



Oakfield Schools Federation

4th November 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may have seen, we have a few occasions coming up in the festive calendar where we have said your child can, if they so wish, wear a Christmas jumper to school. We have had some really useful ideas from parents over the last week to see whether we can do a 'jumper recycle' to help with the need for buying new jumpers this year.

In light of this, what we suggest is that any parents who wish to, can donate any old Christmas jumpers to school. After this, on a morning towards the end of November we will, should we get enough donations, lie them out in age order in either of our halls and parents can come and choose a jumper if they so wish. If you would like to donate, could you please bring any jumpers you wish to donate to school by **Friday 18th November**.

I hope this may help a little in the run up to Christmas making it a little less expensive.

Kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Chisholm". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kate Chisholm – Executive Headteacher

New events added are highlighted in yellow		
Date	Event	Time
7/11/22	Harvest Festival collection deadline	15.30
9/11/22	Growing and changing talk – year 6	
10/11/22	Flu immunisations	All day
11/11/22	Visit to Lockerbie for specific Y6 children	All day
14/11/22	KS1 and KS2 Parent Evenings	Booking system in place
18/11/22	Children in Need / Antbullying week - wear odd socks day	
18/11/22	Brass pupils Sage concert day with the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain	All Day (parents pick up from sage)
18/11/22	Christmas Jumper donations closing date	
25/11/22	Jorvik Viking Centre trip – Year 5	
25/11/22	Non-uniform day – Christmas fayre donation day	All day
1/12/22	Year 2 Cheerleading festival	
2/12/22	Year 1 Christmas Trip to Gibside Hall	All Day
5/12/22	Christmas Fayre	15.30
7/12/22	Reception Christmas Visit to Hall Hill Farm	All Day
8/12/22	Year 2 indoor athletics festival	10-12
7-9/12/22	Y6 Residential	
12/12/22	Reception Nativity	14.15
13/12/22	Year 1 Nativity	14.15
14/12/22	Year 2 Nativity	14.15
14-15/12/22	KS2 Pantomime visits	
16/12/22	Christmas Dinner Day	Lunchtime
16/12/22	Christmas Jumper Day (collecting for Children with Cancer UK)	All Day
w/b 19th 12/22	Christmas parties (EYFS / KS1/ KS2)	Timings to follow
22/12/22	Carols under the veranda – KS2	1.15
22/12/22	Last day of term	
23/12/22	School Closed - PD day	

2022-23 Term Dates	
Term	Dates
Autumn 1	07/09/22 – 21/10/22
Autumn 2	31/10/22 – 22/12/22
Spring 1	09/01/23 – 17/02/23
Spring 2	27/02/23 – 31/03/23
Summer 1	17/04/23 – 26/05/23
Summer 2	5/06/22 – 21/07/23

PE Days		
Year Group	Indoor	Outdoor
R	Tuesday	Friday
1	Wednesday	Thursday
2	Monday	Friday
3	Wednesday	Friday
4	Tuesday	Thursday
5	Swimming - Tuesday	Monday
6	Monday	Wednesday

Final Call for Harvest & Peoples Kitchen



**THE PEOPLE'S
KITCHEN** est. 1985
NEWCASTLE

The ways our Friends are forced to live are incredibly hard. They might be sleeping rough, or recently placed in housing with no belongings. Many of them don't have access to nutritious food or have no support system around them. The People's Kitchen is their safe haven. We are a constant for people whose lives can be chaotic.

We make life on the streets a little easier by sharing hot meals and packages of clothing, toiletries, food, mobile phones and sleeping bags. We work with services to enable people to move off the streets and then we provide food, furniture and bedding to our Friends when they move into their first home. We also offer friendship and professional services to improve mental wellbeing.

We will be donating all of our harvest festival produce to The Peoples Kitchen this year. **Please bring your final donations by Monday 7th**

November. For items listed below, we will collect and display food items from this date going forward.

Items which would be grateful received

- Cereal.
- Soup.
- Pasta.
- Rice.
- Tinned tomatoes.
- Pasta sauce.
- Lentils, beans and pulses.
- Tinned meat.
- Tinned vegetables.
- Tea.
- Coffee.
- Tinned fruit.
- Biscuits.
- UHT milk.
- Fruit juice.

Sunderland AFC Flag Bearers



On the first Saturday of the half term holidays, six lucky, and on the whole football mad pupils, attended Sunderland's Stadium of Light, along with their parents and two members of staff. Their job: to be flag bearers; welcoming the teams onto the pitch at the start of the game.

