

Oak Meadow Primary School Weekly Newsletter – Friday 19th September 2025: Issue 3



A message from Mr. Lane...

With the new school year now well underway, I have enjoyed spending time this week visiting classrooms and seeing the fabulous children of Oak Meadow demonstrate their innate curiosity and desire to be the very best they can be in their learning. My role is a privileged one to witness the progress and development of every child at Oak Meadow, providing a platform for them to thrive and excel, with their happiness at the heartbeat of our school. My gratitude for every adult never diminishes and I am eternally grateful for their relentless desire and unwavering passion to provide the highest quality of provision. Seeing and hearing teaching and learning in action throughout our classrooms and corridors is akin to magic being woven with sparks of knowledge and creativity everywhere thanks to the skilled delivery of exceptional practitioners. With this in mind, I hope parents/carers of children in Years 5 and 6 are able to join us for our 'Write with Us' workshop next Wednesday to share in a writing lesson, with the same invitation to parents/ carers of children in Years 3 and 4 and then Year 1 and 2 to follow in subsequent weeks (separate letters will be sent regarding each workshop). Teachers will also share ideas to help your child's writing progress at home as part of our valued, on-going partnership. Next Friday sees us turn our attention to charitable efforts as the school council will be selling cakes from outside the main office from 3pm. The children have asked me to remind you that they would love to receive any cake donations you are willing to contribute – either homemade or shop bought – for them to sell for such a fine cause. The following week, we will then begin our annual Harvest appeal in aid of The Good Shepherd. Take care everyone and have a lovely weekend.

Stars of the Week

- 1B: Kaiden H
 1TW: Mavie R
 2B: Alice D & Chalie B
 2H: Amelia B & Harlee-Sue T
 3H: Isla U
 3J: Ethan H
 4B: Jessie-Mae S
 4J: Asia R & Cameron C
 5H: Sebastian D
 5T: Riya L
 6H: Phoebe H
 6W: Riyan B

We hope the parents/ carers of the above children can join us for this Monday's assembly at **8.50am** to celebrate their award.

Upcoming dates for the diary

- 24th Sept – Write with us Parent/Carer Workshops – Y5 & Y6 at 8.50am
 26th Sept – European Day of Languages
 26th Sept – School Council Macmillan Cake Sale
 29th Sept – Harvest donations welcome on the hall stage from today
 1st Oct – Black History Month begins
 1st Oct – Write with us Parent/Carer Workshops – Y3 & Y4 at 8.50am
 2nd Oct – National Poetry Day
 2nd Oct – Local Governing Board Meeting
 3rd Oct – Y4 Harvest Assembly for Parents/Carers at 8.50am
 6th Oct – School libraries week
 8th Oct – Read and write with us Parent/Carer Workshops Y1 & Y2 at 8.50am
 10th Oct – **"Hello Yellow"** World Mental Health Day – Children to wear yellow

Communication

Our doors are always open whenever you need us and the main office number is 01902 558517.

The school email address is oakmeadowprimarieschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Also remember to check the school website and follow us on 'X' [@oakmeadow12](https://twitter.com/oakmeadow12)

Safeguarding Information

If you have any concerns about a child, please contact one of our designated safeguarding leaders (DSL):

Mr. Lane (Head of School).

Miss. Billingsley (Deputy Headteacher).
 Mr. Hawkins (Assistant Headteacher).
 Mrs. Worrallo (Assistant Headteacher).
 Miss. Tomlinson (EYFS/KS1 SENDCo).

From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow...



Attendance and Punctuality

Everyday
COUNTS!

Thank you for making sure your child is in school every day and on time. Remember that our minimum attendance target for all children is **96%**.

Everyday
COUNTS!

Attending school **every day** impacts significantly on your child's learning and their attainment. Please see the table below that shows the number of lessons missed as the attendance rate falls.

Every day counts over the school year:

Attendance during the school year	Equals this number of days absent	Meaning that approximately this number of lessons have been missed
95%	9 days	50 lessons!
90%	19 days	100 lessons!
85%	29 days	150 lessons!

Make sure your child is an **Oak Meadow attendance H.E.R.O** (Here, Every day, Ready and On Time) by arriving between 8:35 and 8:45am each morning.

Every minute counts over the school year:

5 minutes late each day = **3 days lost!**
 10 minutes late each day = **6.5 days lost!**
 15 minutes late each day = **10 days lost!**
 20 minutes late each day = **13 days lost!**
 30 minutes late each day = **19 days lost!**

Class Attendance for this week

Reception and Key Stage 1

RB	87%
RE	94.1%
1B	95.3%
1TW	96.7%
2B	99.3%
2H	92.6%

Attendance HERO bear winners are class 2B – well done!



Key Stage 2

3H	94.7%
3J	97.3%
4B	94%
4J	94.5%
5H	95.3%
5T	94.4%
6H	96.1%
6W	95%

Attendance HERO bear winners are class 3J – well done!



Our combined whole school attendance for this week was...

95%

Everyday
COUNTS!

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



Tips for Supporting Children in DEALING WITH GRIEF

It's important that trusted adults feel able to help children and young people cope with grief – particularly at the moment, when we are a nation mourning the loss of a public figure who was treasured by so many. Children are seeing bereavement and sadness being featured heavily the national news and in their favourite online spaces, and hearing it being talked about extensively among families and in the community. How can we help them in processing this healthily?

1 UNDERSTAND WHAT GRIEF IS

Grief is emotional distress which is a normal response to the death of someone close, well known or admired. It may feel overwhelming – especially for young people – and is often accompanied by feelings of shock, disbelief, anger or fear. These emotions may also mean that sleep, eating and our relationships with others could be affected.

2 MEET THE CHILD WHERE THEY ARE

This could be a child's first experience of grief and loss – or conversely, they may have already encountered it several times. Make sure that any conversations you have with them, and the support that you give, are led by their experiences and their understanding of death – and in the context of their religious or community beliefs.

3 EXPLAIN CLEARLY WHAT DEATH IS

It may often feel uncomfortable, but it's healthier to actually use the words "dead", "death" or "died". Abstract explanations of death can frequently create even more confusion – particularly for younger children, who are still trying to grasp this complex (and possibly unfamiliar) concept.

4 BE PREPARED FOR QUESTIONS

On subjects such as this – especially when it involves a person who's well known to them – children and young people often have lots of questions, all at once. Sometimes, new queries about the issue will occur to them weeks after the event. Be ready to answer their questions as honestly as you can, using language that's appropriate for their age.

5 FIND WAYS TO REMEMBER THEM

It can help to talk to about the person who's died, even if that individual wasn't personally involved in the child's own life – such as a significant public figure, for instance. You and your child can discuss what that person meant to you, celebrate the things they achieved or go to a place where they can be remembered.

6 ENCOURAGE COPING STRATEGIES

You can help a child or young person to identify what their usual positive ways of coping are when they have overwhelming feelings. For example, do they find that talking with someone, drawing, going for a walk or listening to music help when they're feeling upset? These same activities could form an important part of the grieving process.

7 REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT

If a child or young person is struggling with grief to the extent that it's impacting on their everyday life, there are lots of expert organisations that you could reach out to for further help. Samaritans provides a listening ear for anyone in emotional distress. The MIs offers specialist support to people under 25, and Winston's Wish deals specifically with helping young people who are grieving.

SAMARITANS:
116 123

WWW.THEMIX.ORG.UK/GET-SUPPORT
0808 808 4994

WINSTON'S WISH:
08088 020 021

Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



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