



# Oakwood Primary Academy

Pendeen Crescent, Southway, PL6 6QS

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## Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### This week at Oakwood.

Some of the Year 6 students went to London on Monday – Tuesday they had an amazing time – there are photos on the Facebook page but I have also added one below. They were a credit to the school and their behavior was excellent.



Year 4 went to Smeaton's tower last Thursday which was a very busy but fun filled day – Thank you to all parents that came to help.



Y5 Pompeii class performed with flying colours at the Marjon theatre – something that they have been working towards for the past couple of terms.

Sports day was a success – it was lovely to see all the families back on the school grounds – we look forward to doing many more community events over the next Year.

### Dates for the Diary

4<sup>th</sup> July

- Y6 PPSP OAA Mount Edgecumbe.
- 9:15 New foundation children to visit.
- 5<sup>th</sup> July – Strike Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> July – Strike Day

12<sup>th</sup> July

- Y6 leavers party

14<sup>th</sup> July

- Summer Fayre
- 20<sup>th</sup> July
- Year 6 performance to parents – 2pm.
- Year 1 – Dartmoor Zoo

21<sup>st</sup> July

- Year 2 – Paignton Zoo
- Class Swap session for next year

– Foundation reports to parents.

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July –

Last day of summer term

### Hot Weather

Please provide your child with water bottles that are named. We can fill bottles in school throughout the day. Thank you for ensuring jumpers and school uniform is named, this really helps with returning uniform, especially in the hot weather where children tend to take off their jumpers. The NHS has offered some general guidance about keeping cool during hot weather and we regularly monitor the temperatures outside. We are also aware that some children are being affected by the high pollen count and are given antihistamine before school. We allow children to wash their faces and eyes at school to support as we know this can get a little overwhelming.

#### NHS webpages

You may find the following NHS webpages useful:

Heatwave: how to cope in hot weather -  
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/heatwave-how-to-cope-in-hot-weather/>

Heat exhaustion and heatstroke –

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/heat-exhaustion-heatstroke>

### STRIKE DAY INFORMATION

Please find below the information to classes open on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July

The following classes will be **open on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July**

London – Reception – Mrs Watson  
Lima – Year 2 – Mrs Gruszka  
Cape Town Year 2 Miss Eccleshall  
Mumbai – Year 6 – Miss Betts  
Beijing – Year 4 - Mr Kelleher

The following classes will be **open on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July**

Paris – Year 1 – Miss Sherrell  
Lima – Year 2 – Mrs Gruszka  
Cape Town – Year 2 – Miss Eccleshall  
Canberra – Year 4 – Mrs Aquilina  
Beijing – Year 4 - Mr Kelleher  
Mumbai – Year 6 – Miss Betts

Breakfast and After School Club will also be open as usual for children whose classes are open.

The EYFS children at all 3 of the Discovery MAT schools have received a generous donation of books from one of our parents. Becca Talemaimaleya has written a series of books based on everyday family life using concise, child-friendly language to support young children's communication and self-expression. Becca writes "As a single mum to a child with dual heritage it's extremely important to me that all my books are inclusive and show a diverse range of children and families. I write from the child's point of view and all my books are unisex, accessible and suitable for every family as you, the reader, assign the relationships between characters." For more information search for @beccaschildrensbooks





# A Guide to Book Chat

Research indicates that parents who regularly read with their children at home lay solid foundations for language and literacy development. It's a precious time for you both to relax, share your thoughts and feelings, have fun and chat together. Whilst sharing books, your child has your undivided attention, and the conversation, connection and enjoyment they experience is invaluable.

To promote children's pleasure in reading and foster the habit, we need to read **to** children and **with** them and to **talk** to them about books. These conversations are crucial as they help children to engage and think deeply.

**There are several ways to prompt book chat, these are our Top Tips.**

Watch and listen carefully to follow their interests

**Observe and respond:** Pay attention to what captures your child's attention and build on their interests, for example, 'Oh, you've spotted the...!'.  
**Leave pauses:** So they can look closely and think, this will lead to comments on the pictures or questions. Respond to their lead and let the book chat flow.

