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Head of School: Mr P Lane

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back everyone to the new school year! I hope that you and the children have enjoyed a lovely summer holiday as we come together once again for what promises to be an exciting learning journey ahead for 2025-26. I would like to extend a special welcome to all our new families and children starting in Reception today. You are now officially part of the *Oak Meadow Family* as we look forward to seeing your child progress and develop during their time with us. As last year's Year 6 reminded us in their leavers' assembly in July, time passes so quickly at our school with an extraordinary number of smiles, fun and laughter along the way. With this sentiment in mind, I wish good luck to all our leavers as they start Year 7 this week at their respective secondary schools knowing they are well prepared for their next step.

All staff returned at the start of this week and are looking forward to the children's return with anticipation of new classes and building the exemplary relationships we pride ourselves upon at our school. I know that the children will have been counting down to seeing their new teachers and staff as they move Year groups as September signals the beginning of new chapters and further innovations at Oak Meadow.

Firstly, this is the year of '*Full STEAM ahead*' and your children will talk to you in the days and weeks ahead about exciting plans we have to enrich their learning experience even further. Oak Meadow never stands still and reflecting upon our receipt of the Primary School of the Year award in July, I conclude that so much of our success is owing to how we continually break the mould with our originality and pioneering projects that nurture our children's personal development with experiences that demonstrate how they are the changemakers for the future. I want **every child** at our school to feel safe, valued and to know the power they possess to make a difference.

Full STEAM ahead is a response to the children's voice from our summer pupil survey for additional incentives they would like to receive linked to their learning and progress. You will see an image to represent the theme in their school diary this week and your child's aim is to collect stickers each half-term to complete the picture over the course of this school year. Your partnership with us to complete the journey is vital as children's attendance will need to be 96% (and above) for each half-term, homework must be regularly completed, learning targets met and over the course of the school year, we would like all children to access at least one of our extra-curricular clubs.

In addition to *Full STEAM ahead*, we have taken on board children's requests to make a difference for those in need across our community. My pride for the selfless, caring, empathetic nature of our children knows no limits and meeting with them in the summer term to gain opinion on how they would like to drive forward education for the future at Oak Meadow illustrated their compassionate desire. Miss. Billingsley and I have co-ordinated our diaries for the year ahead to meet termly with representatives from pupil leadership groups as part of our newly formed **Oak Meadow Parliament** which will in turn lead us to shaping new innovations for our school as well as the formulation of charity projects to support those in need.

From tiny acorns **mighty oaks** grow...





The new school year sees us welcome Mrs. Terry to our team as Attendance and Pastoral officer as well as a brand-new kitchen team provided by a company named Miquill. My unwavering desire is for children to receive the highest quality when it comes to school dinners each day and we look forward to working with the Miquill staff. You will have received the menu choices for the 3-week dinner cycle, and I encourage feedback on the food in the weeks ahead.

Mrs. Terry will start her position this week collaborating with families to ensure the attendance agreement between home and school is successful as we aim for **every child at Oak Meadow to attain a minimum attendance rate of at least 96% over the school year**. Attendance and punctuality remain as a key focus for the government with schools challenged accordingly. I understand the pressures families may feel with such things as holiday costs, but I must stress the importance for your child to be here with us every day possible. I want all children to benefit from the crucial learning experiences that occur daily and never miss the fun enrichment and additionality we have planned!

Below, I have detailed several **school site updates** from the summer holidays that I would like you to take note of:

Access to the Oak Meadow car park via the main gate

A new intercom system has been installed to support the safeguarding of children, ensuring that anyone who accesses the site in a vehicle must contact the office with a camera now in operation to check individuals before entry. The old 'code' entry system has now been removed, and a small 'Pip' device is now needed to raise the barrier. Please can I ask that blue badge holders contact the school office this week so that a record can be kept for families who need to access the site and remind all other parents/ carers that the car park should not be accessed unless you have made the office aware of your blue badge and access has been authorised accordingly. This will also help with safety at drop-off/ collection times with children and families walking around the site.

