



Friday, 10th October 2025

NOTES FROM MRS MITCHELL

Dear Parents,

The past fortnight at Oakhyrst has been filled with energy, creativity and purpose. Weeks like these remind me why our school is such a special place.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our recent curriculum workshops with Mr Smith, Mrs Price and Mrs Flanders. These sessions offered a real glimpse into the thought, imagination and passion that go into our teaching. Many parents commented on how interesting it was to see how we nurture creativity, confidence and curiosity across Sport, Music and Art, which bring so much colour and joy to school life. This week also saw our Belonging at OGS: Happy, Safe and Included Forum, where parents and staff came together to share ideas on equality, equity, diversity and inclusion. It was a positive and constructive evening, and I look forward to building on these discussions as we continue to strengthen our culture of belonging.

Our creative arts continue to flourish. The orchestra has been sounding magnificent, and the Chamber Choir are rehearsing with great focus ahead of their upcoming performance at Woldingham School, which I am very much looking forward to. Congratulations to Lizzie (Y6), whose beautiful artwork has been chosen as our Masterpiece of the Month.

Beyond the classroom, the children have been learning through adventure. Year 4's visit to Bough Beech Reservoir brought science to life as they explored how water reaches our homes, while Year 5 returned from their Bushcraft trip full of stories, laughter and a few muddy shoes. These experiences, from axe throwing to pizza making, help to develop confidence, independence and teamwork, and create memories that will stay with the children long after they have left school.

Our sports teams have shown great determination and spirit. The swimming first team are training hard for the upcoming ISA Gala at K2 Crawley, and we wish them every success. Congratulations to Ophelia (Y5) and Caiden (Y6) for their swimming medal-winning performances last weekend, and to Anna (Y4) for her impressive tennis victory at Purley. Well done also to George (Y6) and Nurel (Y5) for their recent written competition successes; fantastic achievements all round.

I was delighted to meet our new Eco Council this week: Hendrix (Y1), Gracie (Y2), Willow (Y3) and Pareesa (Y5). Their thoughtful discussion about endangered rhinos sparked some excellent ideas about how we can make small but meaningful changes to protect the planet.

Open Day was another highlight. We welcomed fifteen visiting families, and once again our pupils were the best ambassadors imaginable: confident, kind and proud of their school. My thanks to everyone who helped make the morning so special.

In assembly, we celebrated both Space Week and Dyslexia Awareness Week, thinking about curiosity and the many ways we learn and explore. The children were captivated by the story of the Mars Rover *Curiosity* and astronaut Chris Hadfield's *The Darkest Dark*, and their enthusiasm soon found its way into model rocket building. Year 2 also impressed everyone with a lively and confident assembly on vertebrates, full of fun and facts in equal measure. Our Harvest Service at St Mary's Church was a beautiful celebration of gratitude and community. My thanks go to PFOG for the stunning display, to all families for their generous foodbank donations, and to Reverend Frany for leading the service with such warmth and care.

Looking ahead, next week promises plenty to look forward to: the Woldingham School performance, a visit from Richard Bool of Lingfield College for those considering Year 7 options, and of course, our first Grandparents' Tea Party. It is shaping up to be a special event, so please do sign up via Wisepay, if you have not already done so. Finally, we are excited to welcome our youngest explorers to 'Forest Friends: Autumn Adventures' on Wednesday 15 October (9.30–11.00am), a free woodland workshop for children aged two to five. Please spread the word among friends and neighbours.

As I reflect on the past two weeks, I could not be prouder of our children for their hard work, kindness and the joy they bring to everything they do.





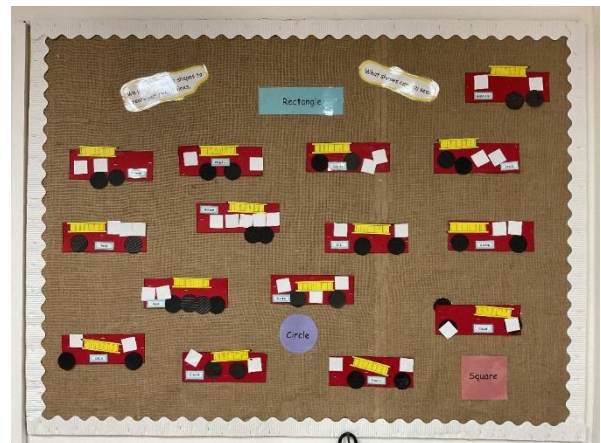


NOTES FROM THE EXCEPTIONAL OAKHYRST STAFF

Pre-Reception

We have been working hard on being more independent in Pre-Reception. We have begun serving our own milk from a china jug. We need to think about being careful with the delicate jug and about how to get the right balance so we don't spill!

We are also talking about People Who Help Us at the moment in our class. We created some brilliant fire engines with lots of different shapes.



Reception

Over the past couple of weeks, Reception have been busy, curious and full of enthusiasm! We brought our "People Who Help Us" topic to a wonderful close with a joint woodland adventure walk alongside Pre-Reception. The children embraced the role of helpers beautifully—supporting their friends, exploring nature and showing such kindness along the way.

In literacy, we were also learning how to write labels with care and purpose. The children particularly enjoyed labelling police officers, thinking carefully about what sounds they could hear in each word and what information a good label should include.

In Maths, the children used ten frames to count autumnal objects such as conkers, leaves and acorns. This hands-on approach has really helped them make sense of numbers and quantities in a fun, seasonal way.

We have now begun our new topic, "Me, Myself and I." The children have proudly brought in photos of their fantastic families and have spoken about them with growing confidence in front of the class. Miss Wright and Mrs Hobbs were delighted to join in too, sharing pictures and talking about their own families with the children.

