



Please find a video summary [here](#)

**Date: 12th June 2026**

**RE: End of Term**

Dear Oakbank School Community,

Welcome back to the final term of the year! It has been an incredibly busy start with lots going on and its exciting time as Oakbank continues its rapid, positive transformation. By the end of this term, our school will have been a proud part of Greenshaw Learning Trust for a full calendar year. We remain passionately committed to our goal of being your local school of choice, the premier school of choice in Wokingham, and the kindest school within the Trust.

There is already so much to celebrate this term! From the wonderful daily increase in smiles and vibrant energy in our classrooms and enrichment, to our Year 11s approaching the end of their exams in truly exemplary fashion. Furthermore, the school has been posting homework completion rates that rival the very top-performing schools in the entire Trust. Every single day, we continue to elevate our standards. Over the past fortnight, our fantastic Year 11 cohort has shown phenomenal dedication, continuing to attend Period 6 and following their exit timetable right up until their very final exam to maximise their time with our subject experts. Their resilience—arriving at school for 7:30am and staying until 4:00pm—has been inspiring to witness and they have been great role models for younger years. This effort has been supported by our community through much-needed food donations, particularly from SHARE Reading, whilst resilience has been matched step-for-step by our staff, who have gone the extra mile in every possible way to help students climb to the top of their own personal mountains. This has meant increased teaching and planning time during a period when teachers traditionally gain extra non-contact time, and this dedication has certainly not gone unnoticed by students and parents alike.

We have already been putting plans in place for Year 10 and as they transition into Year 11 and we are looking forward to their mocks and Academic Review Evening. We are also incredibly excited for the upcoming events this term which are shared in the newsletter below. These include leavers' arrangements on the 15th and the Prom on the 17th of June—events our staff and students richly deserve. We also have rewards week, Year 6 transition days and more to look forward to and I cannot wait to share updates with you. As a community, we are making every second count, aligning our daily efforts with one of our core mantras: 'pace and purpose'.

In our classrooms over the past two weeks, our instructional focus has been on choral response. While we run vital weekly staff training on SEND and explore numerous avenues to continuously enhance our provision—including recent focused sessions on masking, stimming, and tics (which you can read about further in this newsletter)—choral response is a brilliant addition to our

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teaching toolkit. It is a simple but powerful strategy where the whole class calls out an answer together in unison, rather than the teacher selecting just one student. Think of it like an enthusiastic crowd at a concert singing the chorus together—it truly turns learning into a team sport! Teachers love it because it keeps every single child actively engaged, gives quiet or anxious students a reassuring, safe space to practise out loud, and allows teachers to instantly gauge if the whole class understands the concept. We look forward to introducing and refining this across the term.

We will, of course, continue to polish our approaches and elevate our classroom practice. However, I encourage you to book a School in Action tour on our website to see our fantastic staff and students at work, in person.

Looking forward to a fantastic final 5 weeks.

Mr R Gerrard

Headteacher

#### Feedback this Year

Below is a small sample of some of the fantastic feedback we have had this year.

*“My daughter is **so happy** and said she has been able to learn more this term than the whole of last year (under the previous trust), as classes are no longer being distracted. We love the new uniform and seeing the self respect in how smart they are. It is going from strength to strength and I am **excited about the future**”*

**Year 9 Parent**

*“My son has been on the waiting list for CAHMS, but I can honestly say that since the new trust has come in it has been the making of him. From a child that shut down at almost everything, refusing most lessons. To now participating in every lesson and actually eating at school. This is a massive step”*

**Year 8 parent of an SEN child**

*“Fantastic visit to Oakbank School yesterday to meet the **new head and Greenshaw team**. We saw the early impact of the trust and heard exciting plans ahead. Great to tour the school, and lovely to see pupils **smart in new uniforms and engaged in learning.**”*

**Dame Kate Detheridge**

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## Oakbank School

*"I wanted to let you know about a shift in behaviour and attitude from my son toward school. He used to have such a negative impression of himself and school life. This has completely transformed this year. When he comes home from school he cannot wait to tell me about the merits and golden tickets. He tells me about the lessons... he feels he is now respected by teachers"*

**Year 10 parent**

*"My child is autistic and has ADHD and is thriving in this new environment."*

**Year 9 parent of an SEN child**

### Safeguarding Update

At Oakbank School, safeguarding remains our highest priority. We are committed to ensuring that every student feels safe, supported and able to thrive both in and out of school. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and we value the important role that parents, carers and the wider community play in helping to keep children safe.