The afternoon started early at 12.45pm, as an excitable (if a little nervous) group arrived to go through their role. Following this, an hour was spent in the Beacon of light; snacking, playing and meeting the mascots. Finally, as kick off arrived, it was out onto the pitch to greet the teams. As the photographs show, all six performed superbly, not daunted by the 40,000 crowd or the heavy flags. Well done. The game itself – jubilation of being 2-0 up at half time turned to despair for red and white fans as they eventually lost 2-4. However, at least we could watch the goals fly in from comfortable, padded seats with a great view. Thank you all for your time and representing Oakfield!

Author virtual event with Cressida Cowell (Key Stage 2)

Children in Year 3 to year 6 will be attending a virtual event on Friday 25th November as part of the 39th annual Northern Children’s Book Festival and will have the opportunity to buy a copy of her book ‘Which way to anywhere.’ This is a unique opportunity for the children to have a book signed by the author. The book will cost £10.00 and the payment system will be open from Monday 7th November.

Book Nook Launch

Reading Champions and Rachel Mason our Chair of Governors officially launched the Key Stage 2 Book Nook in the Key Stage 2 yard this week. There are a variety of books available for children to read and sign out with cushions available for comfortable reading at playtimes and lunchtimes. We are looking for any parents who could help paint book characters on the gazebo as the children have suggested they would like that. Please contact the school office if you can help.

Hall Hill Farm Trip (Reception)

A reminder that the payment system is still open for Hall Hill Farm.

Christmas Fayre

We are excitingly beginning to organise our Christmas fayre (5th December) and would be delighted if any parents might come and help us put together raffle prizes. If you would like to come and help (with the promise of a cuppa and a mince pie!) please email the relevant school office and we will be in touch. Also, if anyone would like to donate a raffle prize from a business, we would be extremely grateful.



Breakfast with Santa at the Gold Medal

Reminder that the Gold Medal will be hosting a Breakfast with Santa on Saturday 10th December. It includes a Christmas movie, breakfast buffet for all followed by a visit to Santa's grotto for all children where they will receive a small gift from Santa. Please contact The Gold Medal directly for any dietary information on 0191 482 1549. There is a limited number of places available, if you would like to book a place, please complete the form below by 26th November. Please note, once this event is sold out the form will be closed. Once your place is confirmed you will receive a payment request from your child's school, payment must be made before tickets are issued. All money raised from tickets goes into School Fund.

Please [click here](#) to book tickets.



Dinner Money

Please can parents ensure that they have topped up their dinner money accounts before ordering a school meal.

Safeguarding and attendance

Amigo

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AMIGO

Amigo is a social platform which purports to connect strangers from around the world – and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers. Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships to unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more features become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

AGE RATING 18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- ONE-TO-ONE COMMUNICATION:** While one-to-one communication is a great way to connect with others, it can also be used to isolate and bully. Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships and unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more features become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.
- LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION:** Amigo does not verify the age of its users. This means that children can easily create accounts and use the app without their parents knowing. This is a significant risk as children may be exposed to inappropriate content, contact from strangers, and other risks.
- REWARDS FOR REPEATED USE:** Amigo offers rewards for users who use the app frequently. These rewards can be used to unlock exclusive features, such as private video and audio calls. This can encourage children to spend more time on the app, increasing their exposure to risks.
- INAPPROPRIATE CONTACT:** Amigo allows users to communicate with strangers from around the world. This can lead to inappropriate contact, such as sexual harassment, grooming, and other forms of abuse.
- MEMBERSHIP COSTS:** Amigo offers a free trial, but users must pay for a membership to use all features. This can be a financial burden for some families, especially if the child is addicted to the app.
- MONITOR DOWNLOADS:** Parents should monitor their child's device for any suspicious activity, such as the download of new apps or the use of unfamiliar websites.
- BLOCK, REPORT, DISCLOSE:** Parents should encourage their child to use the app's reporting and blocking features if they encounter any suspicious activity.
- RESPECT AGE RESTRICTIONS:** Parents should ensure that their child is not using the app if they are under the age of 18.
- ACTIVE LISTENING:** Parents should actively listen to their child's online activity and encourage them to talk to them about any concerns.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Meet Our Expert: Dr. Claire Bellamy is a senior safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written and co-authored several books on child protection and is a frequent speaker at national and international conferences.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @nationalonlinesafety

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In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as inappropriate contact, strangers and membership costs.

Thank you for continuing to support us in our attendance.

School / Year	Autumn 2	
	Attendance	Minutes late
	Week 1	
Junior Overall	96.0	3 hr 48 min
Infant Overall	96.6	1 hr 54 min
6	95.8	39 min
5	95.8	59 min
4	95.4	1hr 53 min
3	97.0	17 min
2	96.5	24 min
1	95.0	25 min
R	96.8	1 hr 5 min

Thank you again for taking the time to read our newsletter and we hope you enjoy all that Bonfire night can bring and you all stay safe and sound.

Warmest regards

Miss Chisholm – Executive Head Teacher

Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head

Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head