



OAK HILL FIRST SCHOOL

WIREHILL DRIVE, LODGE PARK, REDDITCH

As we move into November, it's hard to believe how quickly this term is flying by! With autumn leaves falling and the days getting shorter, we're already looking forward to the exciting events and activities planned for the rest of the term.

We're also excited to share some key announcements, reminders, and a glimpse of some of the experiences our pupils have had so far this year. As always, thank you for your continued support—together, we're making this a fantastic year of growth, learning, and fun for all our children.

Happy reading, and we hope you enjoy this month's newsletter!



Remembrance day

On Monday to mark remembrance, alongside out 1 minute silence, many of our children attended school in their Club uniforms to mark this important day. We had a range of clubs represented including Rainbows, Scouts and Brownies.



15th November	New reception intake visit
19th November	Year 3 local walk
21st November	Year 4 parental engagement 2.20pm
4th December	Nursery nativity performance 10am
6th December	RM nativity performance 10am
6th December	RS nativity performance 2pm
9th December	RB nativity performance 2pm
10th December	Year 3 Christmas performance 2pm
11th December	Nursery parental engagement 11am and 2.45pm
13th December	Year 3 Christmas performance 9:15am



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 our Attendance Officer for Oak Hill and liaises with parents, teachers and senior leaders when dealing with all attendance matters.

	Recent % attendance	Average attendance since Sept	Recent No. of lates	Total of lates since Sept
RB	97.69%	93.7%	4	7
RM	97.41%	92.4%	17	22
RS	90.80%	91.6%	12	25
1A	93.67%	94.4%	23	41
1F	97.00%	93.9%	8	20
1R	95.67%	96.0%	6	15
2C	92.80%	95.6%	5	9
2L	93.26%	92.6%	15	26
2M	97.69%	94.1%	31	49
3B	95.77%	91.8%	27	38
3E	95.60%	92.6%	12	27
3H	98.46%	93.7%	5	13
4C	93.79%	95.5%	6	8
4R	94.07%	94.2%	11	22
4T	96.00%	97.0%	8	11

Improving attendance in 9 classes!!

New information was sent out regarding the new arrangements for holiday penalty notices following the new guidance from the Department of Education. Despite this, we are seeing a considerable number of families who are taking holidays during term time which is having a significant impact on learning and progress. Leave of absence requests will be unauthorised, except for exceptional circumstances and we ask that holidays are booked out of term time.

There have been some recent changes to our attendance procedures that we need to share. In line with trust expectations, if we haven't seen a child in five days, two members of staff will perform a home visit to check in on the child and the family on the 5th day of absence. These visits are not designed to "catch anyone out" or to be invasive and will always be performed sensitively but we have a legal duty of care to ensure that we have seen our children.

Year 4 sport visit

Year 4 spent a morning at Trinity High School recently competing in an Indoor Athletics event. The children spent the morning competing in a range of throwing, running and jumping events. Each individual event was organised by a Young Sports Leader from either Birchensale Middle School or Trinity High School. It was a pleasure to watch all of the Year 4 children participate to the best of their abilities and to listen to the words of encouragement and praise they offered to one another as they competed. Well done Year 4 and thanks goes to Trinity High School for hosting us.



Year 3 Stone Age visitor

Year 3 travelled back in time nearly 3 million years to the Paleolithic era to find out what life was like during the ancient stone age with the help of their visitor Mr Egypt. They discovered that people have changed a huge amount since that time and humans looked rather different. Handy man (Homo habilis) had a much smaller brain than modern people and had to learn how to do everything from scratch. Many things we think were discovered by accident such as making flour and fire. Stone age people had two jobs to do gather food and not be eaten by other animals. The children find out how over time people learnt how to make tools, created art work on cave walls and discovered how to domesticate animals so they did not have to be nomadic. The children also completed art work using charcoal and clay based on the cave paintings from that period of time that we had seen. Everybody had a fantastic day and they learnt so much from Mr Egypt who told us his other job is as an archaeologist and he spends his time going to Siberia to help excavate mammoths and also works in Egypt on digs there. Many of us realised a love of history can lead to a fantastic job, what an aspiration to have!



Reception forest school

Reception have been enjoying going to Forest School this term! We have been exploring the signs of Autumn and learning about how the trees change through the seasons. We found out about some of the animals that might live in our Forest School and what they eat there. We have learned lots of ways to be safe in Forest School by learning the rules and how to help carry things safely. This week was Bonfire Night so we even had a fire and melted marshmallows, made popcorn and drank hot chocolate!

Thank you to Mr Spicer who is our Forest School lead for making it such an enjoyable experience!



Condover 2025— for parents with children currently in Year 3

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the Condover meeting last Tuesday with Mrs Reynolds and have completed the online form to inform us whether your child will be attending the residential. The deposit of £25 can be paid via ParentPay to secure a place for your child.

We have run the residential for many years and it is a wonderful experience for our children to have and hope that as many of our children as possible are able to join us. We have years of experience of managing a variety of needs whilst we are away to ensure that the trip is inclusive for all children so please come and speak to Mrs Reynolds if there is something that you feel would prevent your child from being able to come so that we can discuss how this can be managed for them to be able to attend.



Useful website for parents:



[Sibling arguments and how to manage them | Family Lives](#)

This online course is for parents, carers and other family members to help manage conflicts in family life, particularly between siblings or children in the household. It is aimed at families with children aged 5-18. This course will cover how conflict can affect us as parents, dealing with sibling rivalry, how to help children sort arguments out together, how to reduce the number of conflicts that happen and more.

Course modules:

- How does conflict affect us?
- Sibling rivalry
- Giving children the skills to deal with conflict
- Negotiation in the family
- Reducing conflict

To register click the link above and click on the “register here” button where you will be asked for your details

Safeguarding at Oak Hill

Our DSL is Mrs Harris and she is supported by Miss Kelly, Mrs Winterbourn, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Reynolds. If you have a safeguarding concern please contact school and ask to speak to one of the safeguarding team.

If you have a concern about a child/ren outside of school then please call Worcestershire Family Front Door on 01905 822666 (Mon—Thurs 9-5pm and Friday 9-4.30pm) or out of hours on 01905 7685020.

If you believe a child in at immediate risk of harm contact the police on 999.