



Oakwood Infant and Nursery School

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December 2025

What a wonderful end to our Autumn term we've had! I'm bursting with pride as I reflect on the incredible achievements and moments that have made this term so special.

Our children have been simply remarkable. The Christmas Nativities from our F2 children were magical, showcasing their confidence and talents. Year 1 delighted the community with their performance at the church, while Year 2 impressed everyone with their enterprising spirit - selling decorations and sharing their singing and dancing talents.

We've welcomed new children to our school family, we are so fortunate that our families and staff are so committed the way they've built warm, supportive relationships. Watching everyone grow together over the past term has been truly wonderful. Our nursery children even enjoyed a fantastic trip to Conkers, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

I'm delighted to celebrate some key achievements. Our attendance in **Autumn 1** reached an average of 95%, which is fantastic—our aim to be 95% and above. This allows for time off for common sickness/illness/appointments whilst still meeting our target of being in to engage in learning. The support from our families continues to be exceptional. Our after-school library service on Tuesdays and Thursdays is proving popular, and our parent workshop timetable offers fantastic opportunities for engagement.

I wish you and your families a safe, happy and healthy Christmas and a very Happy 2026!

Best wishes, *Mrs Aimie Habgood Headteacher*

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

23rd February 2026

19th June 2026



Please ensure that your child has the correct school uniform everyday—including PE days. We do have some uniform donations to aid sustainability—please do ask if you require any of this. For more information about our uniform, please do visit our website:

<https://www.oakwoodinfant.com/school-uniform/>

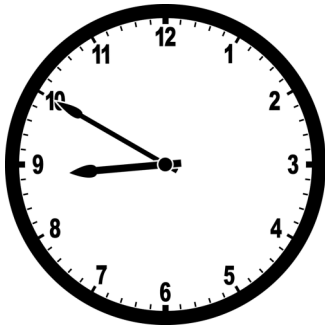
Black bottoms, plain white tops and green school cardigan/jumpers.

You will know that we value reading and books. We have heard that Santa will be sending every child a festive book for Christmas—these will be given out by our special elves this week!



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 starts soon 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 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.



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In a morning, our children also learn about their day, practise name writing and handwriting as well as key maths skills all before phonics!

School dinner menu:

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

THANK YOU!

Your support is so valued! You will know that I am always happy to listen to feedback (positive and suggestions for improvements) and really value the relationships that we build between home and school to be the best for our children.

We are also so fortunate to have such a committed staff team who want the very best for your children and their families.

Growing together, shining forever.

As a school, we have purchased a subscription to Numbots. Numbots is an app/online platform that allows children to log in and work on their maths skills and rapid recall of number bonds and facts.

I did consider the online/screentime aspect of this and was torn—however, I feel that this could become a part of a positive screen time routine that the children will enjoy and will enhance their learning.

Children will have a log in stuck into their Learning Logs by the end of the week. You will also receive a letter with an over view on. Please do speak to me or Miss Walker (Maths Lead) if you have any questions/feedback.

Children are very welcome to access this platform at home using their login information.



Well done to our children who have read at least 5 times a week at home this term for at least 10 weeks—they had a wonderful book themed gathering with Mrs Roe on Tuesday! Next term, the children will be working towards a very special keyring as a reading reward!



Staffing updates:

Mrs Price left this term to commence her Maternity Leave. Baby Lillie joined the Price family last week—all are doing well. **Mrs Basford** will take on the cover in Class 6 as teacher for the Spring and Summer Terms. We look forward to her sharing her musical expertise with us all as well as her love of the Early Years. **Mrs Dugdale Baker** is leaving us this term after many years in our school. She will be missed! **Ms Blackwood** joins us in Class 1 on a Wednesday—Friday and will bring a love of creative learning to our school! **Miss Perlethorpe** will be joining our Class 9 team too. All new staff have spent some time getting to know the children this half term and are very much looking forward to joining us!

Please do create an account with JAG (Junior Adventures Group).

Whether you need their wrap around services regularly or just as one offs now and again, you must have an account with them to allow you to book a session.



One of my favourite times of the week is Tea Party time! It has been a pleasure to spend some time over tea/juice/cake/book with children who have been standing out in class for being ready, respectful and safe! One child is chosen from each class each week to attend a tea party with me on a Friday afternoon. They get a special seat in our Friday assembly and receive a postcard to take home to share with you!



Ready, Respectful, Safe

Our 3 rules in school are **Ready, Respectful and Safe**. We talk regularly to our children about our rules, and celebrate when they show examples of these. In order to re-launch our rules as an expectation for all children in school, we will be holding assemblies every Monday (Mrs Habgood, Mrs Rose and Ms Lloyd). We have new stickers that will be handed out to children who embody our rules and make progress with applying them. We also have new postcards, which will be sent home with your child to celebrate their achievements and successes. In the Spring Term, we will be holding a whole school event with a variety of activities to take part in linked to **being ready (to learn), respectful (to all) and safe (taking care of everyone and everything)**. This event will also launch our school ethos of **“Growing together, shining forever”** as we aim to give the children incredible roots and foundations for learning to help them to grow, which in turn will give them aspiration, choice and opportunities forever.

Growing together, shining forever.

