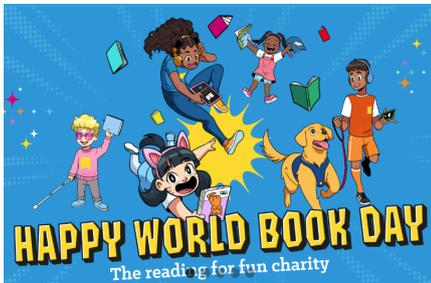




Oak Hill First School

Wirehill Drive, Lodge Park, Redditch



World book day 2025



Wow! What a huge array of character and props awaited for us on the playground on Thursday morning! We had superheroes from comic books, nursery rhyme characters, stars of traditional tales as well as many modern characters too and so many favourite book brought to school to share.

We started our day of celebrating with an assembly and began exploring how we all like to read in different ways. Throughout the day, classes took part in a range of activities including designing book marks, exploring how we like to read, sharing stories and listening to how illustrators create pictures (as well as having a go ourselves).

In the afternoon, the children from year 3 and 4 went to the younger children's classes and spent time sharing books and stories together - a really enjoyable time for all!

We all had a thoroughly enjoyable time together exploring different aspects of reading and are already looking forward to World Book Day 2026!!



Don't forget to have a look at Dojo for all the class photos from the day too!



Attendance Matters



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	97.35%	94.95%	6	32
RM	94.51%	92.16%	4	52
RS	93.13%	94.46%	15	106
1A	92.43%	93.15%	10	106
1F	96.21%	95.14%	5	35
1R	95.60%	95.55%	1	43
2C	96.83%	96.18%	13	44
2L	94.89%	92.40%	15	76
2M	95.09%	94.23%	12	40
3B	97.21%	94.75%	11	60
3E	94.30%	91.52%	9	54
3H	94.76%	94.36%	5	42
4C	96.67%	95.69%	5	39
4R	95.91%	94.46%	9	74
4T	96.42%	96.34%	5	50

Over the couple of weeks, we have seen some super improvements in lots of our children’s attendance. We are really pleased and thank you to our parents for working with us to ensure that our pupils are here at school as much as possible.

There are lots of reasons why good attendance is so important:

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

When you're in school you...

Have fun

Make new friends

Gain qualifications

Achieve

Develop new skills

Experience new things

Build your confidence & self esteem

Develop awareness of other cultures, religion, ethnicity and gender differences

Have the best possible start in life!

GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS

...being in school at least **95%** of the time or between **180 and 190** days

190 days in school each year

100% attendance

180 days in school each year

95% attendance

169 days in school each year

89% attendance

161 days in school each year

85% attendance

150 days in school each year

79% attendance

143 days in school each year

75% attendance

SAFETY ZONE

Best chance of success

AMBER ZONE

Poor attendance - less chance of success

DANGER ZONE

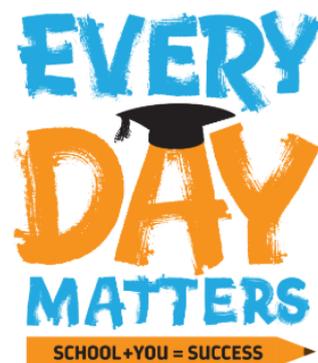
Very poor attendance - serious impact on education and life chances

There are only 190 school days each year... that leaves **175** days not at school for shopping and holidays!

Attendance meetings

As part of our policy, when a child has been absent for 10 days or more or have 9 or more lates, you will be invited to a meeting with one of our Assistant Principals to talk about your child's attendance and how we can support to reduce any barriers that are impacting on your child being able to attend school. Letters are sent out by our attendance officer informing you of the time and date but we are noticing that in a high number of cases parents are not attending these meetings and are not informing school that they are unable to attend.

If you are unable to attend the meeting please ensure that you are informing the office so that we are able to re-arrange a more suitable time or to offer an alternative method of meeting such as an online or telephone call—there is always something we can do to enable the meeting to happen. These conversations are important and the improvement of attendance relies on school and families working together. If the meeting hasn't been attended, an Assistant headteacher will ring you to follow up.



