



# Oakfield House School

## Newsletter December 2025



### Executive Head Teacher's End of Autumn Term Overview

As we come to the end of the Autumn Term at Oakfield House School, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a busy, positive, and transformative few months for our school community. This Term has brought important developments in our leadership structure, and I am pleased to share how these changes are already strengthening our provision and supporting our ongoing commitment to pupil wellbeing and progress.

We are delighted to welcome Nicola Harper into her new leadership role as the Head of School. Nicola brings extensive experience, a deep understanding of our ethos, and a heartfelt dedication to ensuring every child thrives. Her knowledge and professionalism have already made a significant impact, and we are excited for the direction she will help shape as we move into the new year.

In January, we look forward to meeting more of our parents and carers—whether through planned events, informal conversations, or continued partnership around each child's journey. Your involvement and support make an enormous difference, and we are truly grateful for the trust you place in us.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this Term. It is a privilege to work alongside such a committed community.

On behalf of everyone at Oakfield House School, I wish you a peaceful, joyful, and restorative festive season.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Best wishes

Mrs Rigby

Executive Head Teacher

Well, although I only arrived three weeks ago, I have been amazed by the incredible work and progress being made by the pupils.

I have had the privilege of spending time in classes and enjoyed some fabulous lessons as well as the amazing activities and trips dedicated to the festive period.

I am really looking forward to next term and being able to embed further in to the wonderful place that is Oakfield House.

A huge thank you to the dedicated team here that I have witnessed bring learning to life and have so much passion for working with the learners around them.

I hope you all have a well-earned and lovely 2 weeks and we will see you well rested in the new term.

Merry Christmas!

Nic Harper

Head of School

## What we have been up to:

Our Christmas Fayre was a great success, it was lovely to see so many attend! We raised £516 pound for Derian House Hospice



Oakfield's Got Talent! Children from various classes took part in a talent contest. We had amazing singers, dancers and a whole show of wonderful talent! Well done to all involved



This term Scouts have been on trips to Eco-Town and Pizza Express, made Christmas crafts, participated in walking football tournaments, learning about Pudsey and Remembrance Day, and lastly have performed in Oakfield's Got Talent, our very own talent show.



This term Eco-Council have struggled to attend for meetings due to timetabling clashes, however they are working through their Eco-Schools badges and have put together an order for a free tree pack from the wildlife trust, I am pleased to inform parents and carers that we are also putting plans into place for an "Earth week" filled with activities for all classes which will be later in the year.

## Acorn Class

### QT Robot



Acorn class have been exploring and using the QT robot twice a week in class. Each child has different goals that they have been working on as the QT robot allows for customized activities that target specific developmental goals. Through repeated interactions with the QT robot, the children are gradually improving their ability to initiate and respond to social cues, fostering greater engagement and skill development whilst also developing their joint attention. The children in Acorns are really enjoying their sessions with the robot.



### Exploring Space



In our class, we have been actively exploring the theme of space. Through sensory engaging activities, they have been exploring aliens, planets and stars in a fun interactive way. The children have also been exploring sensory trays, which help stimulate their senses, promote calming, and focus. Additionally, they are developing their fine motor skills by playing with playdough, shaping and moulding it to resemble stars and planets.



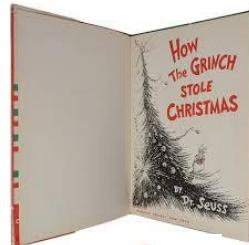
## Birch Class



Birch have had an absolutely fantastic half term, full of learning, creativity, and fun!

The boys have made wonderful progress in developing their core word understanding through a wide range of exciting activities that kept them engaged and smiling. Our space topic has been a real highlight- we have created incredible artworks, “blasted off” on a trip to the moon, and explored fascinating space artefacts! In maths, the boys have shone on their individual pathways, deepening their understanding with hands-on, concrete resources that have made learning both meaningful and enjoyable. Their social skills have blossomed too, with plenty of opportunities for messy play, teamwork, and turn-taking that they embraced brilliantly. As we moved toward the festive season, Birch dived into a range of Christmas stories, and our last three weeks have been filled with activities inspired by Stickman by Julia Donaldson, How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss, and The Snowman by Raymond Briggs.