Flood damage to the main office area

Unfortunately, whilst the site was closed during the holiday, a flood occurred originating from the visitor toilets in the main office area. The damage was significant and, despite the clean up now being completed, new flooring, furniture and decoration will be needed in the weeks ahead. Thanks to swift actions following the flood's detection, classrooms, corridors and learning environments are unaffected so children will be able to access school as normal through their class/ Year group doors. The main office can still be accessed but to support Health and Safety, we will not be allowing anyone (child or adult) to access/ exit the school through this area without an Oak Meadow escort. I would ask for your patience and understanding in the weeks ahead for when work is taking place in the affected areas and we will notify you if there are any updates that will impact upon the school day's arrangements.

New play equipment on the EYFS/ KS1 trim trail area

Following your generous donations at events such as the Summer Fair and the securing of additional funding, I am delighted to share the news that new play apparatus is in the final stages of installation this week as part of the rejuvenation of the EYFS/ KS1 trim trail area. This equipment has been carefully selected to support the progress of the youngest children at our school to aid their development. I am sure they will love using it under the supervision of Oak Meadow staff.

From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow...





We will be showing the children how to use the equipment safely upon completion of the work (which we have been told will be by the start of next week by the contracting company). **Please can I remind you, that all play equipment on site should only be used by the children when under the supervision of Oak Meadow staff and should not be accessed outside of the school day.** This is always with safety in mind but will also ensure the longevity of equipment for years ahead for all children to enjoy. The new play equipment is tailored for our youngest children with their height, weight and physicality accounted for its safe use.

Please find below a list of important days and dates we have already mapped out for the new school year. I know how important it is to plan as a family with the day-to-day commitments we all have and the challenges for working parents. Please note that letters will be sent out pertaining to certain events closer to the times and we will always let you know if there are any changes to dates or times.

This week you will receive the annual permissions to complete for your child, and we host our 'Meet the Teacher' event after school this coming Monday as one of our initial school events. This will see you return to your child's classroom with them upon collection at 3:15pm where their new teachers will welcome you and share information relating to the Year group. This provides a chance for you to ask any questions you may have about the year ahead. If you are unable to make the event, or have siblings in other Year groups, staff are always willing to talk at other times – please just let them know. All Year group's presentations will also be accessible on the school website.

Finally, a plea that if any of you, or a family member, can volunteer to help with our breakfast offer this year in making toast for the children, arriving with your child 10 minutes before the start of the school day, please just let the school office know. Likewise, if you would like to become part of the Friends of Oak Meadow, please contact the school office again or speak directly with Mrs Worrallo or Mr. Turner.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership with us that contributes to the exemplary success of our school. I apologise for the length of this letter(!) but I wanted to make sure you receive communication on all information and updates to make an informed start to the new school year. As always, if you have any questions or queries, please feel free to speak with any of the Oak Meadow team.

Take care everyone and I look forward to seeing the children and you this week.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Lane (Head of School).

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Calendar of Events 2025 – 2026

(Please note that planned dates/ times for events may change. Additional letters will be sent out where appropriate for workshops and specific Year group events)

Autumn Term 2025

Week	Date	Calendar Events
1	Mon 1 st Sept	1 st & 2 nd INSET Days (School Closed for all Children) 3 rd Start of the Autumn Term for all children 5 th House Captain votes in Year groups 5 th Pupil leadership groups across the curriculum initiated
2	Mon 8 th Sept	8 th Mr Benton's extra-curricular sports clubs begin 8 th Whole School Baseline Assessment Week 8 th Assembly – announcement of House Captains 8 th Meet the Teacher 9 th NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe Assembly 12 th Roald Dahl Day 12 th Year 4 Swimming begins 12 th Oak Meadow Parliament meeting with Mr. Lane and Miss. Billingsley
3	Mon 15 th Sept	15 th Teaching staff extra-curricular clubs begin 18 th National Fitness Day
4	Mon 22 nd Sept	24 th Write with us Parent/ Carer workshops - Years 5&6 (8:50-10:00am) 26 th European Day of Languages
5	Mon 29 th Sept	29 th Harvest donations welcome on the hall stage from today 1 st Black History month begins 1 st Write with us Parent/ Carer workshops - Years 3&4 (8:50-10:00am) 2 nd National Poetry Day 2 nd Local Governing Board Meeting 3 rd Year 4 Harvest assembly for parents/ carers (8:50am)
6	Mon 6 th Oct	6 th School libraries week 8 th Read with us Parent/ Carer workshops - Years 1&2 (8:50-10:00am) 10 th 'Hello Yellow' – World Mental Health Day – Children to wear yellow
7	Mon 13 th Oct	14 th Flu vaccinations delivered by the School Nurse Team 15 th Harvest Discos for Reception to Year 4. Rec: 1:30-2:00pm, Y1 & 2: 2:00-3:00pm, Y3 & 4: 3:15-4:15pm 16 th Restart a Heart day 17 th Show Racism the red card – Children to wear red
8	Mon 20 th Oct	20 th Diwali Day – all children invited to wear bright colours for the day 22 nd Parent/ Carer Consultations (3:30 – 7:00pm) 23 rd Parent/ Carer Consultations (3:30 – 5:30pm) 24 th End of the Autumn 1 half-term
Half Term		
9	Mon 3 rd Nov	3 rd INSET day (School Closed for all Children) 4 th Children return for Autumn 2 4 th Non-Fiction November begins
10	Mon 10 th Nov	10 th -14 th Anti-Bullying week 10 th Wear odd socks day 11 th Year 6 Remembrance assembly for parents/ carers (8:50am) 11 th Children's individual photographs 14 th Children in Need – children may wear Pudsey related accessories



