



# NEWSLETTER

OAKWELL RISE  
Primary Academy

Friday 13th December 2024

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL

We have had a wonderful week of festivities but a HUGE hats off to the catering team for cooking a delicious Christmas meal for our children. The hall was decorated beautifully by the team and the children all enjoyed a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. Many staff also helped whilst wearing jumpers to create a wonderful atmosphere for all.

*Mrs Jenkins*

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

What a lovely festive week we have had! Performances have begun with Year 3, 4 and Nursery all sharing their delights. We also had our annual Winter Fair, which was very well attended by all.

Thank you to everyone for all your help in either donating, setting up or coming to have some fun! Have a lovely weekend.

*Mrs Faxon*

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## ATTENDANCE

Our target is 97%

RECEPTION	98.1%
YEAR 1	97.2%
YEAR 2	91.8%
YEAR 3	96.3%
YEAR 4	95.8%
YEAR 5	98.3%
YEAR 6	88.2%

Only one more week to go,  
let's go for it!

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK IS 94.9%

NUMBER OF LATES THIS WEEK	32
LOSS OF LEARNING (MINS)	227

## IMPORTANT UPDATE ON CONSENTS

Thank you to those that have updated your consents on Arbor.

We still have a number of pending consents, please do login to your Arbor App and consent or decline  
Many Thanks



## Santa's Grotto @ OAKWELL RISE THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER

Children will have the magical opportunity to visit Santa in our Oakwell Rise Grotto for just £3!

Tickets can be purchased on Arbor under the "Trips" section.

### Important Deadline:

Bookings must be made by Friday, 13th December, at 3:00 PM. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept any bookings after this time.

Don't miss out on this festive experience!



## FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER

*Last Day!*

School will finish for the festive holidays on Friday 20th December at 1pm.

Please collect your child from their usual collection points.

## WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK

16.12.24	FS1/KS1 PANTO
17.12.24	KS2 PANTO FS1/KS1 XMAS PERFORMANCE
18.12.24	XMAS PERFORMANCES
19.12.24	WINTER CRAFT DAY PARTY DAY SANTA'S GROTTTO
20.12.24	LAST DAY! CAROLS AROUND THE TREE

## GET INTO TEACHING

WITH JOSIE THIRKELL INSTITUTE

01226 720758

traintoteach@jtioe.org.uk

www.jtioe.org.uk



## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Celebrate the festive season with our children's magical Christmas shows!

Show Details:

17.12.24	FS2/KS1	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
18.12.24	LKS2	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
18.12.24	FS2/KS1	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

There are two showings of each performance to ensure everyone has a chance to attend.

Ticket Information:

1 ticket per child's adult to allow all families to join.

Tickets are just £1 each and available via Arbor.

Next week, we'll review ticket sales and open any remaining tickets on a first come, first served basis.

Additionally, Year 5 & Year 6 will perform Carols Around the Tree on the last day of term.  
Don't miss this festive celebration!



## REMINDER: UPCOMING PANTO TRIP!

"OH NO IT ISN'T!"

"OH YES IT IS!"

We're excited for our upcoming visit to see Jack and the Beanstalk at Barnsley Civic! Here's a reminder of the details:

Dates & Times:

FS1/KS1: Monday, 16th December

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

KS2: Tuesday, 17th December

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Cost: £6 per child (payable via Arbor, under trips)

We can't wait to enjoy this magical pantomime together!



## NO AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

There are no afterschool clubs next week. Collection will be at normal time apart from Friday, as school closes at 1pm.

Please note there will be no afternoon nursery on Friday 20th December 2024.



Join Toby Tyke For Our Christmas Tree Lights Switch On  
Parish Church Of St. Peter and St. John the Baptist  
Brinkman Street S70 1JQ  
Saturday 14 December 2024 At 3pm  
Stalls - Eats - Drinks

*Christmas Tree Lights Switch On*



## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, travelling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

- MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY**  
Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and data security. Before using screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.
- PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS**  
The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, heaters and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make the festive season a challenging time for educators and families. Keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-rated candles to prevent accidents.
- CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS**  
More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road noise, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Plan emergency kits and routes to reach home. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.
- BEWARE OF ALLERGIES**  
Holiday meals often feature many foods that may contain allergens. Cross-contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any dietary needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or epinephrine. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.
- PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS**  
Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection rates. Implement hygiene, encourage vaccination, avoid crowded areas and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.
- STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD**  
Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can significantly impact road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.
- MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS**  
Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if unsecured. Trayed tables, sagging Christmas trees, wind-blown decorations and poorly secured items can be hazardous. Inspect decorations for damage and ensure they are properly secured. Avoid hanging decorations from trees, plants, light fixtures or small items not designed for decoration use. Never leave candles unattended. Turning smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.
- SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS**  
Some toys and gifts can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Inspect and gift-wrap safely. Hazardous and age-appropriate items can be complex with no return options available. Inspect items carefully and ensure safety devices have been activated. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.
- ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE**  
Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue leading to accidents or poor decision-making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.
- DRINK RESPONSIBLY**  
Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and loss of awareness for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide non-alcoholic alternatives for guests. Family moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert  
James Weston is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://thenationalcollege.com/guide/healthy-over-the-festive-season>

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

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OAKWELL RISE  
**DECEMBER**  
EVENTS 2024

**FRIDAY 29TH  
NOVEMBER**

*Non - Uniform Day*

Children can come into school in non-uniform. We are asking for a donation for our tombola.



