

Newsletter

July 2025



Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,

I can't quite believe we have reached the end of this academic year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first two terms at Oulton and it has been a privilege and a pleasure to get to know the children and their families. Thank you all for the warmest of welcomes into the Oulton community.

The last few weeks have seen lots of moments that have me proud to be the Headteacher here, but none more so than the fabulous Year 6 production of Aladdin that I had the pleasure to watch last week. A big thank you needs to be given to the staff involved in producing such a fabulous show: Mr James, Mrs Asaboro, Mrs Readman, Mrs Holroyd, Mrs Schofield, Miss Brown, Mrs Dews and many other members of staff all deserve a big well done for their efforts. Productions take a lot of time and energy to put together and I am grateful to all staff who gave up their time to support the children. The stars of the show however were definitely the Year 6 pupils who wowed the audience with their acting and singing. Well done all of you!

Another huge thank you needs to go to Miss Brown for her tireless work in organising the recent Colour Run event. Miss Brown loves to work above and beyond for events that enrich children's experiences at school and the Colour Run may be her best event to date. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this event; we are still collecting in sponsorship money but we have raised £1,000s, which we couldn't have done without your support. It was definitely worth going home with green and purple hair that evening!

Thank you to all the staff involved in putting together the recent Sports Days. Children love the chance to compete and participate and events like this are always a pleasure to watch – we hope you enjoyed.

The end of the year often brings a chance to celebrate achievements, and I am very impressed to hear about the Diamond Eager Readers. Reading is the gateway to learning so it is fabulous to hear about how much some of our children have been reading 4x per week for 36 weeks! Of course, we need to give a huge Oulton round of applause for Mrs Brookes our English Leader in inspiring so many children to pick up a book. Celebration events took place last week and Mrs Brookes even came in on her day off to celebrate with the children. We hope that as many children as possible will participate in the summer reading challenge too. Come rain or shine, I hope everyone finds some time to enjoy a book together.

We will be continuing to improve the school building over the holiday period. Some building work will commence to improve the health and safety aspects of the school site. I am also really excited to announce we are getting an ICT suite with 30 computers in, which will really enhance the children's learning.

I will end this newsletter by saying a fond farewell to our fabulous Year 6 pupils. I am sure for their families it feels like only yesterday that they first came through our doors. I hope you have made lots of lasting memories along the way. They are leaving us as a group of fabulous young people, and they are more than ready for their next steps. It has been lovely getting to know them, and I wish them all the very best.

Have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready to go on Wednesday 3rd September 2025.

Kind regards,

Mr McAlinden



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School day timings

Following several recent requests, we would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the key times of the school day:

- Breakfast club opens at 7:30am and closes at 8:50am
- The school day starts promptly at 8:50am. Pupils should be on the school grounds by 8:45am to ensure a prompt start to the day.
- Any pupils arriving after 8:50am will be given a late mark. All gates will close at 9am.
- The school day ends at 3:20pm. After school clubs start at this time and run until 4:20pm. Please collect from the classrooms detailed in the clubs document sent earlier this term. Pupils attending teatime club do so from 3:20pm until 4:20pm for the early collection. All pupils leaving at the early collection time will receive a snack. The late session finishes at 5:45pm. All pupils staying for the late session will receive a full meal.
- All pupils attending breakfast and teatime club must be prebooked and we can unfortunately not accept any drop offs on the day as we only have the staff to pupil ratios for the required bookings.
- If a day or session is not available on the Arbor APP then it means that session or day is fully booked.
- Please note the school office closes at 4pm. After this time our fabulous office team may no longer be around to answer the phones in person. Please ensure you leave a message if you need to speak to us and someone will get back you as soon as practical.

The importance of punctuality:

Phonics and guided reading are one of the most important subjects at primary school. We work hard to teach our children to develop both a lifelong love of books and reading and also the necessary skills they need to be able to read the information required to access the rest of the curriculum. Our day begins with these vitally important reading and phonics sessions; therefore it is important that all children attend every day, ready and on time.

However, we understand that things don't go to plan every day. Therefore, if you are running late then please ensure you enter the school via the main gate off Green Lea and sign in at the office.

Uniform

We welcome your support with ensuring that children attend school in September with the correct uniform, details of which can be found on our website. <https://www.oulttonprimary.co.uk/uniform/>

This includes wearing the appropriate PE kit which is important for children to participate in PE safely.

For anyone who might be interested, Leeds School Uniform Exchange makes it easy for families to pass on good quality school uniform that's no longer needed and, instead of buying new, find items of school uniform, for free! Details can be found on their website: <https://leedsuniformexchange.org.uk/>

Our children look very smart in their uniform and it helps them to feel part of Oulton Primary School – we are always proud to take them out on visits and for other people to know we are from Oulton!