		14 th Reception Reading Come and Play (2:15pm – Children in Ash and Rowan Houses)
11	Mon 17 th Nov	17 th & 18 th Year 6 NCMP checks with the School Nurse Team 21 st Non-uniform day for the Christmas Fair – <i>Bring a toiletry</i> 21 st Reception Reading Come and Play (2:15pm – Children in Willow and Yew Houses)
12	Mon 24 th Nov	24 th - 28 th Whole school assessment week 28 th Children's Charity Day 30 th St. Andrew's Day
13	Mon 1 st Dec	1 st Reception Christmas Production (am and pm slots will be provisioned – exact times to be confirmed closer to the event) 2 nd RB Grandparents' lunches 3 rd 1TW Grandparents' lunches 4 th RE Grandparents' lunches 4 th Year 5 and 6 Christmas Disco (3:15-4:15pm) 5 th 1B Grandparents' lunches 5 th Non-uniform day for the Christmas Fair – <i>Bring a bottle</i>
14	Mon 8 th Dec	8 th Year 1 Christmas Production (am and pm slots will be provisioned – exact times to be confirmed closer to the event) 8 th Christmas enterprise week – children making products for the Christmas Fair 8 th Christmas Cake challenge week – entries to be brought in on Friday 12 th (the day of the Christmas Fair) 12 th Christmas Jumper Day 12 th Santa Visits 12 th Christmas Fair (3:30pm)
15	Mon 15 th Dec	16 th Christingle activities 17 th Christmas Jumpers 'welcome to be worn again' 17 th Christmas lunch 17 th Christmas Parties afternoon 18 th KS2 Christmas Carol concert to Y2 & Y4 parents/ carers (8:50am) 18 th KS2 Christmas Carol concert to Y3 & Y5 parents/ carers (2:15pm) 19 th KS2 Christmas Carol concert to Y6 parents/ carers and community guests (8:50am) 19 th End of Autumn term - 1pm home time
Christmas Holiday		

Spring Term 2026

Week	Date	Calendar Events
1	Mon 5 th Jan	5 th INSET day (School Closed for all Children) 6 th Children Return for Spring Term 1
2	Mon 12 th Jan	14 th & 15 th Reception NCMP checks with the School Nurse Team 16 th Oak Meadow Parliament meeting with Mr. Lane and Miss. Billingsley
3	Mon 19 th Jan	19 th Martin Luther King Day 23 rd Reception Parents/ Carers Number Workshop (2:15pm – Children in Ash and Rowan Houses)
4	Mon 26 th Jan	29 th Chinese New Year 29 th Local Governing Board Meeting 30 th Reception Parents/ Carers Number Workshop (2:15pm – Children in Willow and Yew Houses)



