



Oakfield Schools Federation

23rd September 2022



Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you again for reading our newsletter for this week. We have had a very exciting week launching into our new Character Education Curriculum. We have begun with assemblies as well as discussion in classes about what it means to be of 'good character' and how to be the very best version of yourself. What having a Character Curriculum means is that through assemblies and class conversation we investigate:

- Perseverance
- Courage
- Empathy
- Self-Control
- Honesty
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Gratitude
- Kindness
- Acceptance

We have joined with the Association of Character Education to ensure our children receive the highest of quality provision and enable deep thinking and ways children can incorporate these elements into their everyday lives. This links with our federation golden threads of 'Ambition', 'Diversity' and 'Character' which are beginning to be interwoven into our daily curriculum.

We hope you enjoy our news.

Kate Chisholm – Executive Headteacher

New events added are highlighted in yellow		
Date	Event	Time
12/10/22	Gateshead Music Workshop	
21/10/22	Half Term	
22/10/22 (Sat)	Flag bearing at Sunderland Football Club	
31/10/22	Autumn 2 begins	
9/11/22	Growing and changing talk – year 6	
10/11/22	Flu immunisations	
12/10/22	Music Workshops (recycling and sustainability)	9.15 – Infants 10.50 – Juniors
7-9/12/22	Y6 Residential	
14-15/12/22	KS2 Pantomime visits	
22/12/22	Carols under the veranda	
22/12/22	Last day of term	
23/12/22	School Closed - PD day	
Upcoming events	Christmas Fair Reception Nativity KS1 and KS2 carol concerts Carols under the veranda Christmas Parties	TBC

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

Adopters Network meeting – Message from Jean Thompson (Virtual Schools Head)

Following on from my last letter regarding the newly established Network meeting for Adopters in Gateshead, I would like to inform all parents who are adopters in Gateshead that the next Network meeting will take place on **September 28th at the Angel View Inn at 10am**. The focus for the meeting will be **‘Trauma and the impact on children’**

I would be most grateful if this information could be passed on to all parents, as we know we have not reached all the adopters. Unfortunately, we don't have an alternative way of communicating with this group of parents unless they themselves contact the Virtual School.

They can contact me directly at jeanthompson@gateshead.gov.uk or on 07962166742

I would be very grateful for your support.

Thank you

Jean Thompson -Virtual School Head

Reading

Next week the children from Year 1 to year 6 will be taking part in an online story session with Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho and author Rose Robbins through Seven Stories. We are very much looking forward to this. If you have any free time and are available to come into school and listen to the children read, we are very keen to hear from you. Please contact either school office to register your interest.

In Key Stage 2 the children receive a reading book which they have been studying in class ensuring that they are able to read the book fluently, reading with intonation and can discuss the events in the text and infer meaning. We focus on deepening our understanding of plot points, character motivations and developing reading comprehension. This book is studied over a period of time. They also receive a reading for pleasure book daily which is at an appropriate level to ensure that they are reading frequently.

Reading Champions

We had some wonderful applications from the children in Key Stage 2 for the positions of Reading Champions in school. We have chosen 4 children from each year group and they will be holding their first meeting soon. This role will involve the children helping to choose new books, having a voice in the development of our reading areas in school, producing a reading newsletter and gathering ideas from their relevant year groups. A big thank you to all who applied for the positions.

Year 3-6 Opportunity to Flag Bear of Honour at Sunderland AFC

We are delighted to have been chosen to be the official flag bearers at Sunderland's upcoming game with Burnley on Saturday 22nd October (the first day of the half term holidays). Through our partnership with AK Teaching, we have the opportunity for 6 children to be on the pitch as the teams exit the tunnel prior to kick off, waving large Sunderland crested flags. If you feel that this is an opportunity to good to miss, a Microsoft form link, will be emailed to all parents early next week. Please complete the form by Wednesday 5th October.

When applying, please consider the following:

- A pupil chosen must be accompanied by a parent on the day. (Match tickets will be provided to both).
- Should the timing of the match be changed on that day for earlier or later kick off, pupil and parent are committing to attending regardless of the change.
- Parent and child will be outside the stadium at 12.45pm to meet school staff. Pupils will then practice the flag bearing routine before heading for a fun hour in the Beacon of Light.
- Parents need to give photographic consent prior to the event for Sunderland FC to take and publish photographs.



6 pupils will be chosen via lucky dip. Good luck all.

Slight change to the dinner menu Junior school

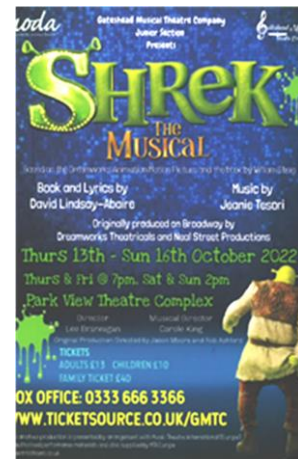
On Tuesday 27th September the hot option is sausage roll lunch. Nothing else changes.

Uniform labelling

Please can we remind you all to label your child's uniforms, especially hoodies and jumpers. This will mean you will always have the full range of uniform returned to yourselves each day.

Shrek

Gateshead Musical Theatre Company Junior Section are performing the musical Shrek between Thursday 13th – Sunday 16th October. There are past and present pupils of our school in this and we have been given a discount code for the Thursday and Friday performances for our school if you would like to take your child to see this amazing musical. Please see the attached leaflet for more details. You will need to input the code SHREK08 to get tickets for £8!



Safeguarding and attendance

Reddit

Reddit describes itself as a 'social news' site where users connect and share stories, opinions and support; debate issues; ask questions; and chat to people with similar interests. Discussion topics are organised into communities (known as subreddits) that are created, run and populated by users, who remain anonymous throughout. Free speech is encouraged and users – or 'redditors' – can vote posts 'up' or 'down' so they get more (or less) attention. Reddit is free to join, although signing up to Reddit Premium unlocks an advert-free version of the platform.

Thank you for continuing to support us in our attendance.

School / Year	Autumn 1					
	Attendance	Minutes late	Attendance	Minutes late	Attendance	Minutes late
	Week 1		Week 2		Week 3	
Junior Overall	98.91	24 min	97.4	36 min	96.7	4 hr 48 mi
Infant Overall	95.8	7 min	97.7	27 mins	96.2	2 hr 56 min
6	98.6	15 min	93.3	13 min	94.3	54 min
5	98.6	9 min	98.5	15 min	97.2	2 hr 18 min
4	98.6	0 min	97.9	5 min	97.6	1 hr 27 min
3	99.6	0 min	99.6	3 min	97.4	9 min
2	94.3	7 min	99.0	20 min	96.2	26 min
1	97.8	0 min	97.9	7 min	96.0	2 hr 30 min
R	-	-	95.4	0 min	96.4	0 min

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

Warmest regards

Miss Chisholm - Executive Head Teacher

Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head

Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head