Diary dates

Key dates for your diary:

Dates on the website and Arbor (soon)

Thursday 4th September – Nursery home visits

Monday 8th-10th September – Reception pupils staggered start



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Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th November – Parent consultation evenings (times TBC)
Friday 14th November – Children in Need
Friday 24th October – School close for half term
Monday 3rd November – School opens for half term 2
Thursday 11th December - EYFS Christmas concert
Tuesday 16th December - KS1 Nativity in the PM (exact time TBC)
Wednesday 17th December – KS1 Nativity in the AM (exact time TBC)
Thursday 18th December – Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 19th December – KS2 Festive Sing (time TBC)
Friday 19th December – School closes for Christmas

For the academic year 2025-26 the training days have been confirmed as:

Monday 1st September 2025
Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Monday 1st June 2026
Monday 20th July 2026
Tuesday 21st July 2026



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Breakfast and Teatime Club

Please see communication sent on Friday 18th July in regards to upcoming changes to Breakfast and Teatime Club. I would appreciate your feedback about what works well and what could be improved with the clubs. A survey will be coming out in the coming weeks and I would like as many parents and carers as possible to complete it. It is your opportunity to impact changes moving forward.

Absence during term time

For any planned absences from school during term time, parents and carers must complete a Leave of Absence (LOA) request form. Evidence must be provided for applications of leave with special circumstances. Forms received after the event cannot be authorised regardless of the circumstances. We know that emergency situations can arise, so please speak to the attendance team if this happens. Each LOA request is looked at on an individual basis. It is important to note that the circumstances that will allow a Headteacher to authorise a holiday during term time are extremely limited - in fact, I have almost no 'discretion' and most requests will be unauthorised. This includes an extended period of time to go abroad for weddings, funerals and other special events. It is the policy of Oulton Primary School to always pass the details of unauthorised holidays to the Local Authority. Parents then run the risk of receiving a fixed penalty notice if then choose to take their child/ren out of school during term time.

I would like to remind you that the first two days of term in September are training days and families can use this time to take advantage of some discounted travel rather than taking unauthorised term time absence.

School follows all the principles of attendance that are outlined for schools nationally in the Department for Education's attendance guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>

POPs update

POPs have worked so hard across this academic year to give our children such a range of exciting opportunities. Overall POPs have contributed well over £10,000 to enhance the education of the children of Oulton. Without this contribution, school would not be able to offer these opportunities from our core budget.

This year's contributions have included a tented outdoor classroom (coming soon!), where children can go and learn outdoors whatever the weather. They have also supported the new benches for the playground in Oulton royal blue, which look fantastic. I am pleased to announce that further playground developments will be coming in the new year.

Recent events POPs have supported include providing the Year 6 production with drinks, sports day with ice pops and the Colour Run with the rainbow themed raffle prizes. There was also the POPs 'Someone special' gift shops too.

More exciting events are already being planned for next year, including another doughnut shop, a fashion show and hopefully a school disco, and we look forward to you all generously supporting these events please!

A big thank you must go to Laura C, Becky B, Becky C, Claire, Helen, Carol, Karen, Be, Laura K and Donna who are just superstars with the time and effort that they give to POPs. We are grateful to you all for everything you do.

Training days for 2025-26

Schools statutorily must dedicate 5 days to staff training per academic year. These days are used to complete internal and external whole staff training and preparation.



PE Partners Holiday Clubs at Oulton

Summer just got active!

PE Partner's famous holiday clubs are back this summer. There are currently 21 clubs online and ready to book, and even more clubs coming soon! So, we're bound to have a club in your area.

How good are our clubs?

Well, don't take our word for it – listen to the real stars, you the parents!:

"My daughter came home buzzing every day!"

"Affordable, fun, and staff I trust 100%."

"We booked again before we even got home."

These are just some of the positive reviews we've had from parents just like you. So why not book your child into our clubs, and help keep them active over the half term school holiday. It's fun, it's active, it's £20/day

Book here: <https://tinyurl.com/HC-List>

FREE DAY!

Would you like a FREE taster day? If you've never used our clubs before, simply email kidsclubs@pepartner.co.uk to ask about booking one of these.



FREE TASTER DAY

Not been to one of our clubs before?

Email kidsclubs@pepartner.co.uk and ask about our FREE taster days.

BOOK A TASTER HERE

ALREADY BOOKED?

If you've already booked, then why not share code RAF5 with a friend. They can save £5 on their first booking, and we'll then add £5 to your account as a thank you! Spread the word and become one of 1000's of parents helping keep #MoreChildrenMoreActiveMoreOften this half term!



£

EARN £5 CREDIT

EVERY TIME YOU

RECOMMEND A FRIEND

£

