28
Tu		1	8	15	22	29
W		2	9	16	23	30
Th		3	10	17	24	31
F		4	11	18	25	
Sa		5	12	19	26	
Su		6	13	20	27	

January 2027						
M			4	11	18	25
Tu			5	12	19	26
W			6	13	20	27
Th			7	14	21	28
F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su		3	10	17	24	31

February 2027						
M			1	8	15	22
Tu			2	9	16	23
W			3	10	17	24
Th			4	11	18	25
F			5	12	19	26
Sa			6	13	20	27
Su			7	14	21	28

March 2027						
M		1	8	15	22	29
Tu		2	9	16	23	30
W		3	10	17	24	31
Th		4	11	18	25	
F		5	12	19	26	
Sa		6	13	20	27	
Su		7	14	21	28	

April 2027						
M			5	12	19	26
Tu			6	13	20	27
W			7	14	21	28
Th		1	8	15	22	29
F		2	9	16	23	30
Sa		3	10	17	24	
Su		4	11	18	25	

May 2027						
M		3	10	17	24	31
Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		5	12	19	26	
Th		6	13	20	27	
F		7	14	21	28	
Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su	2	9	16	23	30	

June 2027						
M			7	14	21	28
Tu		1	8	15	22	29
W		2	9	16	23	30
Th		3	10	17	24	
F		4	11	18	25	
Sa		5	12	19	26	
Su		6	13	20	27	

July 2027						
M			5	12	19	26
Tu			6	13	20	27
W			7	14	21	28
Th		1	8	15	22	29
F		2	9	16	23	30
Sa		3	10	17	24	31
Su		4	11	18	25	

August 2027						
M		2	9	16	23	30
Tu		3	10	17	24	31
W		4	11	18	25	
Th		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
Sa		7	14	21	28	
Su	1	8	15	22	29	

Term time	School holiday	Bank holiday	INSET day

Term dates							
Term 1	03 September	-	23 October	37 days	**Term 2**	02 November	-	18 December	35 days
Term 3	04 January	-	12 February	30 days	**Term 4**	22 February	-	25 March	24 days
Term 5	12 April	-	28 May	34 days	**Term 6**	07 June	-	23 July	35 days
Total									195 days

Bank and public holidays			
Christmas Day	25 December	**Easter Monday**	29 March
Boxing Day	28 December	**May Day**	03 May
New Year's Day	01 January	**Spring**	31 May
Good Friday	26 March	**Summer**	30 August