

Newsletter

April 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,

As the spring flowers finally begin to peek through in our gardens, it is a joy to reach the end of what has been a truly wonderful spring term. The corridors have been buzzing with energy, from the excitement of World Book Day to the fantastic creations in our Easter egg competition, and I am so proud of how hard our children have worked. Seeing our youngest learners grow in confidence and our Year 6s step up as such fantastic role models has been the highlight of my term. But it is not only our children who work hard at Oulton; our staff team have worked their magic every day in the spring term to deliver the best for your children. They have all earned a long, relaxing break filled with fresh air and, of course, a few Easter treats!

Speaking of our Easter competition, so many brilliant creations were produced. You might say they were egg-cellent!

😊 Can you spot yours somewhere in this newsletter? Congratulations to the winners: Aria in Sea Turtles class, Devon in Adelie Penguins, Edie in Stingrays and George in Jellyfish. Thank you to POPS as always for the wonderful craft prizes given to the winners.

We know how important wraparound care is for many families. Following recent changes to make sure that our offer is sustainable going forward we have had lots of constructive feedback from parents and carers. Our goal is to offer wraparound that meets both families where parents and carers have unknown shift patterns but to also offer the security of fixed places which are secure for those that need it. We will continue to review our offer and our goal is to meet the growing demand as best we can and make sure the clubs run smoothly and safely for all children who attend. Thank you in advance for your patience and support while we work on these improvements.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support and for making our school community such a vibrant place to be. I hope the holiday provides a lovely chance to recharge and enjoy the lighter evenings with your families. We look forward to seeing everyone back, refreshed and ready for our final term of the year.

Warm regards,

Mr McAlinden



Newsletter

April 2026



Staffing news

We would like to share a few staffing updates with our school community.

This week we said a bittersweet farewell to our wonderful Deputy Headteacher, Miss Cooper. Since joining our school family, Miss Cooper has been a pillar of support for children, staff, and parents alike. Whether greeting children at the gate with a smile, leading our most memorable assemblies, or working tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure every child felt seen and supported, her impact on our community has been profound. While we are incredibly sad to see her go, we are equally excited for her new chapter. Miss Cooper leaves a legacy of kindness and dedication and on

behalf of the entire school, I want to thank her for everything she has given to our children and wish her every success and happiness for the future.



Further congratulations go to Mr Coleman who leaves us after Easter to take up his first class teacher post. Mr Coleman has been an excellent HLTA who will have taught many children across school. We have every confidence that he will go on to make a fabulous teacher and his new school are happy to have him.

We are also pleased to welcome Mr Wilton and Mrs Withers, who join us as a lunchtime assistants.

We also welcome Miss Starkey who starts after Easter as Assistant Headteacher and SENCo. Miss Starkey will be spending lots of time meeting as many of you and your children as she can in her first term and she can't wait to become part of the Oulton family.

Finally, we are looking forward to welcoming the youngest and newest member of the Oulton family this summer when Miss Barrett leaves to start her maternity leave. We can't wait to meet another beautiful baby and we wish her all the best.

Parent/ carer evenings and Arbor updates

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our recent Parents' Evenings. Thank you for taking the time to come in and discuss your child's progress, achievements, and next steps for the year ahead. We held 5 sessions in total and so many appointments were made, keeping our teachers very busy! These conversations are such a vital part of our school life. We truly value the strong partnership between home and school, and your continued support plays a huge role in helping our pupils reach their full potential.

A thank you also goes to Leeds Catering Service for providing samples of the sweet treats on offer at school for parents, carers and children.



Sporting updates



Newsletter

April 2026



It has been a busy and successful period for our sporting teams. Following the success of the sports hall athletics team, the Year 5/6 football team have seen an upturn in performances. Having faced two of the best teams in the league in our first 3 matches it is fair to say some resilience was needed amongst the squad, despite their improved performances. Two games were against Sharp Lane, a side we were expected to be challenging for 3rd place in the league come the end of the season. The first game against Sharp Lane saw the boys start the match with confidence, coming off the back of a great second half performance against Woodlesford. Chances came and went before a superb finish from Jack B gave us the lead. The confidence then began to flow and 3 quick further goals came from Hanson twice and Seth once, meaning we won the first game 4-0. The second game again saw the team come out of the blocks quickly with Finley working hard and creating several good chances. The instruction to the team was to control the game and look after the ball better in the second game. The boys did what they were asked to do and it showed, with goals coming from Hanson x2, Ted and Jack B x2 resulting in a 5-0 win.



