



Oakwood Infant and Nursery School

Headteacher: Mrs Aimie Habgood

Address: Waldene Drive, Alvaston, Derby DE24 0GZ

Telephone: (01332) 574192

Email: admin@oakwoodi.derby.sch.uk

www.oakwoodinfant.com

July 2025

I cannot believe that we are at the end of Summer Term already! It struck me, at our Year 2 Leaver's Celebration, just how much learning, fun, visits, trips and experiences we have covered this year! July is always a period of preparing for change! Change is exciting and provides so many new opportunities—but along with this can come worries and apprehension—do keep talking to your children about their new classes and staff over the Summer Break—hopefully the transition booklets sent home will be useful to support with this.

A huge thank you to our families for your support over this year—school really does work best for children when we all work together for the best possible experiences for them.

Wishing you a wonderful and safe Summer break!

Mrs Habgood

(very proud) Headteacher

Our remaining INSET days (school closed to children) for this year are as follow:

4th September 2025

24th October 2025

5th December 2025

23rd February 2026

19th June 2026



Thank you for your support in our Summer Fair. Over £700 in profit was raised. This will go towards developing our outdoor break time and lunchtime resources. Thank you for joining in the fun!

We would also like to thank companies who kindly donated vouchers and prizes for our raffle!



Communications

We will always welcome open and honest conversations with families. We want to work with parents and carers to best support your children in school. We do, however, need to remind all families about our communication charter. Communications from us will always be respectful and we require the same from parents and carers (which, the vast majority of time, we do have extremely open and honest, and sometimes challenging conversations that are completely respectful by both families and staff).

Please see our Communication Charter on our website via this link: [Communication Charter](#)



Building brighter futures together

Don't forget to sign up to JAG—our external wraparound childcare provider running on our school site. They offer a Breakfast Club from 7:30am and after school provision until 6pm.

Changes to staffing from September 2025

I am delighted that **Mrs Rose**, who has held the role of SENCO and Assistant Headteacher will continue as SENCO and work as Deputy Headteacher from September.

We say goodbye to **Miss Belton**, who has been a wonderful support in Class 2 over the year. Miss Belton leaves us to continue her journey in education to complete her teacher training.

Mrs Thalmann and **Miss Limb** both join us as teachers in F2, along with **Miss Lester**. We are very excited to welcome them to our team.

Mrs Hughes leaves her role as TA In EYFS – we have really valued your support and contribution to the school.

In our Office Team, we say goodbye to **Mrs Hensley** and thank her for her excellent organisational skills! We welcome **Mrs Green** to the Office Team who will work alongside **Mrs Richards**, who will take on the admin/attendance role.

Our Leadership Team will include:

Miss Lilley as EYFS Lead

Mrs Roe as Year 1 Lead

Mrs Habgood as Year 2 Lead

Growing together, shining forever.



School Projects

Over the Summer break, the following projects are planned:

- replacement of the blue and green flooring on the Reception playground
- Developing the outdoor equipment in the Reception playground
- Partitioning space in the KS2 playground to allow specified areas for play (eg ball park, trim trail, games area, reading area).
- Decorating of areas within school to support the pride children feel in our school environment
- Redeveloping rooms to allow quieter spaces for smaller group learning
- Development of displays around the school to showcase our children's fantastic learning/work and our curriculum offer.
- New furniture in some classrooms/replacing to give space and 'flow' to classrooms.

Alvaston Library

Opening Times:



Wednesday Closed

Thursday	9:30 am–7 pm
Friday	9:30 am–5 pm
Saturday	9:30 am–1 pm
Sunday	Closed
Monday	1–5 pm
Tuesday	9:30 am–5 pm

Learning Logs/Reading at home

From September, all children from F2 to Y2 will have a Learning Log. **Children are expected to read 5 days a week at home and have this recorded in their Learning Logs.** They will then move along our Reading Reward system. A video explaining Learning Logs will be added to DOJO shortly (once technical difficulties have been solved!) Thank you for the feedback from our group of parents who attended our governor meeting a last term to share views on this!

Come to our library session...

