



Date: 13th February 2026

RE: End of half term 3 update

Dear Oakbank School families,

As we conclude this half term, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for your continued partnership. This stretch of the academic year is traditionally one of the most demanding, yet the resilience our students have displayed against a backdrop of winter challenges has been nothing short of exemplary.

While the atmosphere across Oakbank remains vibrant and focused, I must highlight the exceptional conduct of our Year 11 cohort. Their commitment to 'P6,' 'Champions Hour,' and 'Working Lunch' reflects a profound level of ambition. Furthermore, with over 75% of the year group voluntarily attending half-term sessions, they have solidified their status as definitive role models for our younger students. They are matching our staff's high expectations with equal intensity, and we remain dedicated to ensuring these efforts translate into the best possible academic and social horizons for every child., enabling them to climb their own personal mountains to the very best careers and universities.

Attendance matters

As we reach the end of the term, we are pleased to see school attendance moving in the right direction. Attendance is vital for several reasons. Beyond academic success, it supports students' social and emotional growth, helping them better navigate relationships and personal development.

However, the academic link remains undeniable. The graph below illustrates the direct correlation between attendance and the grades achieved in Year 11. This impact isn't limited to our senior students; those in Years 7, 8, and 9 are currently building the foundational skills necessary for their own future success. Good attendance is the first step on the path to the best Sixth Forms, colleges, and professions.

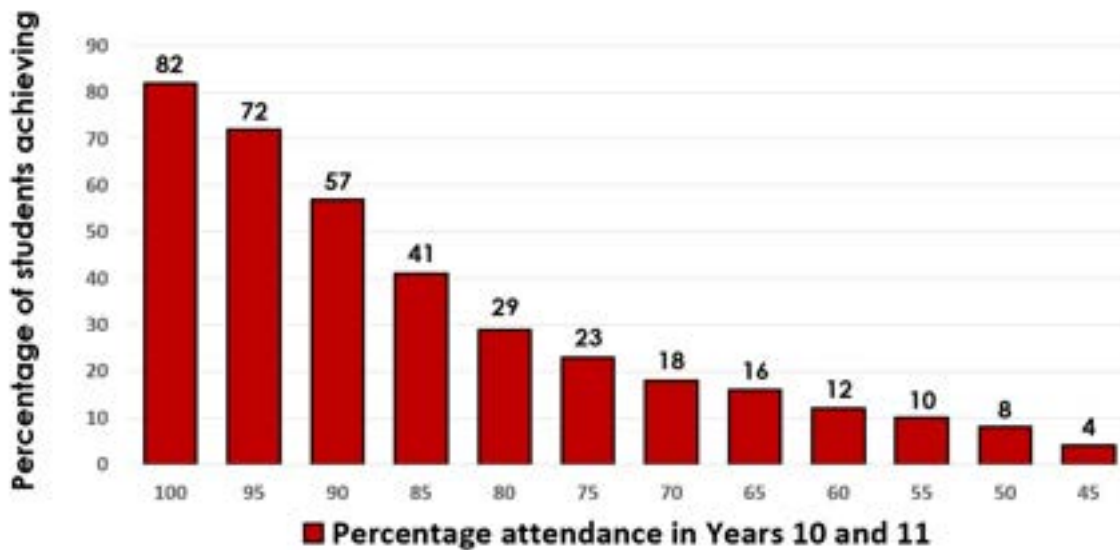
Mr Rob Gerrard, Headteacher

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Chances of 5+ GCSE 5-9 grades including English and Maths



Attendance Swap Shop

We are also extremely excited to announce that the Oakbank Swap Shop will be opening early in the next half term. Each week students with 100% attendance for the previous week will be able to “swap” their attendance for an item from the shop. This will include everything from pens and pencils, to keyrings and teddy bears, all branded with the Oakbank School logo. The only cost to the student? 100% attendance!

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Uniform

Oakbank School requires students to wear a school uniform and we are incredibly proud of how fantastic our students look in it. We believe that a school uniform provides a sense of belonging and identity whilst setting an appropriate tone. Please visit the website [here](#) for more detail on uniform PE uniform letter is also available [here](#). We will continue with our daily checks on uniform and our daily rewards for uniform after half term so please, as with equipment, make sure your children are fully prepared for the new term on 23rd February with school opening as usual.

Building work

A reminder that Greenshaw Learning Trust will be investing £4million in the capital project spent on the building and facilities over the course of the next academic year, with some much needed work starting after February half term. This investment will improve the safety and the environment for the students and staff across the whole site with some fantastic projects planned. I look forward to sharing more detailed plans and pictures in the near future.

Phase 1 of the £4 million investment from Greenshaw Learning Trust will commence on the 9th March 2026. This will be a £300000 investment in new student toilets, new staff toilets and some essential safeguarding including new fencing. The expected completion date will be after the Easter Half term and I look forward to sharing further plans and updates as we progress through each phase.

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Half term school schedule

	Monday 17th Feb		Tuesday 16th Feb		Wednesday 17th Feb	
P1 9-10	Design Technology	Mr R Samuel	English Literature	Dr G Mills	Science Combined	Mr A Aribigbola
P2 10-11	Design Technology	Mr R Samuel	History/Core Revision	Miss N Shaughnessy/ Miss K Reggler	Maths (Foundation)	Mr Sam Smith
Pizza Break						
P3 11:30-12:30	English Language	LQU	Maths (Higher)	Miss K Reggler	History/Core Revision	Miss N Shaughnessy/ Dr G Mills
P4-12:30-13:30			Triple Science	Mr A Aribigbola	English Language	Dr G Mills

Fun Friday -(Pictures and write up)

One of the fundamental parts of Oakbank school is Fun Friday and being Kind. We actively encourage students to have fun. We have had some great activities this term including Rock, Paper Scissors and an escape room. Its always a fantastic way to end the week and very rewarding for staff to see such happy students. We have also awarded amongst other rewards, 30 x vouchers for improved attendance, 30 x vouchers for free lunch and queue jump for students of the week, had a whole school fresh pancake lunch and a hot chocolate and cookies reward. We will continue to do this as well as look forward to our whole school Gold, Silver and bronze awards at the end of next term that students have been collecting merits and signatures for.

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First aid

If your child needs to take medication during the school day, it must be handed in to reception or given directly to a member of staff. In order for staff to administer the medication, please complete the required form and either bring it in with the medication or email it to contact@oakbankschool.co.uk. Without this form, we are unable to administer the medication. You can download the form [here](#).

Students must not carry medication with them while at school. If medication is found in a student's possession, it will be confiscated and parents or carers will be asked to collect it at the end of the day.

Enrichment

Please see the link below for our Spring 2026 Enrichment Timetable. [Spring 2026 Enrichment Timetable](#).

We hope the whole school community has a restful and well deserved half term break.

Yours faithfully,

Mr R Gerrard
Headteacher

Mr Rob Gerrard, Headteacher

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