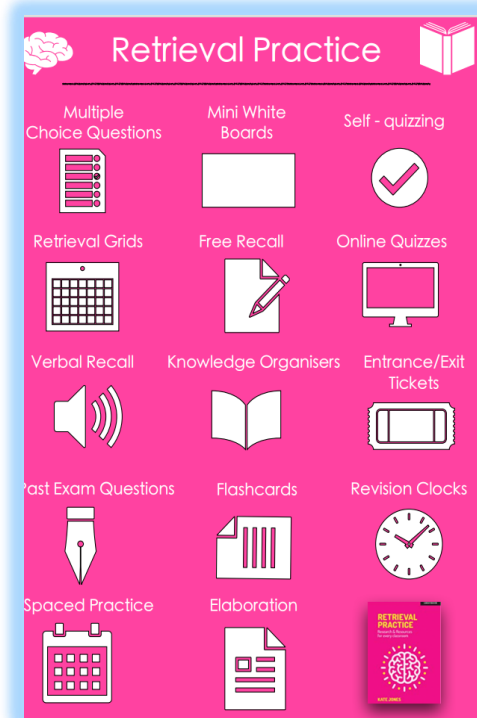




# Oakfield Schools Federation

20th January 2023



Dear families

This week staff have been in training learning about how we can incorporate retrieval practice into our day-to-day teaching.

As some of you may already be aware, retrieval practice is a teaching and learning strategy that can be used inside or outside of the classroom to help children learn. Retrieval practice focuses on getting information out of the memory. Through the act of retrieval, which involves recalling information through writing or verbally, that memory is then strengthened. Retrieval practice helps memory and therefore helps to improve learning. In lessons, teachers will regularly quiz their classes on what they have studied previously.

This is not a high stakes test or assessment, but instead a way to check what students can or cannot remember and to also help improve their memory, knowledge and confidence. There has been a lot of research published that tells us this is an effective strategy for all learners of all ages. The more children practice recalling information from memory, the easier that information will become to recall in the future.

With today's newsletter we have attached a 'retrieval guide for parents' which is full of interesting information about how to include retrieval in every day life. As our children are all still young, we will be focussing more on the

low stakes style of questioning such as quizzes, verbal recall and multiple choice style of questioning. We will be keeping it fun and interesting.



Miss Chisholm

2022-23 Term Dates	
Term	Dates
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
Autumn 1 (2023)	05/09/23 – 27/10/23
Autumn 2 (2023)	06/11/23 – 21/12/23
Spring 1 (2024)	08/01/24 – 16/02/24
Spring 2 (2024)	26/02/24 – 28/03/24
Summer 1 (2024)	15/04/24 – 24/05/24
Summer 2 (2024)	3/06/24 – 19/07/24

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

New events added are highlighted in yellow		
Date	Event	Time
16/01/23	Theatre Club begins	15.30
26/01/23	Parent meeting for Infant Parents (Ofsted feedback)	17.00
02/02/23	Parents meeting for Y6 residential	15.45 & 17.15
17/02/23	Break up for half term	
27/02/23	Spring term 2 begins	
31/03/23	Break up for Easter Holidays	
17/04/23	Summer Term begins	
01/05/23	May Day bank holiday (School Closed)	
08/05/23	Kings Coronation Bank Holiday (School Closed)	
26/05/23	Break up for Half term	
29/05/2023	Start of Summer term 2	
20/07/23	Break up for Summer Holidays	
21/07/23	Occasional Day	

### Occasional day and PD days for 23/24

The Local Authority occasional day (which we have to save in case schools are needed for polling) will be on **Friday 21st July 2023**. This means that school will close for the summer on **Thursday 20th July**.

The PD days for academic year 23/24 will be:

- **Monday 4th September 2023**
- **Friday 22nd December 2023**

### Phonics parent meetings

It was lovely to see the many parents who attended our phonics meeting this week. We have attached the power point from the meeting for you information. If anyone missed the meeting and would like another opportunity to attend, please let the infant office know as we can hold another meeting before half term.

### Student social worker

This term we are very fortunate to have the support of a student social worker. She has written a paragraph to introduce herself.

*Hello parents and guardians,*

*My name is Jess Gibson, I am a second-year social work student at Northumbria University. I am currently on my first placement at your school and will be here until the end of the spring term. I have been based in year 5 and will now begin working with individuals and groups of pupils - offering support and guidance around understanding emotion, friendship, confidence and resilience, to those children who require it. Please feel free to find me in the junior school if you would like more information on my role or have any questions. I want to thank the staff and children for giving me such a warm welcome.*

*Kind regards,*

*Jess Gibson*

### Heathy snacks and drinks

We have noticed an increase in sugary and unhealthy snacks coming back into school. Can you please only send in fruit, vegetables, cheese, yoghurt, or a low sugar cereal bar. Crisps and chocolate bars are not allowed.

### Times Tables Rockstars – NSPCC Rocks

Get those multiplication facts practised, we have entered NSPCC Rocks! All children from Year 3-6 have been enrolled and will be taking part in the NSPCC Rocks competition on 3rd February which runs between 7.30am and 7.30pm. To do the best you can, log into Times Tables Rockstars 3 or 4 times a week and get practising!



## Strike Action

Please see attached letter. We are working with HR and governors to try and cause as little disruption as is possible.

## Smart Watches

We have had an incident where some children wearing smart watches have been photographing other children. As with mobile phones, any device which can capture images is not allowed in school. If your child has a smart watch which has this capability, they will be asked to store them with the mobile phones for the duration of the school day.



## Curriculum overviews

Curriculum overviews for this term will be shared with you on Monday 23rd Jan.

