

Newsletter

May 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,

This half term has been one of the busiest and most exciting of the year. We began with our Sports Days, which were a great success and enjoyed by children, staff, parents and carers alike. We would like to thank everyone who attended and supported these events, as well as our dedicated staff team whose hard work and organisation helped make them possible.

We have also seen our Year 4 children complete the Multiplication Tables Check and our Year 1 children take part in the Phonics Screening Check. We are incredibly proud of the effort, determination and resilience they showed throughout.

There have been many memorable experiences beyond the classroom too. Our Year 5 and Year 6 children enjoyed visiting the Owl Trail in Leeds City Centre, whilst Year 6 also celebrated together at Mission Out. Last week, our Year 6 pupils returned from their residential visit to Buckden, bringing back wonderful memories and stories from a fantastic experience. A huge thank you to the staff who were involved in the planning, admin and execution of the residential. Having witnessed it firsthand I was incredibly impressed with the venue, our staff and the children.

Our Learn With Us events have continued to be incredibly well attended. Thank you for taking the time to join us and engage with your children's learning. Your support and involvement mean a great deal to the children and help to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

As always, none of these opportunities and experiences would be possible without the dedication and commitment of our staff team. We are grateful for the enthusiasm, care and hard work they bring every day to ensure our children receive the very best experiences both in and out of the classroom.

Next Monday, we will be sharing details of your child's class and teacher for the next academic year. This will be followed by our transition days on Wednesday and Thursday, giving children the opportunity to spend time with their new classmates and teachers ahead of September. Next week is also an exciting and important milestone for our Year 6 pupils as they visit their new secondary schools. We know you will all be brilliant as you take this next step in your educational journey. Whilst you will be greatly missed at Oulton Primary, remember that you will always be welcome back. Go and be the superstars we know you can be!

Due to the number of teaching staff changes taking place ahead of the new academic year, we have made the decision to move the Meet the Teacher events that were scheduled for next week to the first few weeks of September. We believe this will provide families with a better opportunity to meet staff once everyone has fully settled into their new roles and classes. Further details will be shared at the start of the autumn term.

We still have many wonderful memories to make during the final two weeks of term, with our Year 6 Leavers' Performance certainly being one of the highlights. We are looking forward to celebrating the achievements, personalities and journeys of our Year 6 pupils as they prepare to take their next steps. It promises to be a very special occasion for families, staff and children alike.



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As we bring another successful year to a close, we would like to thank everyone who plays a part in making Oulton Primary such a special place. To our children, thank you for your enthusiasm, kindness and determination. To our parents and carers, thank you for your continued support, encouragement and partnership throughout the year. And to our staff, thank you for your unwavering dedication, care and commitment to providing the very best opportunities and experiences for our children every day.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to our Governing Body for their support, challenge and commitment to helping the school continue to grow and thrive. Their work behind the scenes is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Finally, thank you to POPS for the incredible support they provide to our school community. Through fundraising, volunteering and organising events, they help create opportunities and experiences that enhance school life for all of our children. We are extremely grateful for everything they do. Make sure you come and show your appreciation and support this Saturday for the Summer Fair.

We are incredibly proud of all that we have achieved together this year and look forward to making the most of the remaining days of term. Thank you for being such an important part of our school community, and we wish all of our families a happy, safe and enjoyable summer break.

Warm regards,

Mr McAlinden



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Staffing news

At the end of this academic year, we will be saying goodbye to Miss Harden from our Nursery. We are very grateful for the excellent start to school life that she has provided for our nursery pupils. We wish her all the best for her next steps and she will be missed by us all.

We will also be saying goodbye to Miss Brown at the end of this year. Miss Brown has been a valued and dedicated member of the Oulton Primary team, in both her teaching and leadership roles. Her love for music and performance is well renowned, and she has passed that passion on to countless Oulton pupils through her work on events like Young Voices. She will be greatly missed by staff, children and families alike.

During the final week of term, we will be taking the opportunity to celebrate the many contributions of all the staff members who are moving on to new adventures and we thank them for everything they have done for our school.

As we look ahead to the new academic year, we are delighted to welcome Miss Stevenson, who will be joining our Nursery team, and Miss Wainwright, who will also be joining the Oulton Primary staff team. Both will be visiting next week as part of our transition arrangements and are looking forward to meeting the children and staff.

With this latest round of recruitment, we are now in a position to inform you for the staff team and classes for the 2026-27 academic year.