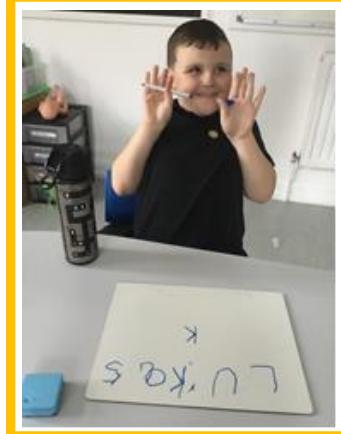
We are incredibly proud of how confidently the boys have settled into the year and how much they grow each day. Their enthusiasm and joy brighten our classroom, we cannot wait to see how they continue to flourish in the new term!



## Oaks Class



Oaks class have been busy this term! We have enjoyed exploring new sounds and learning these by matching pictures to the words, practising our handwriting, forming the words from playdoh or using other sensory elements such as shaving foam or pasta. In Numeracy we have challenged ourselves, we have looked at one more and one less than a number, ordering objects and numbers, number lines and part whole models. We have completed tasks using blocks, counters and playdoh to help support our learning.



## Sycamore Class

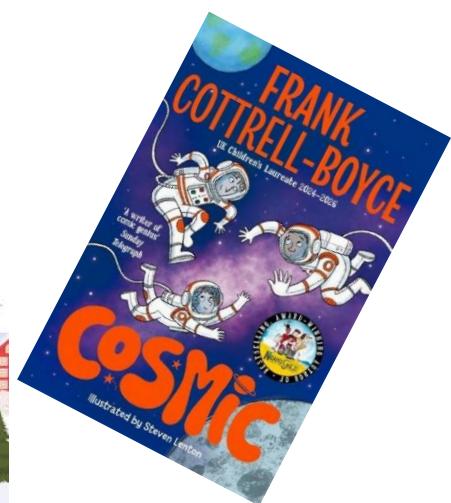


This term has been super busy in Sycamore. We started the year learning about The Plague and then journeyed into Space over the past few weeks! We all loved our visit to Pizza Express which enhanced our food technology lessons, and enjoyed the Peter Pan Pantomime together, in Lytham, as a final treat.

Science has very much been a highlight as the children enjoyed growing beetles from Mealworm, feeding them, and tracking their growth every day. We also took on a Santa STEM challenge to grow icicles and freeze bubble - some went better than others!! We all designed our own gassy or rocky planet that we constructed using paper-mache.

In English we looked at descriptive language, facts about Space and astronauts and enjoyed the book *Cosmic*. Whilst in Maths we have tackled place value, fractions and multiplication.

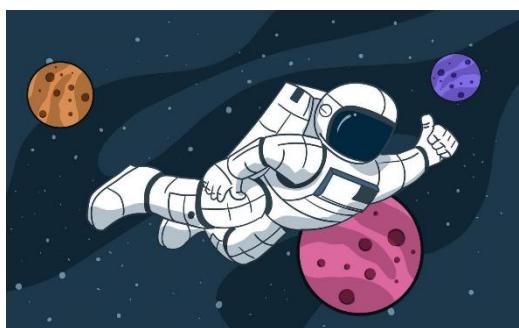
We have also had a huge focus this half term on building friendships, listening well to other members of the class and trying to understand the viewpoints of others. We have done this through PE and games played together in class. We built the Eyam Plague Village together using Lego whilst learning facts about why the village has been talked about through history.



## Pine Class



This term Pine class have settled brilliantly into the main school building and are growing in confidence as they continue to enjoy eating lunch in the dining hall. In Autumn 1 we explored the topic of families, and in Autumn 2 we blasted off into our learning about space. The children have loved finding out about astronauts and exploring how they travel (we even made our own rockets). In maths we have been practising our counting and ordering skills using planets, stars and aliens! We also explored a range of celebrations and events this term, including Diwali and Remembrance Day. Each morning, pupils are writing or building their names and are following the class morning routine with increasing independence. We have seen wonderful turn-taking and great progress in communication. Pine class have also enjoyed using the QT robot to support their learning and have listened to exciting stories in forest school, including The Gruffalo, before making their own Gruffalo crumble. We ended our busy and exciting term with a fantastic trip to the Space Centre. Well done Pine class for a brilliant autumn term!