Carlton travelled to Oulton on the 23rd March for a double header as Carlton do not have their own pitch. A quick fire hat-trick from Hanson and further goals from Ted and Max meant Oulton finished as 5-0 winners. In the second game Carlton had more chances and went for the tactic of 'the best form of defence is attack'. Alek, Arthur H, Zak and Eli were not in the mood to allow them to score. More good attacking play particularly from Harley and Tegh lead to goals from Ted x2, Max x2, Arthur S and Seth.

Lower Key Stage 2 – Spring Sing and more

What a busy and exciting half-term it's been in Lower Key Stage 2! Most of our year 4 children had a fantastic time on their trip to Whitby, while those who remained in school took part in an engaging Viking workshop. LKS2 also enjoyed a lovely walk to the canal, where the children learned more about its features and developed their artistic skills by sketching the scenery. Both year groups were also lucky enough to see the canal lock open during their visits which was a real highlight!

Back in the classroom, the children took on the challenge of recreating their sketches in the style of artist Felix Steinberger, before using watercolours to bring their artwork to life. The results were impressive! To top it all off, LKS2 have been extremely busy preparing for their Spring Sing. They have worked incredibly hard to perform songs in rounds and harmonies, as well as to prepare their class poems. We hope you enjoyed it!



Miss Johnson

Free speech and language offer from Chatterbugs

At Chatterbug, we are seeing more parents than ever who are worried about their child's communication development but aren't sure where to turn or face long waits for guidance.

This Easter, we are offering a FREE Speech & Language Check (worth £150*) at our Leeds clinic to help parents get the



Newsletter

April 2026



answers they need. This isn't just a screening; parents will walk away with immediate guidance and a personalised plan to help their child at home.

We would be incredibly grateful if you could share this with your families via your newsletter or parent communication app.



The Offer for Parents:

- What: A 45-minute session including a screen using our Brightspeech App.
- The Result: Immediate guidance and a personalised program of activities to use at home.
- How to Claim: Call 0113 240 8510 and quote code:EASTERSCREEN26.
- Location: Chatterbug SLT, Unit 7 Killingbeck Court, LS14 6FD.
- When: Available appointments between 13th April 2026 - 17th April 2026

Wraparound care



We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of our Wraparound Care provision. Our Breakfast and Teatime Clubs are vital in providing a safe, engaging environment for our pupils, and we love seeing the children start and end their days with such energy.

To ensure the smooth running of these sessions and to maintain our required staff-to-child ratios, we kindly remind all parents of the importance of booking a slot in a timely manner. A polite reminder that, for the week commencing 20th April 2026, children cannot be dropped off at Breakfast Club without a prior booking. Any children arriving without a booking will not be able to attend club. This is to ensure the safety of all children.

Please refer to the Terms & Conditions for further information. If you require a contracted session or flexible slots, please get in touch.

We would also like to remind you that the school day finishes at 3:20pm. Children should be collected promptly from their classroom at this time. If a child is not collected on time, they will be taken to the school office where we will make initial contact with parents/carers. If collection is further delayed, children will be taken to Teatime Club and a charge of £15 will be applied via Arbor, as this will require last-minute additional staff to look after the children.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Dates for your diary



Newsletter

April 2026



Event	Date	Time
Future Summer learn with us events will be detailed in newsletters before the term where it falls.		
School opens after the Easter holidays	Monday 20th April 2026	8:50am
May Bank Holiday (School closed)	Monday 4 th May 2026	All day
Year 6 SATs week	Monday 11 th May until Thursday 14 th May 2026	M- Spelling, punctuation and grammar T – Reading W – Arithmetic 1 and maths paper 2 Th – Maths paper 3
KS1 Sports Day (Years 1 and 2)	Monday 18 th May 2026	TBC
LKS2 Sports Day (Years 3 and 4)	Tuesday 19 th May 2026	TBC
UKS2 Sports Day (Years 5 and 6)	Wednesday 20 th May 2026	TBC
EYFS Sports Day (Nursesey and Reception)	Thursday 21 st May 2026	TBC
School close for the May half term	End of Friday 22 nd May 2026	3:20pm
Training day 3	Monday 1 st June 2026	All day
School opens after the May half term holidays	Tuesday 2nd June 2026	8:50am

Confirmed training days for the 2026-27 academic year

- Tuesday 1st September 2026
- Wednesday 2nd September 2026
- Monday 2nd November 2026
- Monday 7th June 2027

We will not be confirming our final training day until a later date as we await confirmation of training being booked but I can confirm that this date will be in 2027 and not 2026.