Leave of absence and holiday penalty notices

As you will be aware from previous newsletters and posts on dojo, the procedures and fines have changed for families who take holidays during term time. We have seen a reduction this term in the number of leave of absence requests but wanted to take the opportunity to remind parents of the new processes....

Per parent, per child

Penalty notice fines will now be issued to EACH parent for each child that was absent.

For example : 3 siblings are absent for a term time holiday. This would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines. Therefore 6 fines in total .

First offence

The first time that a fine is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance the amount has increased from £120 to £160 per parent, per child and has to be paid within 28 days.

This is reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

For example: if you are fined for taking a holiday when your child was in Year 1 and you take another holiday and are fined when your child is in Year 2, this would be a "second offence". If you take another holiday and are fined when they are in Year 3, this would be classed as a "third offence"

Second offence

A second fine can be issued, again per parents, per child within 3 years of the first offence. £160 per parent, per child and has to be paid within 28 days. There is no option for a second fine to be reduced.

OR

For example: if you are fined for taking a holiday in the Autumn term of Year 1 and take another holiday in the Summer term of Year 1, that would be classed as a "second offence". If you take another holiday when your child is in Year 2, that would count as a "third offence"

Third offence

If there is term time leave or irregular attendance within 3 years of the first offence, a penalty notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to Magistrate's court. This can result in a fine of up to £2500 per parent, per child.

PCSO to Nursery and Year 3



PCSO Jake made a special visit to Nursery and Year 3 this week, bringing a bright smile and an engaging presence that instantly captivated the children. Jake took the opportunity to share stories about his role in the community, emphasising the importance of safety and friendship. He showed them his police equipment, allowing them to touch the bright badges and walkie-talkies, turning the visit into an interactive experience. We tried on some of his special clothing and equipment to see what it felt like and think about maybe this was something we could do in the future. He finished with a tour of his police car and the children loved the sirens and lights.

Based on the children's responses, there will certainly be a surge in recruitment for the PCSO in the future!



CRST Music festival

Last week, Mrs Hopcroft had the absolute pleasure of taking the school choir to their first every music festival. This was an event organised by trust which involved singing and performing with 8 other schools within the trust. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to showcase their amazing singing but also to experience the different live performances and contribute to the wider school community.



The children's singing was fantastic and they sung with great gusto and everything they had. They were praised by the staff running the festival for how well behaved and engaged they were with the event and we were all very proud of them.

Ramadan assembly

For many of our school community, this is the Holy month of Ramadan - a time for prayer, reflection and spending time with families and the community. Last week Mrs Ali spoke to the whole school during an assembly about Ramadan. She shared with the children why and how Muslims celebrate Ramadan and what it means to them. Some children in school shared what they will be doing for Ramadan including fasting. The children had some brilliant questions and listened really well. We wish all of our families observing Ramadan a peaceful and fulfilling month.



Year 3 Roman Day

On Thursday 13th February Year 3 had a Roman day to compliment their work on the topic that they have been completing through their history unit. As part of the day they investigated what it was like in Britain after the Roman invasion. Britain became part of the Roman empire, many British tribes adapted and took on Roman ways but other tribes did not.

The Romans had a different way of numbering things, it meant they could be very organised and check how much they had got of things.

We learnt what Roman numerals were by playing a Roman game.



Life in the Roman army was hard and you had to buy your own equipment so we decided to design and make our own Roman shields or Scutum.



The Romans still have an impact on our everyday lives, many towns in Britain have Roman names, if a town name ends in -cester---caster or -chester it has a Roman origin. We used atlas's to find as many Roman place names as we could.



We investigated Roman fashions and tried to use big pieces of material to make togas to wear.



We all had a fabulous time and feel a bit more expert about the Roman invasion of Britain.

Does your child enjoy playing Roblox?

The Jed Foundation have put together a great guide for parents regarding emotional safety/wellbeing on Roblox. Although the guide refers to US teens, it is appropriate for all children, not just teens.

It covers cyberbullying, signs a child might be struggling online and what the parents can do to support.

You can find the guide by clicking on the link below.

[Roblox Parent-Guide_final.pdf](#)



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 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 768502. If you believe a child is in immediate risk of harm contact the police on 999.