**MONDAY 2ND  
DECEMBER**

*Carol Service*

Children will be heading over to the church to take part in a carol service.



**WEDNESDAY  
11TH DECEMBER**

*Winter Wonderland  
Fair*

Come one, come all and join us at our Wonderland Winter Fair!  
Time: 2pm-4pm  
Where: Hall

Parents/carers to enter via the hall and go to their child's classroom to sign their child(ren) out.

*winter  
wonderland*

**THURSDAY 12TH  
DECEMBER**

*Xmas Jumper Day*

Children can come to school wearing their Christmas jumpers/outfits in aid of Save the Children.



**THURSDAY 12TH  
DECEMBER**

*Christmas Dinner*

Children can enjoy a Christmas dinner for lunch on this day or a packed lunch from home.



**THURSDAY 12TH  
DECEMBER**

*Christmas Performances*

Our children are performing a variety of Christmas shows in December and tickets are available to purchase via Arbor for £1. The shows details are:  
LKS2 - 2-3PM



**FRIDAY 13TH  
DECEMBER**

*Nursery Christmas  
Performances*

Our children are performing a variety of Christmas shows in December and tickets are available to purchase via Arbor for £1. The shows details are:

10.45AM - 11.45AM  
2PM - 3PM



**MONDAY 16TH  
DECEMBER**

*Panto*

**BARNSELY  
CIVIC**



Our children will be walking to Barnsley Civic to watch the amazing pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk.

FS2/KS1  
10AM - 12PM

£6 payment via Arbor.



OAKWELL RISE  
**DECEMBER**  
EVENTS 2024

**TUESDAY 17TH  
DECEMBER**

### Christmas Performances

Our children are performing a variety of Christmas shows in December and tickets are available to purchase via Arbor for £1.

The shows details are:  
FS2/KS1 - 9-10AM



**TUESDAY 17TH  
DECEMBER**



Our children will be walking to Barnsley Civic to watch the amazing pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk.

KS2  
10AM - 12PM

£6 payment via Arbor.

**WEDNESDAY  
18TH DECEMBER**

### Christmas Performances

Our children are performing a variety of Christmas shows in December and tickets are available to purchase via Arbor for £1.

The shows details are:  
LKS2 - 9-10AM  
FS2/KS1 - 2-3PM



**THURSDAY 19TH  
DECEMBER**

### Winter Craft Day

Parents/Carers can join their children for some winter crafts, please sign up via Arbor.  
Nursery AM - Y6  
9AM-10AM

Nursery PM session  
1.15PM - 2.15PM



**THURSDAY 19TH  
DECEMBER**

### Santa's Grotto

Children will have the chance to visit Santa in our Oakwell Rise Grotto for £3. Tickets can be brought on Arbor, under trips. He will also be visiting each class.



**THURSDAY 19TH  
DECEMBER**

### Party Day

Children will be enjoying a party in their classrooms.

Children can come to school in their party outfits or non-uniform.



**FRIDAY 20TH  
DECEMBER**

### Carols Around The Tree

Year 5 & 6 will be leading Christmas Carols around the Tree in the Hall.  
12.30PM - 1PM



**FRIDAY 20TH  
DECEMBER**

### Last Day!

School will finish at 1PM on the last day of term. Children can come to school in festive clothes or non-uniform.

*Happy holidays*



# OH Snap! This Week's Snapshots



## 30 HOUR NURSERY FUNDING

Oakwell Rise Primary Academy is delighted to offer 30 hour funding for children either starting in Nursery or continuing their Nursery education into this academic year, 2024/2025.

We are able to offer the following:

- 30 hr funded places
- 15 hr funded places

The Nursery day will run as follows:

- AM session - 08:30 - 11:30
- PM session - 12:00 - 15:00

For the full time Nursery children, they will be an additional 30 minutes of lunchtime where children will need to be provided with a packed lunch from home. The lunch period will be inclusive within the offer and no further charges will be made.

Admissions to Nursery will be in order of the Date of Birth, regardless of whether you require 30 hrs or 15hrs. If you wish to apply for a 30hr funded place, you need to apply online at <https://www.gov.uk/get-tax-free-childcare> to receive an 11 digit code.

When you have received an 11 digit code please provide this to the school office by the 1st December for January intake.



OAKWELL RISE  
Primary Academy

We are:  
Child Focused  
Nurturing  
Inclusive  
Ambitious

Inspiring today, making a difference tomorrow