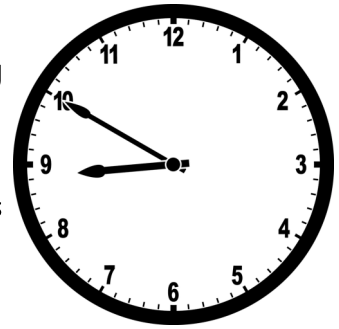
Every Tuesday, 3:25—3:35, our Small Hall will be open for you to visit to borrow a book with your child. Children will be given a 'library card' and can borrow a book from our school library to enjoy at home and return to exchange the following week. Who can collect 10 stamps next term by visiting over 10 weeks for a special prize!?

Thank you for taking the time to complete our latest Parent Feedback Survey. I really value all of the feedback received – so much positivity and celebration of what is working well as well as some very useful suggestions and feedback to support our school improvement. Some of this feedback has been chunked into themes below.

Feedback	Planned actions/response
<p>Progress is not shared frequently enough</p>	<p>Parents will have 2 opportunities a year to meet formally with school staff – once at an open evening and once at a 20 minute Learner Review. We will also trial sending home 3 reports a year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December progress report April progress report Full report <p>We hope this will support in sharing progress more frequently. Alongside this will be a programme of workshops to support parents and carers with key concerns and learning (eg phonics, online safety, sleep, emotional regulation)</p>
<p>Communications inconsistent and confusing (I agree this needs further improvement)</p>	<p>We will continue to send out a Key Dates document each term. These are subject to change but changes will be communicated as early as possible. We will aim to limit duplicating messages as much as possible. Dojo is our main communication tool about learning/reminders about events. A communication plan will be sent out in Autumn Term to demonstrate what communication tool will be used for what purpose. We will also trial a fortnightly newsletter in the Autumn Term, with key information.</p>
<p>Some children not enjoying lunchtimes</p>	<p>We have reviewed the format/staffing organisation over lunchtimes. Where possible, the member of staff supporting a class over lunchtime will be consistent and familiar to the class. They will support play outside and also support in the lunch halls. We are having improvements made to playground markings over the Summer Break and will have a variety of new resources over the Autumn Term to support play and fun at lunchtime.</p>
<p>Some children not enjoying their learning</p>	<p>As a whole staff, we have reviewed our whole curriculum! We have changed topics to make sure they are engaging and enjoyable for our children whilst ensuring they are learning key information, gaining important knowledge, skills and progressing through the curriculum. We have shared Project Overviews with you during transition and information about learning will be sent home termly as well as exciting and engaging project outcomes.</p>
<p>Children's attitudes and progress should be more widely celebrated in school</p>	<p>Whilst Tea Party, postcards and stickers go some way to support this, we will also be introducing our new awards each half term for "Growing together" (progress) and "shining forever" (consistently making positive choices. More information will follow about this plan.</p>

Attendance

We really appreciate your support on getting your child into school every day and on time as much as possible. Our doors are open 8:40-8:50. **Phonics will now be starting straight after registration.** This is because reading is a priority at our school and for our children, and first thing in a morning is when our children learn best.. Research shows children who are able to read become adults with the greatest choices and opportunities. Therefore, if your child is late to school, they will



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miss important Phonics learning. Whilst we endeavour to support your child with catching up on missed learning, this is not always with their peers and often at a later time/date to their classmates.

“Ten to nine is learning time!”

In line with Derby City Council, attendance will be closely monitored in school. Good attendance is 95%+. If your child’s attendance is below 91%, you will be invited into school for a meeting to discuss how we can support you and your family in improving your child’s attendance.

No Nuts

A reminder that in September, we have a child joining us with a severe allergy to various nuts and products containing nuts. We aim to be a nut free school in order to support and safeguard them as much as possible. Please do think carefully about the products you are sending into school in packed lunches – as shared previously, we may need to remove products from a lunchbox if they are found contain nuts. Please do speak with Mrs Habgood or Mrs Lloyd if you have any questions about this.



School dinner menu:

<https://www.oakwoodinfant.com/school-dinner-menus/>



Visit your local library to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge—for an opportunity to earn rewards, certificates and enjoy reading!