Invite your child to get involved

**Pose questions:** Open questions encourage thinking and discussion, such as, 'How do you think the boy is feeling?'. Try to avoid closed questions, such as 'What colour is that?'; these have a single answer and don't keep the conversation going.  
**Draw attention to illustrations:** Encourage your child to notice details in the pictures and think what they might mean, for example, 'Look! What's that hiding, what do you think it might be?'.

Wonder and connect to your lives

**Ponder and wonder:** Encourage your child to think about what might happen, using phrases such as, 'I wonder if/ whether /who/ why/ what ...'.  
**Make personal connections:** Picture storybooks not only allow children to empathise with the experiences of fictional characters but enable them to make sense of events in their own lives. Talk about connections, for example, 'That reminds me of when...'.  
**Comment on your feelings:** By sharing your emotional response to a character or something that's happened you encourage your child to do the same, helping them engage and learn to express their emotions.

Share your emotional responses!

Keep it light and enjoyable!

**Your combined pleasure counts:** Bring the story to life with facial expression, actions and sounds, encouraging your child to join in! Do offer information to help with unfamiliar words, such as 'That's the *hencoop*, it's where the *hens* live', but keep the focus on fun.



**Book chat develops language, comprehension and pleasure**



### **Attendance – W/C 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 School 92.6%**

Plymouth	94.6%	Beijing	92.9%
London	92.9%	Canberra	93.8%
Paris	89.5%	Nukk	86.6
Luxemburg	84%	Pompeii	94.7
Lima	93.4%	Berlin	90%
Cape Town	96.9%	Mumbai	93.5%
Kingston	91.1%		
Cairo	97.5%		

### **Attendance – what is the impact on outcomes?**

In 2022

-59% of KS2 pupils in Plymouth met the expected standard in Reading Writing and Maths. Of which:

12% of pupils who had less than 90% attendance achieved expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths.

0.03% of pupils who had less than 50% attendance achieved expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths.

58.7% of pupils who had more than 90% attendance achieved a strong pass in English and Maths.

30.7% of pupils who had less than 90% attendance achieved a strong pass in English and Maths.

3% of pupils who had less than 50% attendance achieved a strong pass in English and Maths.

### **Accelerated reader scores w/e 29<sup>th</sup> June**

**KS1** – Lima 3,079 words

**Lower KS2** – Kingston 32,681 words

**Upper KS2** – Berlin 85,611 words

## School Readiness messages for parents/carers

### Top tips

Last week we shared a couple of activities to support children's communication. Communication is essential for learning. As well as being the foundation for reading and writing, it is also vital for children's social and emotional development. Here are two further activities to support your child with their communication:

**Role-play - Encourage role-play.** Whether it is fantasy dressing up, acting out real-life roles such as a doctor or teacher, or small-world play with little figures. Role-play helps children develop children's language and social skills, empathy, and cultural awareness.

**Playing with friends** Playing with other children is also important, especially as children get closer to school age. Spending time with their peers teaches children about cooperation, collaboration, and negotiation—all vital skills if they are to become good communicators.

### School Ready - PACEY

Follow the link below for information to signpost your parents/carers to as they support their children to be School Ready:

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/partners/school-ready/preparation/https://www.pacey.org.uk/partners/school-ready/pre>

# How to choose a good book

National  
Literacy  
Trust

Changing life stories

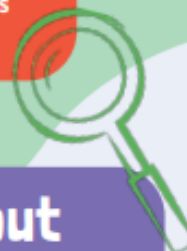
## Look!

Browse the bookshelves - it's a great idea to have a good look at the books.



## Check out the COVER!

Does it look interesting? What is the title? Who is the author? Is it like books you've tried before?



## READ the blurb!

The blurb is the short paragraph on the back of the cover and tells you something about the story. What does the blurb tell you? Does it makes you want to read the book?

## Think about the GENRE

This is the type of story found in the book. This could be comedy, adventure or fantasy! What other kinds of stories have you enjoyed?

## TRY it out

Read a few pages of the book. Do you want to know what happens next? It's fine to put it back if it doesn't feel right.



## ASK

...the school librarian, teachers, parents or carers and your friends to recommend a book!



## The RIGHT one

Use the five-finger test to help decide if it's the right book for you. Open the book and read a page. Every time you find a word on the page that you don't know, count one finger.

If you get to five, the book is probably too hard, so put it back and try another one.