As part of our ongoing work, we would like to raise awareness of the four main categories of abuse identified in statutory safeguarding guidance (*Keeping Children Safe in Education*).

#### *Physical Abuse*

Physical abuse involves deliberately causing physical harm to a child. Possible signs may include unexplained injuries, frequent bruising, injuries that do not match explanations given, or a child appearing fearful of certain individuals.

#### Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child, which can affect their emotional development and self-esteem. Signs may include low confidence, withdrawal, anxiety, sudden changes in behaviour, or excessive attention-seeking.

#### Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities. Warning signs can include inappropriate sexualised behaviour or language, secrecy around online activity, changes in mood, self-harm, or reluctance to be around particular individuals.

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## Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and emotional needs. Indicators may include poor hygiene, inadequate clothing, persistent hunger, tiredness, poor attendance, or unmet medical needs.

It is important to remember that these signs do not always mean a child is being abused, but they may indicate that a child needs support and should never be ignored.

### *Reporting a Safeguarding Concern*

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child, whether they attend Oakbank School or live within our local community, please contact us immediately. Concerns can be reported through:

- Telephone: Contact the school reception and ask to speak with a member of the Safeguarding Team.
- Email: Send your concern to [safeguarding@oakbankschool.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@oakbankschool.co.uk)
- Website: Use the "I Want to Talk" button on the Oakbank School website to raise a concern directly with our safeguarding team.

No concern is too small. If something does not feel right, please share it with us. By working together, we can ensure that all children receive the support, protection and care they deserve.

## Attendance Update

As we move towards the end of the academic year, we would like to thank all families for their continued support in helping students attend school regularly and punctually. Excellent attendance remains one of the strongest predictors of academic success, wellbeing and future opportunities.

A particular congratulations goes to our Year 11 students, who have demonstrated exceptional commitment throughout the examination period. We have been especially impressed by the number of students continuing to attend school on days when they do not have scheduled examinations. This dedication reflects the resilience and maturity they have shown throughout their time at Oakbank, and we are incredibly proud of them.

A reminder for Year 11 families that Leavers Hoodies are available to purchase via the MCAS app until **1st June**. Each hoodie features the names of all Year 11 students from this year's cohort and will be presented to students on **Leavers Day, 15th June**. We encourage families to place orders before the deadline to avoid disappointment.

Over the coming weeks, we will also be introducing **Attendance Support Plans** for students who would benefit from additional help in improving their attendance. These plans will enable us to work closely with students and families to identify barriers,

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agree practical strategies and provide tailored support. Our aim is always to work in partnership with families to ensure every young person can access the education they deserve.

As always, our attendance team continues to contact families daily when students are absent so that we can offer support, check on wellbeing and help address any issues as early as possible.

Please remember:

- Report absences each day through MCAS before 8:30am.
- Arrange medical appointments outside of school hours wherever possible.
- Students should attend school with minor illnesses where appropriate, as many can be managed safely during the school day.
- If your child is experiencing friendship, pastoral or lesson-related concerns, please contact us rather than keeping them at home. Absence often makes these difficulties harder to overcome, and our staff are committed to resolving issues quickly and effectively.

If you need support with your child's attendance, please get in touch. By working together, we can ensure every student has the best chance to achieve excellent outcomes and build a future full of choice and opportunity.

### Current SEND Focus & Upcoming Events

This week our staff received further professional development training on how neurodiversity can present in the classroom. We discussed masking, stimming and tics to ensure that we are up to date on how these behaviours may show themselves in our students at school, why students might mask or stim, and how we can support. We also discussed what subtle behaviours might indicate an increase in anxiety, and what things should be reported to SEND and/or Safeguarding as a concern or as an indicator that further support may be required.

Next week our Year 10 mocks begin and we will be supporting students with access arrangements where our testing and teacher feedback has indicated that there is a need. We have to use the mocks for evidence gathering to provide JCQ with proof that any access arrangements are based on need, so it is important that any students with access arrangements follow all staff instructions so that the necessary evidence can be collected.

Two upcoming dates for the SEND diary are:

- 1) Our **Dyslexia Screeners** will be taking place on **Friday 26th June for selected students**. These will be students who have been recommended by staff as showing indicators of dyslexia. If you have any questions about this screener or would not like your child to take part, please contact [kreggler@oakbankschool.co.uk](mailto:kreggler@oakbankschool.co.uk).