5	Mon 2 nd Feb	2 nd – 6 th National Storytelling week 6 th Year 5 Assembly for parents/ carers (8:50am) 6 th National Numbers Day
6	Mon 9 th Feb	9 th – 13 th Children's Mental Health and Safer Internet Week 9 th Maths 'Numbers Day' Parent/ Carer workshops – Years 1, 2&3 (8:50-10:00am) 10 th Maths 'Numbers Day' Parent/ Carer workshops – Years 4, 5&6 (8:50-10:00am) 10 th Safer Internet Day 12 th Year 4 parent/ carer Condoval residential meeting (3:30pm)
Half Term		
7	Mon 23 rd Feb	23 rd INSET day (School Closed for all Children) 24 th Children Return for Spring Term 2 1 st St. David's Day
8	Mon 2 nd Mar	5 th World Book Day – Children dress as their favourite book character 5 th Year 3 Assembly for parents/ carers (8:50am)
9	Mon 9 th Mar	9 th – 13 th Science Week 9 th - 13 th Whole school assessment week 11 th – 13 th Y4 Condoval Hall Residential visit 13 th Reception Mother's Day afternoon tea (2:15pm)
10	Mon 16 th Mar	17 th St. Patrick's Day 18 th Parent/ Carer Consultations (3:30 – 7:00pm) 19 th Parent/ Carer Consultations (3:30 – 5:30pm) 19 th & 20 th Celebration of Eid 20 th Comic Relief 20 th World Poetry Day
11	Mon 23 rd Mar	26 th Year 2 parent/ carer Kingswood residential meeting (3:30pm) 27 th The Easter Story Day 27 th End of Spring Term
Easter Holiday		

Summer Term 2026

Week	Date	Calendar Events
1	Mon 13 th Apr	13 th Children Return for Summer Term 1 13 th – 17 th FULL STEAM AHEAD week
2	Mon 20 th Apr	22 nd Earth Day 23 rd St. George's Day 24 th Forest School Reception Parent/ Carer Workshops (Ash – 9:15 to 10:30am, Rowan – 1:45 to 3:00pm)
3	Mon 27 th Apr	27 th – 28 th Y2 Kingswood residential 1 st Forest School Reception Parent/ Carer Workshops (Willow – 9:15 to 10:30am, Yew – 1:45 to 3:00pm)
4	Mon 4 th May	4 th Bank Holiday - School Closed 5 th World Asthma Day 7 th Local Elections – School Closed
5	Mon 11 th May	11 th - 14 th Year 6 End of Key Stage 2 SATs
6	Mon 18 th May	18 th Reception 2026-27 Transition event 1 21 st Children's class/ group photographs 21 st Year 6 parent/ carer Laches Wood residential meeting (3:30pm)
Half Term		



7	Mon 1 st June	1 st Children Return for Summer Term 2 2 nd Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Checks begin (over 2 weeks) 5 th World Environment Day 5 th Reception Parent/ Carers Vocabulary Come and Play – Ash and Rowan House Children 2:15pm
8	Mon 8 th June	8 th Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks (this week only) 8 th Reception 2026-27 Transition event 2 11 th Local Governing Board Meeting 12 th Empathy Day 12 th Reception Parent/ Carers Vocabulary Come and Play – Willow and Yew House Children 2:15pm
9	Mon 15 th June	17 th – 19 th Year 6 Laches Wood Residential Visit 16 th Year 6 Non-uniform day for the Summer Fair – <i>Bring a toiletry</i> 19 th World Music Day 19 th Non-uniform day for the Summer Fair – <i>Bring a toiletry</i>
10	Mon 22 nd June	22 nd – 26 th Whole School Assessment Week 22 nd Reception 2026-27 Transition event 3 26 th Year 2 Assembly for parents/ carers (8:50am)
11	Mon 29 th June	29 th – 3 rd Health Week 2 nd Sports Day (KS2: 9:15 to 11:30am, EYFS & KS1: 1:30 to 3:00pm) 3 rd Non-uniform day for the Summer Fair – <i>Bring a bottle</i>
12	Mon 6 th July	6 th Reception 2026-27 Transition event 3 10 th Summer Fair (3.30pm) 11 th Year 1 Assembly for parents/ carers (2:30pm) 11 th End of Year Reports to Parents/ Carers
13	Mon 13 th July	13 th Meet the new teacher transition for children 13 th Parent/ Carer Open Afternoon (3:30-5:30pm) 16 th Year 6 leavers' Assembly (8:50am) 16 th Year 6 Leavers' Disco (5:00-7:00pm) 17 th End of Summer Term - 1pm home time
14	Mon 20 th July	20 th INSET day (School Closed for all Children)

