

OAK HILL FIRST SCHOOL

WIREHILL DRIVE, LODGE PARK, REDDITCH



Welcome back! We hope you all had a very happy Christmas and New Year.

We've had an unusual start to the school year - technically starting as a brand new school as we have now become an academy. Children and staff celebrated this with lots of fun activities that focussed on our own uniqueness but also explored what it means to join a family of schools.

We had Principals, staff and pupils from St Stephens and Arrow Valley who joined in with team games and "interviews". Mr Shears — Executive Principal of the trust also spent the day with us and was

"interrogated" by Y4 pupils - very specifically about the dog at Gospel Oak? Fearing he'd let the children down, he looked into this in great depth and returned to the children in the afternoon to provide them with the answer!! We're very much looking forward to our new journey be that increased pupil opportunities or staff development.



At the start of this year we would also like to welcome Mrs Brooks who is teaching RW and Mr Altariva who is teaching 4PW. We are also going to be welcoming back Mrs Cartwright to teach 2S as Mrs Savin leaves very soon to start her maternity leave.

We are fortunate in being able to expand our support staff which now includes Mrs Sloggie who will be working across school and Mrs Cox who is supporting in Year 3.

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 17th January	KS2 Multisports club begins
Thursday 18th January 2024	KS1 Multisports Club begins
Monday 22nd January 2024	KS2 Gymnastics Club begins
Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th February 2024	Reception Audiology Tests
Friday 9th February 2024	Year 1 Outdoor Learning
Friday 9th February 2024	Break up for half term
Monday 19th February 2024	Return to school

Parental Engagement sessions

Staff will share more details via Dojo.
 Nursery– Wednesday 28th February
 Reception– 11/12/11h February (1 date per class)
 Year 1– Thursday 29th February
 Year 2– Wednesday 7th February
 Year 3– Thursday 1st February
 Year 4– Wednesday 24th January

Reading

Reading is one of the most important skills children learn at home. Parents and carers can play an essential role in fostering a lifelong love of reading in children and an interest in books that will give them a strong foundation for their future.

Using your school reading diaries, we've increased home school reading from 45% to 76% since January 2023.

Well done everyone for engaging and helping to build a life long love of reading.



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Congratulations to two children of our pupils at Oak Hill who have already earned their Blue Peter Book badge.



Could you be next?

Let us know which book you read if you choose to get involved.



ALL BLUE PETER 2 Apply for a Blue Peter Book badge Love 452 View comments 314

[LINK - Blue Peter Book badge](#) | [Find out how to earn the Book BP badge - BBC - BBC](#)

[LINK - Quizzes | BookTrust](#)



Great Britons: How well do you know these inspiring figures from British history? Test your knowledge of some of the legendary scientists, artists and leaders from British history with this fun quiz by Imogen Russell Williams, author of Great Britons: 50 Amazing People Who Have Called Britain Home.



Food quiz: Test Your knowledge on ingredients from around the world Do you know where key ingredients come from, and how they are produced? Everything from your plate came from somewhere and not always the place you'd expect! Prepare to be amazed and have a craving for chocolate.



Ramping Rugby: Dive into the scrum and take our quiz! Ramping Rugby author Robin Bennett has penned an awesome quiz for rugby fans - how much do you know? Test your knowledge!



Go for gold with this Olympics quiz Or your marks... get set... GOLD! Test your knowledge of the Olympics and Paralympics with this fun quiz.



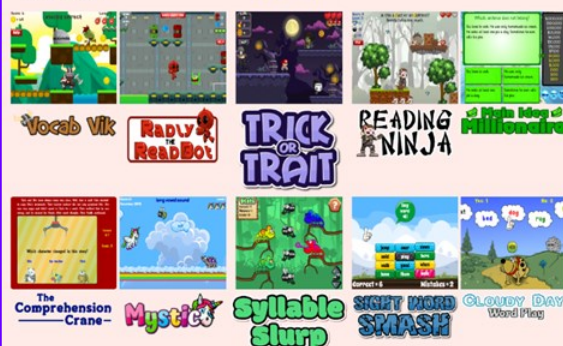
Can YOU talk to animals? How can you connect with a zebra? Test your conversational skills in the animal kingdom with this fun quiz!



Milky Cow Gives Milk: How much do you know about how we get our dairy? Take our fun quiz and test your knowledge of where milk and other dairy comes from!

Year 3 and Year 4

[LINK - Reading Games | Free Educational Computer Reading Games for Elementary Students | RoomRecess.com](#)



Uniform: Does your child's cardigan/jumper/coat have their name on it? We have a large amount of lost property that we are unable to return to the rightful owner. Please check if you have does this—washing will gradually make it fade away so it needs a regular check.



