

PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

Friday 23rd January 2026

A MESSAGE FROM MRS WELBOURNE

Dear Parents and Carers,

As this is our first newsletter of 2026, I would like to wish you a belated Happy New Year. I hope the Christmas break provided opportunities for rest, family time and a moment of calm after a busy and rewarding Autumn Term.

There is always something special about the start of the Spring Term. Classrooms feel refreshed, routines quickly re-established and there is a renewed sense of purpose as we continue the school year together. It has been a delight to welcome the children back and to see their positivity, enthusiasm and curiosity as familiar friendships reconnect and new learning themes begin.

The Spring Term is often one of our most productive, as children grow in confidence, deepen their understanding and recognise just how much they are capable of achieving. Our staff remain fully committed to ensuring every child feels supported, challenged and celebrated throughout their learning journey.

This half term, we focus on our school value, **Ready to Learn**. I led an assembly with pupils last week exploring what this looks like in practice, and it has been wonderful to see children working hard to demonstrate this each day. We encourage families to continue these conversations at home and to support children in arriving at school calm, focused and ready to enjoy their learning. As you will be aware we are proudly participating in the **National Year of Reading 2026**, it is a perfect way to inspire pupils to use books for enjoyment and ways of learning new information.



I look forward to another successful term working in partnership and seeing all that our children will achieve in the weeks ahead.

Best wishes,

Mrs Welbourne
Assistant Headteacher



• NEWS FROM OUR CLASSES

BUTTERCUPS

This term in Buttercups, we launched our exciting new topic, All Things Wild!

The children have loved exploring different wild environments, from jungles to farms, and learning about the animals that live there. They especially enjoyed discovering jungle features like the canopy, vines, and fascinating animals such as the sloth.

We have also started junk modelling, giving the children opportunities to explore a range of materials and develop creative techniques. They have shown wonderful imagination, perseverance and pride in their unique creations.

In phonics, the children have made an excellent start to Phase 3, confidently learning new digraphs and applying them in their reading and writing.



SNOWDROPS

Year 1 have had a fantastic start to our new Learning Theme, One Small Step!

We've been exploring space through history, learning about significant astronauts such as Neil Armstrong, the first man on the Moon, and Mae Jemison, the first Black woman in space. The children have produced brilliant work, including portraits, models, non-fiction books, posters and even videos!

In Science, we are investigating everyday objects and the materials they are made from, and we'll soon be exploring their simple properties.

In Art, we've been inspired by collage artists Eric Carle and Megan Coyle, practising key collage skills like cutting, tearing, layering and overlapping to create our own artwork.



THE MEADOW

This term in the Meadow classroom, we've been on an exciting journey into the wild!

We began with Rumble in the Jungle, exploring different animals, their habitats and the patterns found in nature.

Pupils loved using musical instruments to accompany their communication and language targets.

In Art, the children were inspired by Kandinsky, experimenting with colour mixing and creating vibrant circular designs linked to our jungle learning.

It's been a wonderfully creative and curious term, and the Meadow pupils have loved every moment!



IT'S TIME TO GO ALL IN FOR THE NATIONAL YEAR OF READING 2026



National Year of
Reading 2026

We're excited to be taking part in the National Year of Reading 2026, a UK-wide campaign to make reading a joyful part of everyday life by connecting it to what children already love- whether that's dinosaurs, football, cooking or stories at bedtime.

It is a Department for Education initiative, in collaboration with the National Literacy Trust, aiming to tackle the decline in reading enjoyment in the UK and reconnect people of all ages with reading as a relevant and immediately rewarding activity.

Families should have already received an email and seen announcements on our app—please keep an eye out for updates on the ways Oakley School will be getting involved throughout the year. We'd love every member of the family to join this mission: share what you're reading in your child's reading diary and/or on Tapestry so we can celebrate books across our community.

For simple tips to make your home a "reading home", explore the family ideas here:

goallin.org.uk/get-involved/families.

Thank you for partnering with us to inspire confident, enthusiastic readers.



BOOKDROP MAGAZINE – NEW ISSUE OUT NOW!

We're excited to share the latest edition of Bookdrop, a free digital magazine created with leading children's publishers and the Open University Reading for Pleasure team.

Each half-termly issue includes:

- 🌟 Book recommendations
 - 💬 Author and illustrator features
 - 🎨 Fun reading activities
 - 📖 Tips to support reading for pleasure at home
- Read the latest issue [HERE](#)

HOMEWORK REMINDER: READING AT HOME

At Oakley, reading is at the heart of everything we do. We are proud to be a reading school where books shape our curriculum, conversations and culture. Our classrooms and shared areas are filled with high-quality texts, supported by our Little Wandle phonics scheme and our ever-growing library.

Please continue to support your child by reading a few pages of their phonics book each night and signing their reading diary. Phonics books go home every Thursday and must be returned on Monday. Teachers are currently spending a lot of time chasing missing books, so keeping them in book bags really helps our Reading Groups run smoothly.