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- 2) Our next **SEND Coffee Morning** will take place on **Monday 13th July, 9:30-10:30**. The focus will be on discussing the current research that informs Oakbank's practice and interventions, presenting our new Graduated Approach to SEND, and will give you an opportunity to meet with other parents at the school. All are welcome, whether or not your child is currently on the SEND register. [Sign up here.](#)

### Supporting Local Schools: Sports Days

We are incredibly proud of our PE Ambassadors, who recently represented our school so positively while supporting Sports Day at Alder Grove Primary School.

Throughout the day, our students led a range of activities, carefully arranged stations, introduced events to the children, offered encouragement and enthusiasm throughout the day, and even stayed behind to help tidy up once everything had finished. Their energy, positivity and leadership made a real difference to the experience for the younger pupils.



We were happy to receive such positive feedback from parents and staff at Alder Grove, who praised our students for their maturity, kindness, excellent conduct and willingness to support younger children, showing our values of Work Hard. Be Kind. in action.

Building strong links with our local primary schools is incredibly important to us. These partnerships help create a sense of belonging and continuity for young people across our community, while also giving our students valuable opportunities to lead, mentor and inspire younger pupils, making it a meaningful work experience. Being an active and positive part of our local community is central to what we do as a school. We want our students to be visible, supportive and engaged — helping to make our school a genuine part of the heart of the community.

This visit to Alder Grove marks the beginning of what we hope will be a wonderful and lasting relationship. We are also excited to be supporting three other local primary schools in the next two weeks, creating even more opportunities for our students to make a positive impact.

A huge thank you to our PE Ambassadors for representing our school so brilliantly — we could not be prouder of the example they continue to set.

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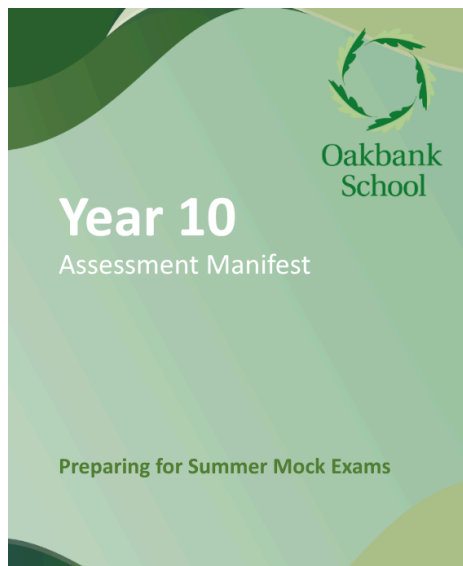


## Year 10 Mocks

		Monday 15th	Tuesday 16th	Wednesday 17th	Thursday 18th	Friday 19th
Week beg 15th June	P1 & P2		English Literature Paper 1	History Paper 2 / Normal Lessons	DT Paper 1/ Normal Lessons	English Language Paper 1
	P5 & P6		Maths Paper 1	Geog Paper 1 / Normal Lessons	Biology Paper 1	Business Studies Paper 1 / Normal Lessons
		Monday 22nd	Tuesday 23rd	Wednesday 24th	Thursday 25th	Friday 26th
Week beg 22nd June	P1 & P2	Maths Paper 2	English Language Paper 2	Chemistry Paper 1	Maths Paper 3	Dyslexia Screeners for selected students
	P5 & P6	H&C Paper / Normal Lessons	PE Paper 1 / Normal Lessons	RE Paper 1 / Normal Lessons		

The Year 10 Summer Mocks begin on Tuesday next week starting with English Literature. Our staff have been blown away by the dedication Year 10 is already showing with this through their attendance at working lunch and high completion rates for homework. The mocks will give students and parents the first identification of their progress towards their GCSEs in Year 11.

Students should revise for their mocks using the knowledge organisers provided by staff and available for some subjects on the Oakbank website. Students also have a copy of the Assessment manifest, which contains their core knowledge for each exam, revision links, and details of what to expect on each paper.



During the mock exam, subject staff will deliver warm up sessions before every exam. **Students should be on site at 8.20** for an early greetings, followed by a 30 minute pre-exam lesson. These warm up lessons are based on the best evidence based teaching available to ensure students are prepared. On days students have afternoon exams, they will finish slightly later than usual so please check their individual exam timetable and plan accordingly.