## Rowan Class



In English, our focus book has been 'The star in the jar'. Pupils have been working extremely hard looking at positive adjectives, similes, prepositions and onomatopoeia whilst creating impressive sentences!

In maths, all pupils have been showing great progress! Some of our learning has been around adding and subtracting 1-3-digit numbers, sequences, place value and exchanging numbers.



In PE our lessons have been linked to our theme which is space this half-term. Pupils have been taking part in different activities related to space, focusing on throwing and kicking skills as well as fitness and teamwork!



**Merry Christmas Rowan class!  
From Mrs Brown, Miss Bayley and Miss Gilder**



## Maple Class



Autumn 2 Maple.

On the lead up to Christmas Maple Class have focused heavily on supporting our pupils with those social skills which are so important over the festive period. With Christmas being a time to come together with family & friends and being able to interact with less familiar people in situations where sharing space, toys and time is so important we hope the hard work Maple class have put in over the term will be seen at home as well.



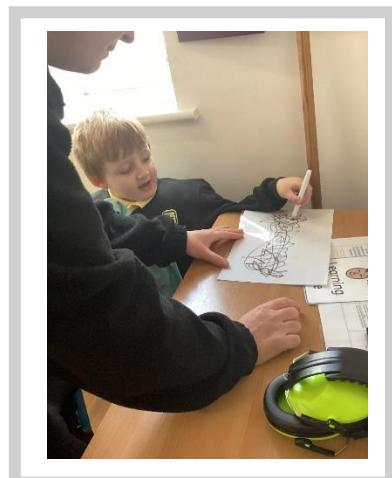
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



## Willow Class



This term in Willow Class, the children have been focusing on settling into their routines and becoming more familiar with the symbols around the room, which help them communicate and navigate their day. They've made great progress in using these symbols to express their needs and engage with the environment. The children have also been enjoying mark making, particularly with their name writing cards, as they are developing their fine motor skills. As the term has progressed, the children have truly embraced the festive spirit, creating beautiful decorations that have added a joyful and colourful touch to our classroom. It's been a wonderful term of growth, creativity, and festive fun!



# Meet the Therapy Team



Nicola Urquhart

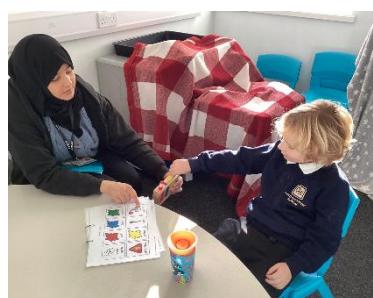
Humaira Gheewala

Nicola Maume

This term, Oakfield's clinical team has grown significantly! We are delighted to now have Nicola Urquhart, Lead Clinician and Occupational Therapist, Nicola Maume, Occupational Therapist, and Humaira Gheewala, Speech and Language Therapist, all on site full time.

The team has thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our pupils, their families, and the teaching staff throughout the term. Nicola Urquhart and Nicola Maume have been working closely with children to develop their gross and fine motor skills, while Humaira has been supporting pupils through joint attention activities to enhance communication skills and engagement.

We look forward to continuing to build strong therapeutic relationships across the school and supporting every child to reach their full potential.



# Oakfield House School 2025 - 2026 School Calendar

September 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
35	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
36	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
37	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
38	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
39	29	30					

October 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
39			1	2	3	4	5
40	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
41	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
42	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
43	27	28	29	30	31		
44							

November 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44						1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
48	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
49	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
50	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
51	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
52	29	30	31				

January 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1			1	2	3	4	
2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5						1	
6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9						1	
10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31						

April 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14			1	2	3	4	5
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

May 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18			1	2	3		
19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
25	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
26	29	30					

July 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31						1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
36	31						

School Closed/Holidays

Term Dates

INSET Day

Early Finish 12pm