Thank you for working with us to inspire our young readers.



UNIFORM, PRESENTATION & ITEMS FROM HOME: REMINDER OF EXPECTATIONS

Uniform

We have recently noticed a slight decline in overall uniform and presentation across the school. At Oakley School, we take great pride in wearing our uniform and representing our school community in the very best way possible. We kindly ask for your support in ensuring all pupils arrive at school wearing the correct uniform each day, including school cardigans or jumpers. Please note that school shoes must be plain black; trainers are not permitted unless it is a PE day.

Please click the link for a reminder of our uniform expectations on our website - <https://www.oakley-school.com/parent/parents-primary/primary-uniform>

Hair and accessories

Hair

For both presentation and safety reasons, any hair that reaches the shoulders must be tied back. This is particularly important during playtimes, PE and active learning. Hair accessories should be kept to a minimum and should be simple in colour and style. Plain headbands are permitted; however, cat-ear headbands, large, fluffy or novelty headwear are not allowed.

Jewellery

To ensure pupils' safety, jewellery is not permitted in school. Simple stud earrings are allowed, but hoop or dangly earrings are not. If an item of jewellery is worn for religious reasons, it must be secured underneath uniform for your child's safety.

Toys and items from home

Unless agreed in advance with the class teacher for Show and Tell, toys and personal items from home should not be brought into school. We have seen a significant increase in items such as soft toys being brought in daily, which can be distracting for pupils. Please note that staff cannot be held responsible for items that may become lost or damaged. We kindly ask for your support in ensuring these items remain at home.





ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

At Oakley School, we are committed to helping every child thrive, and excellent attendance and punctuality play a vital role in that success. Being in school every day, on time, supports learning, friendships and positive routines that benefit children for life.

Punctuality matters. Children should arrive at school between 8.35am and 8.45am so they can start the day calmly and ready to learn. Late arrivals can cause children to miss important learning and disrupt the start of lessons.

Where possible, please arrange medical or dental appointments outside of school hours. If this isn't possible, we ask that children attend school before and/or after appointments to minimise any missed learning. NHS guidance reminds us that most minor illnesses do not require time off school unless a child has a temperature. Please also note that following sickness or diarrhoea, children must remain at home for 48 hours after the last episode. We understand that there may sometimes be genuine reasons for absence. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please do speak to us — we are here to help and work in partnership with you.

Finally, we remind families that holidays should not be taken during term time as this can significantly impact learning and progress. Requests for leave can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Thank you for your continued support. Every day really does make a difference.

SCHOOL NURSE INFORMATION



Healthy Futures have completed the National Child Measurement Programme with our Reception pupils this half term. This programme helps monitor child growth so families can receive appropriate advice and support.

Connect for Health, the Warwickshire School Nursing Service, would like to remind parents to keep up with regular health checks. Please ensure your child is registered with an optician and attends routine eye tests and dental check-ups.

If you are struggling to find an NHS dentist, you can call NHS 111 for details of practices currently accepting patients.

FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE

The latest edition of the Family Information Service newsletter is available to read [by clicking HERE](#)



BIG SCHOOLS' BIRDWATCH



This month, pupils will be taking part in the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch 2026, observing and counting birds in our school grounds as part of a nationwide wildlife survey. We look forward to sharing our sightings and learning with families.

We also encourage families to join in at home by taking part in the Big Garden Birdwatch, which involves spending just one hour counting birds in your garden or local area.

Find out more here: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>

Pupils who share their birdwatch experiences will receive Ready to Learn stickers and awards. Please upload photos to Tapestry so we can celebrate learning beyond the classroom.



Big Garden Birdwatch

This 23-25 January, join the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers help to build a picture of how garden birds are faring.

TAKE PART IN THE BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH



Choose an hour between
23 and 25 January



Only record the birds that
land in your patch



Record the highest number
of each bird species you
see at any one time

Oral Health

Understanding the importance of your child's teeth and oral health.

Information provided to you by Connect for Health,
Your School Nursing Service.



Did you know?

Between 60% and 90% of school children have tooth decay

Oral Health Foundation

How should they brush their teeth?

- Brush in small circles
- Make sure to clean all sides of every tooth - front, back and the top where they chew their food.
- Gently brush their gums
- Give their tongue a light brush to get rid of germs that may be on it.

Top Tips for Good Oral Health

1. Children should brush teeth twice a day for at least 2 minutes at a time.



2. Limit the sugary foods and drinks they have - make healthier swaps.

3. Make sure they are registered and attend regular check-ups with their dentist.



4. Set a timer or play a song to help you both keep track of how long they've been brushing for.

Contacting your School Nursing Service...

Scan the QR code to visit our website for more information, or to download a referral form.
You can also contact our service using the details below...