## Safeguarding and attendance

**What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TWITTER**

Twitter is a social media network which allows users to post short messages (tweets) of up to 280 characters. Tweets can consist of text, photos, videos, audio, links, polls and GIFs – often linked by hashtags if they share a common theme or message. Twitter users can engage with other people's posts by liking, retweeting (sharing) or commenting on. Since the entrepreneur Elon Musk acquired Twitter in 2022 for \$44 billion, he has implemented several major changes to the platform.

**13+** (Mature)

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- INTERACTION WITH STRANGERS**  
Twitter is a public platform by default, meaning that anyone can view and interact with posts, follow someone and send direct messages. The accounts have to be verified or approved by Twitter. Some individuals may follow a young person's profile or contact them because they have similar interests, however, they may not be who they appear to be.
- FIXATION ON VIEW COUNT**  
Twitter has recently introduced a 'view count' feature – telling users how many people have seen their tweets. This has been criticised for encouraging users to post content for the sake of increasing their view count, rather than for genuine interest.
- TROLLS AND BULLYING**  
The anonymity offered by some users to send tweets to specific individuals, or to reply on a tweet, or to retweet, can lead to the harassment of both the target and anyone who retweets it. It's important to be aware of this if you or your child are using the platform.

**PAID-FOR VERIFICATION**  
Previously, all Twitter profiles displayed a blue tick icon to indicate that the user was a verified account, or a major organisation. However, anyone can pay for a Twitter blue tick icon to appear as if they are a verified account. This has led to some people impersonating others, and people who are not who they appear to be.

**CONTENT MODERATION CHANGES**  
In late 2022, Twitter stated that their 'content moderation' tool had been updated to allow users to report content, but not to remove it. This has led to some users reporting content, but not seeing it removed. This has led to some users reporting content, but not seeing it removed.

**HAJACKED HASHTAGS**  
This feature (#) is one of Twitter's most popular. It allows users to find specific tweets or topics, and the other users of tweets with that hashtag can reply directly to that tweet. This can be used to spread misinformation, or to spread hate speech, or to spread false information.

**ADVICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS**

- SET ACCOUNTS TO PRIVATE**  
To reduce some of the fear of your child's tweets being seen by anyone, you can always make their account private. This means that your child has to give approval to anyone who wants to follow them. You can change this in your child's settings.
- FOSTER CRITICAL THINKING**  
It can be difficult for anyone to discern if something is real or fake. Encourage your child to be critical of what they see on social media. Ask them to determine if a story they've seen is true, remind them to check the source, and to be aware of the possibility of a hoax or a scam.
- ENGAGE SAFETY MODE**  
When Safety Mode is activated, Twitter checks for content that is potentially harmful, offensive or inappropriate. This can help to reduce the risk of your child being exposed to such content.
- EXPLORE THE NEW SETTINGS**  
Previously, only users could reply to anyone and a reply to anyone was the default setting. Now, you can choose to restrict replies to your child's account to only people they mention, or to no one. This helps to protect your child from trolls and cyber abuse.
- PAUSE BEFORE POSTING**  
It's important that young people think about what they're about to post, and whether they might regret it later. Twitter has developed a 'pause before posting' feature, which allows users to pause before posting a tweet. This gives them time to think about what they're about to post, and whether they might regret it later.
- BLOCK, REPORT OR MUTE**  
If someone is upsetting your child on Twitter, you can block, report or mute them. Blocking someone means you won't see their tweets, and they won't be able to see yours. Reporting someone means you can report them to Twitter. Muting someone means you won't see their tweets, but they won't know you've muted them.
- BE CAREFUL WHO TO FOLLOW**  
As accounts are no longer being as rigorously verified under the new rules, it's important that young people understand what they're following. Be aware of people who are not who they seem to be. Ask your child if they know who the account is, and if not, ask them to check the account's bio and profile picture. Be careful of people who are asking for personal information on social media.

**Meet Our Expert**  
NOS National Online Safety  
WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

## Twitter

Twitter is a social media network which allows users to post short messages ('tweets') of up to 280 characters. Tweets can consist of text, photos, videos, audio, links, polls and GIFs – often linked by hashtags if they share a common theme or message. Hashtags receiving high levels of interest are said to be 'trending'. Twitter users can engage with other people's posts by liking, retweeting (sharing) or tweeting back (commenting on). Since the entrepreneur Elon Musk acquired Twitter in 2022 for \$44 billion, the platform has undergone several major changes.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as trolls and bullying, fixation on view count and interaction with strangers.

Thank you for continuing to support us in our attendance.

School / Year	Spring 1			
	Attendance	Minutes late	Attendance	Minutes late
	Week 1		Week 2	
<b>Junior Overall</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>3 hr 20 min</b>	<b>97.8</b>	<b>5 hr 7 min</b>
<b>Infant Overall</b>	<b>97.6</b>	<b>3 hr 7 min</b>	<b>95.6</b>	<b>7 hr 50 min</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>9 min</b>	<b>98.4</b>	<b>36 min</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>97.3</b>	<b>1 hr 42 min</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>1 hr 21 min</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>97.3</b>	<b>1 hr 19 min</b>	<b>97.2</b>	<b>1 hr 57 min</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>96.0</b>	<b>10 min</b>	<b>98.1</b>	<b>1 hr 13 min</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>96.0</b>	<b>25 min</b>	<b>95.2</b>	<b>2 hr 9 min</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>98.1</b>	<b>33 min</b>	<b>96.7</b>	<b>3 hr 10 min</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>98.5</b>	<b>2 hr 9 min</b>	<b>95.0</b>	<b>2 hr 31 min</b>

Thank you again for taking the time to read our newsletter and we hope you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Miss Chisholm – Executive Head Teacher  
 Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head  
 Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head