



Newsletter  
May 2026



**OAKWOOD**  
PRIMARY ACADEMY

# Headteacher's Term 5 update

Dear Oakwood reader,

As we reach the end of Term 5, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been another busy and successful half-term at Oakwood. It has been a pleasure to see the continued enthusiasm for learning across the school, alongside the many opportunities children have had to participate, perform and achieve across the curriculum.

In the next few snippets of our termly newsletter, I hope to capture just a few of our wonderful Oakwood opportunities that we've enjoyed in Term 5.

## Superb Sports Days!

One of the highlights of the term has undoubtedly been our Sports Days, from Nursery through to Year 6. The energy, determination and sportsmanship shown by every child was fantastic to see, and it was wonderful to welcome so many families to share these moments with us. A huge thank you goes to Miss Stew for her organisation and dedication, as well as our Year 5 children who supported our younger pupils so brilliantly—demonstrating teamwork, responsibility and kindness in action.

A huge thank you to all our parents and families who came on the day to support - there was such a positive and supportive atmosphere!

## Our Oakwood Way

Our Oakwood Way—being ready, respectful and safe—continues to be at the heart of all that we do. We are proud of how well children have been responding to our restorative approach, showing maturity in reflecting on their choices and making positive changes when things have not gone as expected. This consistency is helping to strengthen our positive school culture. As we move into the final half-term, we are also looking forward to revitalising our attendance awards to celebrate those children who demonstrate excellent commitment to being in school each day

## SATs Success

I would like to congratulate our Year 6 and Year 2 children on their fantastic approach to this year's SATs. They demonstrated resilience, determination and a positive attitude throughout the assessment period, and we are incredibly proud of how they conducted themselves. These assessments are just one part of their learning journey, but the maturity and effort they showed was a true reflection of the Oakwood values.

We know that we have further upcoming assessments for Year 4, in their Multiplication Check and Year 1, in their Phonics Screening Check too - we know you too will show our Oakwood values of knowledge and determination!

## Oakwood Opportunities

Term 5 was filled with Oakwood Opportunities!

- NSPCC Workshops
- School trips galore to the: zoo, castle, Michelham priory and more!
- First aid workshops
- 2 rounds of assessment weeks!
- A superbly attended SATs breakfast
- Y6 Bowling celebration
- Hive Forest School & Cooking groups
- Reception Reptylers Experience
- Sporting success at our Sports Day events.

Looking ahead to Term 6, we will be focusing on ensuring smooth transitions for all children as they prepare for their next year group. We look forward to sharing our annual reports with families, providing a clear picture of each child's progress and achievements this year. We will continue to value opportunities to work closely in partnership with families and look forward to celebrating all that has been accomplished this year, as well as key outcomes from our stakeholder surveys.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

## HANNAH MORGAN

Headteacher  
Oakwood Primary Academy



# From Term 5, we want to shout about...



## Reception

Our reception children have been getting stuck in to their outdoor learning each week. In fact, we're so proud of how much they love these sessions, that we're excited to announce that we're also looking to expand our 'nature school' sessions into our nursery offer, starting soon in term 6!

Our classes also enjoyed got hands-on and historically excited as they met some fascinating scaly visitors up close! The children and adults were exceptionally brave and handled all kinds of different creatures, learning about their unique characteristics and life cycles too!



## Year 1

Our Year 1 adventurers had a reigning success on their recent trip to Lewes Castle—what a fort-tastic day it was! From the moment they arrived, excitement was towering as high as the castle itself.

The children represented Oakwood fantastically—curious, enthusiastic and full of brilliant questions as they explored the grounds. They climbed the steep steps with true determination (no moat-ivation shortages here!) and were rewarded with spectacular views that were simply un-fort-gettable.

Inside the castle, our learners stepped back in time, discovering what life was like in medieval days. They handled artefacts, learned about armour (which was certainly suit-able for the occasion!), and uncovered fascinating facts that really castle-d their imaginations.

A huge thank you to all of our staff and helpers for making the day run so smoothly—it wouldn't have been such a crowning achievement without you!



# From Term 5, we want to shout about...

## Year 2

Our Year 2 children had a fantastic day on their recent visit to Drusillas Zoo, full of excitement, curiosity and memorable experiences from start to finish.

The children explored the zoo with great enthusiasm, enjoying the opportunity to see a wide range of animals up close. From watching playful monkeys to observing meerkats and other fascinating creatures, there was plenty to capture their interest and spark discussion. The pupils represented Oakwood brilliantly throughout the day, showing respectful behaviour, excellent listening skills and genuine curiosity.

The visit also supported their learning, giving pupils the chance to think about animal habitats, diets and how different species survive in the wild. They asked thoughtful questions and made connections to their classroom learning, bringing their knowledge to life in a real-world setting.

There was, of course, time for play as well, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the park areas, building friendships and making lovely memories together.

A huge thank you to all of the staff and volunteers who supported the trip and ensured everything ran smoothly. It was a wonderful day for Year 2 and one that they will be talking about for a long time to come.



## Year 3

Year 3 have been getting creative with their recent art project, exploring the traditional technique of batik printing to design and create their very own tote bags.

Using wax and dye, the children carefully planned and produced their designs, learning how this method creates bold patterns and striking contrasts. They showed great creativity and determination as they experimented with colours, shapes and layering to bring their ideas to life.

Throughout the project, pupils demonstrated excellent focus and resilience, particularly when working through the detailed process of applying wax and waiting for each stage to develop. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow as they refined their designs and developed new artistic skills.