	Teacher Name	Class Name	Year Group
EYFS	Miss Stevenson	Clown fish	Nursery
	Mrs Wren	Sea Turtles	Reception
	Miss Slinn	Seahorses	Reception
KS1	Miss Westby	Flying Fish	1/2
	Miss Donovan	Adelie Penguin	1/2
	Mr Shepherd	Swordfish	1/2
LKS2	Miss Wilson	Stingrays	3
	Mrs Brookes/ Mrs Hardisty	Orcas	3/4
	Miss Wainwright	Pufferfish	4
UKS2	Mrs Asaboro	Jellyfish	5
	Mr Wright	Starfish	5/6
	Miss Howlett	Octopus	6



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The latest news in Nursery and Reception

We have had a wonderful time in Nursery launching our new topic, Journeys! The children followed the runaway adventures of The Gingerbread Man and even baked their own delicious gingerbread biscuits. Last week, we hopped aboard The Train Ride for a fun-filled transport week, exploring the different ways we travel to places, like the seaside!

Reception are loving their final topic, Under the Sea, learning about dolphins, seahorses, sea turtles and sharks. They enjoyed reading the story, Somebody swallowed Stanley and learning how they can protect sea creatures by always taking home their litter and not putting certain items down the toilet. Reception also loved reading the book, Shark in the Park, and had fun making their own telescope.

The latest news in Years 1 and 2 (KS1)

This term in KS1, we have loved learning about the seaside. It has been wonderful to hear about the children's own experiences of visiting the seaside and to compare them with what seaside holidays were like during the Victorian era. One of the highlights of the term was watching a real life Punch and Judy show, which brought our learning to life.

We have also been incredibly proud of the children as they completed their *Three Little Pigs* innovation stories. It was fantastic to see their imagination and creativity shine through in both their writing and illustrations, and they thoroughly enjoyed reading their stories to the other children in KS1.

In Science, we have built on our learning from last term about materials. This half term, we have used our knowledge of the properties of different materials to understand why they are best suited for particular purposes. It was wonderful to see the amazing sculptures the children created during our Learn With Us session, demonstrating their creativity and understanding.

The children have also loved preparing for the Summer Fair and cannot wait to show off all of their hard work. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved this term and hope everyone has a wonderful summer break!

The latest news in Years 3 and 4 (LKS2)

It's hard to believe that we are already halfway through our final half term! Having said that, we have done so much already. Luckily, the weather was kind to us, so we were finally able to have our Sports Day which the children did a brilliant job with. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm, determination and teamwork on display throughout. We hope you enjoyed it too!

The following week, we had a mystery on our hands as all three classes in LKS2 walked into their classrooms to find that something had been taken! They quickly got to work investigating the fingerprints, footprints and objects that had been left behind. Once they had gathered enough evidence, they started to link their findings to key suspects across school. Shortly after, they worked hard to write a list of key questions before inviting each suspect in, one at a time, to interview them. Luckily, each class solved their mystery. It turned out that Mr Dehdashty had taken Stingray Sam and his friends to be potential props for the Year 6 show, Mr Ruddlesden had borrowed the bean bag from Orcas because he wanted something more comfortable to sit on, and Miss Brown had taken a soft toy from Pufferfish just because she could! This was a fantastic experience that brought our school community together. The children have since been busy exploring different crimes and punishments during their history lessons and have invented their own crime-solving machines in English. The children will also be making bread in DT, which links to their learning about



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Judaism in RE. During which, they will learn about the importance of bread in Jewish traditions and explore how food helps bring families and communities together during special celebrations and occasions.

The latest news in Years 5 and 6 (UKS2)

Year 5 and 6 have been extremely busy over the past few weeks. The children have been working hard to prepare for their upcoming performance of *Snow White*, and we are very excited to share it with you. A reminder to parents that the performances will take place on Tuesday 14th July, with the start time now moved from 2:00pm to 1:45pm, and on Wednesday 15th July at 6:00pm. In class, the children have been learning about the life and achievements of David Attenborough and have been using their research skills to write detailed biographies. They have also been making the most of the lovely weather by enjoying their PE lessons in the sunshine, developing their teamwork and sporting skills while staying active outdoors.

Angelfish Sports Day

A huge thank you to our parents and carers for their fantastic support and for turning out in such large numbers. Your encouragement helped make the day even more special.



We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the staff team. Events such as Sports Day do not simply happen on their own; they require a great deal of planning, preparation and organisation behind the scenes. We are incredibly grateful for the time, energy and commitment that staff dedicated to ensuring the event was enjoyable and successful for all involved.



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Dates for your diary for the 2026-27 academic year

Event	Date	Time
Future Summer learn with us events will be detailed via Arbor before the term where it falls.		
School closes for the summer	Friday 17 th July 2026	3:20pm
Bank holiday Monday	Monday 31 st August 2026	All day
Training Day 1 – school closed to all pupils	Tuesday 1 st September 2026	All day
Training Day 2 – school closed to all pupils	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026	All day
School opens for the 2026-27 academic year	Thursday 3 rd September 2026	8:50am

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.