Wellbeing in January

This month's theme is Affirmation

An affirmation is a short, positive statement that is designed to be frequently repeated to enforce positive thinking. Affirmations are personal, in that they are meant to be used when the person using them is referring to themselves. As such, they typically start with "I..." or "I am..." followed by a positive quality.

Some examples:

I am creative

I am a good friend

I am helpful

I am loved

I care for others

I can and I will

I always try my best

I can be anything I want to be

The idea behind affirmations is to challenge negative beliefs a person might have about themselves by instead focusing on a relevant positive belief. When the person is struggling with their negative belief, they are supposed to repeat this related positive affirmation to themselves. By doing this, the person will eventually come to pay more attention to the positive belief than the negative one.

More information on the bbc website here:

[Positive affirmations article](#) | [Mental health and wellbeing](#) | [Moodboosters - BBC Teach](#)

Online safety

internetmatters.org is a really parent friendly website with a wealth of information and suggestions for helping parents/carers to keeping your child safe online.



Children are spending longer online and the challenges adults face in keeping up with them and protecting them

from online risks is always increasing. Internet Matters have an Inclusive Digital Safety Hub– this short video explains more about what they can offer...

It's only 1min 32 secs-worth a watch.

<https://youtu.be/WTP8WN0it2Q>



Free activities in the area—one for the children and one for the adults....

Redditch Library

Crafty Kids Club (Wednesday's from 3:30pm to 4:30pm)

For children aged 4 years and above. Come along each week for a new STEM-based construction activity. Invent and create toys, games and models .



Inspire , Redditch (the Craft Barn in the Winyates Centre)



In- www.inspirecommunitytraining.com Inspire Community training & Development - Home (weebly.com)

Workshops/short courses

We offer a range of courses to support learners to gain confidence, self-esteem, friendship, learn new skills and support their mental health and well-being.

These include some seasonal groups/classes:
Wreath making, Diamond art, Dream Catchers,
Folded book art, Weekly craft and chat

Self-development/well-being courses and workshops

Mental health CBT courses and talking therapies and Healthy lifestyle.



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Don't forget.... Often really good deals to be had...



Too Good To Go

Too Good To Go. Waste Less and Spend Less.

Not only is the Too Good To Go App are fighting waste, this is a opportunity to rescue unsold food from restraints and supermarket for a low cost.

Join Our Food Waste Movement - Too Good To Go



	Recent % attendance	Average attendance since Sept	Recent No. of lates	Total of lates since Sept
RM	94.90%	96.16%	7	28
RS	93.13%	92.21%	30	81
RW	94.17%	96.55%	10	26
1A	93.75%	95.49%	10	33
1C	93.63%	95.73%	21	79
1W	89.42%	93.77%	14	40
2C	97.19%	94.25%	14	45
2F	91.13%	91.97%	32	90
2S	93.10%	94.11%	21	55
3E	96.63%	96.66%	24	71
3G	91.96%	94.33%	21	86
3T	92.94%	93.42%	23	99
4F	94.96%	95.14%	6	26
4PW	96.32%	95.57%	25	73
4R	95.00%	94.55%	30	104

Classes with a green box attendance are matched to the current national averages.

Classes in orange are very close to attaining the current national average.

Classes in red are potentially a cause for concern and further analysis will take place.

Mrs Aldridge (Office) is now the Attendance Officer for Oak Hill and liaises with parents, teachers and senior leaders when dealing with all attendance matters.

Immunisations and Vaccinations for Children in Worcestershire

Has your child
missed a school-aged
immunisation?

Do you want to arrange
their flu vaccination?

Do you have a child with
SEND and want to know
how to access school-aged
immunisations and flu
vaccination?



How to Book:

You can book an appointment at one of our local
clinics by calling the Worcestershire Vaccination
Team directly on 01527 390030

January Assembly Themes, Festivals and Awareness Days

Throughout the school year at Oak Hill, we learn
about a range of festivals and awareness days.
This year assemblies are taking place in class-
rooms. We will be looking at religious stories,
celebrations from different religions

**During January, the whole school will have the
opportunity to discuss:**



January Picture News Assembly Themes

Each week, we will be discussing issues that are in the news in an age appropriate way. Your child
may come home and want to discuss views on the question of the week. To support this, we will send
a sheet via Dojo with questions that you can discuss with your child.



Questions discussed last month were:

What is rubbish?

Are decorations an important part of celebrations?

What is it like to live through uncertain times?

Who is responsible for Antarctica?

This week, we have been discussing:

Are emojis an important part of communication?



Mutual Respect and Tolerance

We are all different. Learning about
each other can help us understand
and respect one another.
Emojis should represent our diverse
world and be inclusive.