The finished tote bags are something to be truly proud of—unique, high-quality pieces that showcase both their creativity and their understanding of this traditional art form. Well done, Year 3, for such thoughtful and impressive work!



# From Term 5, we want to shout about...

## Year 4

Year 4 had a wonderful day stepping back in time during their visit to Michelham Priory. Surrounded by beautiful grounds and historic buildings, the children were able to immerse themselves in life from the past and deepen their understanding of local history.

Throughout the visit, pupils explored the priory and took part in a range of engaging activities, bringing their classroom learning to life. They showed great curiosity, asking thoughtful questions and making excellent connections with their history work in school. Their behaviour was exemplary, reflecting our school values of respect and determination as they represented Oakwood so positively.

The trip provided a fantastic opportunity for hands-on learning, helping children to develop a richer understanding of how people lived and worked in the past. It was a memorable experience and a highlight of the term for many pupils.



Year 4 were fortunate to welcome volunteers from St John Ambulance, who led an informative and engaging workshop focused on first aid and responding to emergencies.

The children learned about how to react in serious situations, including what to do if someone is unresponsive, how to perform CPR, and how to help someone who is choking. Using mannequins and specialist training equipment, pupils were given the opportunity to practise these important life-saving skills in a safe and supportive environment.

The session built both knowledge and confidence, with children showing great maturity and focus as they worked through each scenario. They asked insightful questions and demonstrated a strong understanding of why quick and effective first aid can make such a difference.

This was a highly valuable experience, equipping pupils with practical skills that they can carry with them beyond the classroom. A big thank you to the St John Ambulance volunteers for their time and expertise.



# From Term 5, we want to shout about...

## Year 5

We are incredibly proud of the progress year 5 have shown. Mr Sharp, our Deputy Head Teacher, has been teaching the cohort and has been particularly impressed by the pride pupils are taking in their handwriting and overall presentation. It is clear to see the care, effort and attention to detail that is going into their work each day.

Alongside this, we have been thoroughly impressed by the depth of their understanding in science. Their recent 'thinking squares' have showcased not only strong knowledge, but also their ability to explain, question and make thoughtful connections in their learning. The quality of ideas and reasoning shared has truly stood out. Well done, Year 5!



## Year 6

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils for the mature and determined way they approached their SATs this term. They faced the assessments with focus, resilience and a positive attitude, demonstrating all of the hard work they have put in throughout the year.

Pupils showed great perseverance, supporting one another and tackling each paper with confidence and care. Their conduct was exemplary, reflecting our school values of determination and achievement at every step.

A particular highlight of the week was the SATs breakfast, which proved to be a real hit with the children. Each morning, they enjoyed a welcoming start to the day with pastries, toast and fruit juices, building both energy and a sense of togetherness. The final day was especially memorable, with a well-deserved fry-up creating a fantastic send-off to the end of the tests. A huge thank you to our staff team for supporting this each morning!

Whatever the outcomes, we know that each child has given their very best—and that is something to celebrate. Well done, Year 6, for such a fantastic effort. We are all very proud of you!



# Sports Day Success!



# Our Hive helps us to thrive!



# Communication

As part of our pledge to improve communication with our parent body, we've streamlined our communication channels and have introduced key documents that will be used to communicate regularly with parents. We now have the following up and running!



# Transition

As we approach the final weeks of term, we are beginning to prepare for one of our key priorities: ensuring that every child feels confident, secure and ready for their next year group. We are currently in the process of organising classes and our staff team for September. We recognise how important this information is for families and will be sharing confirmed arrangements in the coming weeks.

Transitions can bring both excitement and worry. As a school, we take great care to support children through this change, providing opportunities to build familiarity, meet new adults and reflect positively on their achievements this year. In classes we'll be completing different transition activities to help the children prepare, but here's a few tips for how you can support from home too:

- Talking positively about the year ahead 😊
- Acknowledging and normalising any worries
- Encouraging independence (e.g. organising belongings, following routines)
- Taking time to talk and listen to how they are feeling 💬

It is important to remember that feeling a little anxious about change is completely normal for children. If you would like further support, the following resource may be helpful:

- <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/transitions-and-times-of-change/>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/anxiety-in-children/>

As always, please do speak to a member of staff if you have any questions or concerns—we are here to support every step of your child's journey. ❤️

# Term dates

## Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

Start of term 6

START

## W/C 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> June

Y5 & 6 Bikeability sessions/ Y4 Multiplication Check



## Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Y4 start weekly swimming sessions



## W/C 8<sup>th</sup> June

Y1 Phonics Screening Check commences



## Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June

Y6 Activity Week, including residential visit to Hindleap.



## Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Year 5 & Year 2 trips to our local community centre.



## Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June

INSET Day: Nursery still open.



## W/C 29<sup>th</sup> June

Transition days - more information to follow shortly!



## Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Reception school trip



## Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Parent coffee morning: supporting children's resilience.



## Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Reports sent home to parents via Arbor App.



## Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July

Reports follow-up: open classrooms 3.30 - 4.30pm



## Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July

Summer Fayre after-school

## Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July

Oakwood's Got Talent

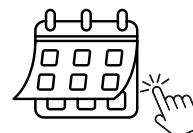
## Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July

Y6 Leavers' Assembly (am) and last day of term

## Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

INSET Day

Click the calendar below to see our website school calendar:



Remember PE kit consists of a plain black tracksuit or shorts & our school, yellow PE shirt.



## PE days

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 6 & Year 1		Reception Classes	Year 3 & Year 4	Year 2 & Year 5



**OAKWOOD**  
PRIMARY ACADEMY



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