Following the marking of the summer mocks, staff will begin a rigorous process of analysing the student's data in order to optimise their future learning. Sequences and planning of lessons heading into Year 11 will specifically target the points of improvement in student's performances. From 6th July, Year 10 will also be starting their **Period 0 and Period 6** programme: this means they will receive an additional lesson at the end of every school day and finish at 4pm, and receive specialised support in the morning with their learning instead of the TTRP reading sessions.

Year 10 parents will receive an invitation to an Academic Review Evening on 14th July to discuss how to support their child. Booking will be available from Monday

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22nd June at 7pm until Monday 6th July 12pm for parents and carers of students in Years 10.. You will receive an invitation shortly, which will be accessible through My Child At School (MCAS)

### **Year 7-9 Academic Review Evening, 14th July**

In the week commencing 7th July all Year 7-9 students will be assessed in every subject to test their progress. This exciting academic milestone will involve an in-class knowledge based test based on their recent learning. In future, students should expect these tests at the end of every term.

Following these assessments, we will be holding an Academic Review Evening on 16th July 2026. Booking will be available from Monday 22nd June at 7pm until Monday 6th July 12pm for parents and carers of students in Years 7–9. You will receive an invitation shortly, which will be accessible through My Child At School (MCAS)

### **Fun Friday**

Our recent Fun Friday events have seen students master the art of bottle flipping with the Science Department. Students competed against each other and staff to see if they could land a bottle successfully. Students also competed to see how many times they could do it in a set period. Students from all years were keen to show off their skills which was nice to see.

Our other Fun Friday event saw our students showcase their map reading skills in a Geography Scavenger hunt. Students had to locate the information using a map, and then break the code at all 7 locations before using that information to come up with the key word. Students from all years were involved working in mixed teams as well as within teams from their own year group to be the fastest to break the code. It was great to see the collaboration between students across the school as they raced to be the winning team.

Beginning this week, we have also launched a school wide World Cup Sweepstakes. Each tutor group has been assigned a Group, with the top two tutor groups for attendance receiving a 2nd Group, and staff receiving the last group. We look forward to the competitive spirit during the group stages, and building momentum as we enter the knockout rounds! The tutor group with the winning team will receive a prize.

### **Rewards Week Arrangements**

With the end of term fast approaching, students are eager to get as many merit points as possible, to ensure they qualify for the different reward trips we have on offer.

On the final Friday, Our Gold Reward Trip will see students visit Lagoona Park and participate in a range of different watersport activities. When in school they will also participate in a Sports Activity and Food and Quiz Party to celebrate being in Gold.

Back by popular demand, on the last Monday of the school year, our Silver Reward Trip, will see our students enjoy a range of

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different inflatable activities and participate in a rounders tournament.

On the final Tuesday of the school year, our students will have an in house cinema experience, where they can bring in their own sweets on top of what we supply. Students will also be able to participate in an optional Just Dance activity for being on bronze.

### Merits

Our Highest merit earners per year group this term:

Year Group	Name	Total
7	Jack A	539
8	Noah	739
9	Olivia C	686
10	Gigi K	401
11	Katie R	592

Our highest merit earners across the school this term

Year Group	Name	Total
8	Noah N	739
8	Theo N	696
9	Olivia C	686
9	Ayessa A	672
8	Riley O	661

We have a busy summer term 6 ahead at Oakbank, including:

- **Year 10 Mocks, 16th-26th June**
- **Year 11 Leavers Event, 15th June**

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- Year 11 Prom, 17th June
- Year 5 Alder Grove Days 9am-11.40am, 18th-19th June
- Year 5 Alder Grove visits 18th and 19th
- Year 6 Transition Day, 24th June
- Dyslexia Screeners, 26th June
- Attendance Workshop Evening, 1st July
- GLT Athletics, 9th July
- SEND Coffee Morning: Oakbank's Research Led Approach, 9:30-10:30am, 13th July
- Academic Review Evening for Years 7-9, 16th July
- Academic Review Evening for Year 10, 14th July
- Rewards Week for Gold Silver Bronze from 16th July onwards
- 22nd July - Last day of term and 12.30 finish.

**First Days Children's Charity FREE SCHOOL SHOES Event - SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY:**

Wednesday 22nd July, 10am-1pm Woodley Precinct, RG5 3JP

Wednesday 29th July, 1-4pm Clements Close Play Park, Spencer's Wood, RG7 1HH

Monday 27th July, 11.30am-1.30pm Shinfield School Green Centre, RG2 9EH

Thursday 6th August, 11am-2pm Frensham Green, Shinfield, RG2 8EH

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful half term,

Mr R Gerrard  
Headteacher

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