📞 03300 245 204

✉️ connectforhealth@compass-uk.org



Where can you find us on social media?



@compassc4h



@c4hwarwickshire



@SchoolHealthC4H

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE SHARED SOON. PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR
EMAILS AND APP NOTIFICATIONS**

SPRING 1

Snowdrops Planetarium Workshop (with Myton Gardens)	Thursday 5th February
Leamington Music Workshop YR & Y1	Friday 6th February
Children's Mental Health Week	WB Monday 9th February
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 10th February
End Of Term	Friday 13th February

SPRING 2

Back to school	Monday 23rd February
World Book Day Celebration Week	WB Monday 2nd March
World Book Day Dress Up	Thursday 5th March
Come & Learn - Parents Workshop	Tuesday 10th March/Thursday 12th March
Scholastic Book Fair - Every day after school	WB 16th March
Parents' Evening	Tuesday 17th March/Thursday 19th March
Neurodiversity Celebration Week	WB Monday 16th March
End Of Term	Friday 27th March

TERM DATES 25-26

Spring Term 2026

Monday 5th January: Teacher Training Day (children not in school)

Tuesday 6th January: Start of Spring term

Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February: Half Term Break

Friday 27th March: Spring Term ends

Summer Term 2026

Monday 13th April: Start of Summer term

Monday 4th May: Bank Holiday

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May: Half Term Break

Friday 26th June: Teacher Training Day (children not in school)

Friday 17th July: Summer Term ends

(12:20pm Secondary / 1:00pm Primary)





AWARD-WINNING & OFSTED APPROVED

HOLIDAY CAMPS

INFINITY CAMP THIS FEB HALF TERM



RECEPTION
4-5 YEARS

GO GO
CREATORS
ART

GO GO
ACTIVE
SPORTS

GO GO
EINSTEINS
STEM

GO GO
GROOVERS
DANCE



YR GROUP 1-6
5-11 YEARS

CRAFT CLUB

MAD SCIENCE

SPORT SKILLZ

STEP UP DANCE

BATTLE STARS
GAMES



YR GROUP 3-7
7-12 YEARS

COPIING

PARKOUR

BASKETBALL

BADMINTON

DANCE



RATED 5 STARS ON GOOGLE

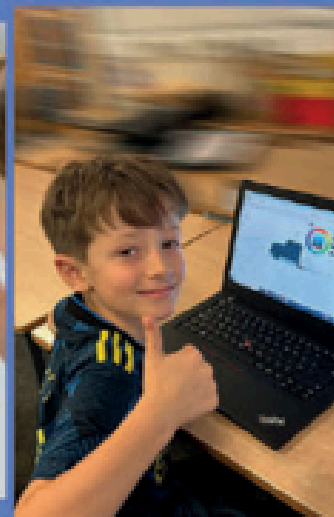
FEBRUARY HALF TERM
16th - 20th FEBRUARY



LOCATIONS

KENILWORTH WARWICK GATES WARWICK LEAMINGTON SPA

PRIORS FIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL
EMSCOTE INFANT SCHOOL NORTH LEAMINGTON SCHOOL



PRICES & TIMINGS

STANDARD DAYS CARE (9AM - 3.30PM)

£34.50

EARLY DROP OFF (8AM) & LATE COLLECTION (5.30PM) AVAILABLE WITH ADDITIONAL FEES

SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

WE ACCEPT TAX FREE CHILDCARE & CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

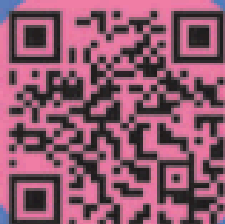


50% OFF CAMP XTRA!

For your child & a buddy when
you both book 2 days

(T&Cs apply)
(See website)

FOLLOW OUR SOCIALS FOR MORE DISCOUNTS AND OFFERS!



TRIAL US FOR FREE



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@go_go_makers

HOW TO BOOK & FIND OUT MORE

www.gogomakers.co.uk | 01926 350024





February Half Term
Childcare
Reception to Yr 6

JOIN THE **ADVENTURE!**
Schools out, but we've got you covered



from only
£24
per day

4 days **£86**

5 days **£95**

Monday 16th
to Friday 20th
February

Times 9.30am to 3.30pm

Early Drop off 8.:30 - 9:30am

Late Pick up 3:30 - 4:30pm

+£3.50
each

**WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS &
TAX-FREE CHILDCARE** search 'Onside Wraparound'

Ofsted
Registered EY2857545

to book visit **btkidsclub.onsidelive.co.uk**

£20
PER DAY
Sibling & Full 4 day
discounts available

Fitt4kids

HOLIDAY CAMPS



**Multisports
camp!**

CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED

Ofsted
Registered



**Football
camp!**



AGE
4-11
YEARS



Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026
www.fitt4kids.org.uk/holiday-clubs/