This topic has also inspired our literacy work, as we've been recognising and writing the initial sounds in our own names and the names of our family members. The children have approached this with excitement and increasing independence.

To top it all off, we celebrated world Space Week with great imagination! The children created their own paper flying rockets and enjoyed stories and facts about Neil Armstrong, Mae Jemison and Stephen Hawking—three incredible little people who grew to have their own big space dreams.

Year 1

We've had such a fun-filled and productive fortnight in class, with plenty of exciting learning happening across all our subjects!

Digital Learning Delights

In Digital Learning, we've been busy trying to *predict the outcomes of programs* and exploring the *important vocabulary* that helps us understand how computers work.

Magnificent Maths

In Maths, we've been flexing our number skills by transforming *addition calculations into subtraction* ones. We've also learned that *addition can be done in any order*, which was a fun discovery! Another big focus has been understanding that *'finding the difference' means taking away*, and the children have done so well grasping this important concept.

Exploring English

In English, we've been putting our alphabetical knowledge to the test by practising *putting words in alphabetical order*.

Science Adventures: Trees and Plants

We've started an exciting new topic in Science – *Trees and Plants*! We're already asking thoughtful questions and can't wait to learn more about how plants grow, what they need to survive, and the different types of trees in our environment.

Enrichment Fun

Enrichment this week has been full of creative challenges! We had a fantastic time building towers using *modelling dough and buttons* – there was lots of laughter (and concentration!) as we saw who could make the *tallest tower*. We also tested our creativity and teamwork by seeing who could create the *longest paper chain using just one piece of A4 paper*. The results were amazing, and it was a joy to see everyone having so much fun while problem-solving and thinking outside the box!



Year 2 Assembly... Animals including Humans

We loved it when....

Well Done Year 2!



- The frogs bounced so HIGH!
 - I roared like a dinosaur!
- We were amphibians with ATTITUDE! 😊
 - The shark said, "They're FAKE!"
 - I made the audience laugh.
- We put on our ROARSOME costumes!
- The birds flapped their beautiful wings
 - I wiggled like a fish
- We danced in an animal parade.



Year 3

In the UK, Black History Month is celebrated from 1st to 31st October. It's a time when we learn about and celebrate the lives, stories and achievements of Black people. In Year 3, we read the beautiful story 'Sulwe' by Lupita Nyong'o. Sulwe is a girl who feels sad and isolated because of the colour of her skin, but then a magical star visits her and helps her see how beautiful and special she really is.

To help us understand the book better, we used a story map to visualise the structure and key components of the text. This helped us retell and internalise the story as preparation for our own versions next week, which will be inspired by Sulwe's journey of self-love and acceptance.



In other news, we've had visits from the Quiet Critters. They come out when the classroom is calm and quiet. We absolutely love it when they come out!



Year 4



Year 4 have recently enjoyed their first school trip of the year to Bough Beech, and what an exciting day it was! The children had the opportunity to learn all about how water is cleaned, treated and transported to our homes. They followed the fascinating journey that water takes, from the reservoir right through to the taps in our kitchens, and were able to see each stage of the process in action.

One of the highlights of the day was the chance to get hands-on in the interactive *Flow Zone*. Here, the children took part in activities that helped them understand the importance of looking after our water supply and making sure we don't waste it. They explored different ways to save water at home, from turning off the tap while brushing their teeth to thinking carefully about how much water is used in everyday tasks.

The trip wasn't just about science—it also encouraged teamwork and problem-solving. The children were challenged to connect the right number of pipes to supply water around a model village within two minutes. This activity proved to be great fun, sparking lots of laughter as well as some very impressive collaboration.

Overall, it was a fantastic day of learning outside the classroom. The children came back buzzing with new knowledge and a greater appreciation of the water that we so often take for granted. We are proud of how enthusiastic Year 4 were throughout the visit and look forward to seeing how they put their new water-saving ideas into practice at school and at home.

Year 5

On Wednesday 1st October, the Year 5 class set off on their annual residential trip to Bushcraft. Full of excitement, wonder and a few nerves, the children commenced their trip to the forest. On arrival they were greeted by their trip leaders along with their camp manager. Throughout the next few days, the children had the opportunity to participate within a whole host of activities and games including survival bracelet making, first aid, camp fire building, knife skills, first aid, pizza making, archery and axe throwing. In between all of these amazing activities, the children sang songs and played games and were treated to some of the most scrumptious meals possible! As each night time drew in, the children settled down in their tents for a fun-filled sleepover with all their friends. On Friday the children returned tired, yet full of fantastic memories and stories that they will enjoy reflecting upon for years to come. A very big thank you to Miss Hopkins, Mr Smith and Miss Sumners who attended the trip.



Year 6

In Maths, children have impressed us with their determination and perseverance while tackling long division. They have also been deepening their understanding of powers of 10, exploring how numbers change when multiplied and divided by 10, 100, and 1000. A strong emphasis has been placed on using precise mathematical language to explain reasoning and understanding why the phrase “just add a zero” isn’t always accurate. To extend their reasoning further, pupils have also been solving two-step equations in algebra, showing growing confidence and logical thinking.

In English, lessons have been inspired by Michael Morpurgo’s writing. Building on their research into the basking shark, the children are now planning and drafting their own non-chronological reports to share what they have learned. Alongside this, they have refined their descriptive writing through the use of expanded noun phrases, and practised using semi-colons and colons to add variety and sophistication to their sentences. Reading sessions have encouraged pupils to think deeply about how figurative language shapes meaning and mood within a text. They have also been developing their inference skills, drawing thoughtful conclusions and interpretations from what they read.

During NVR, pupils have explored nets of 3D shapes, developing their spatial awareness, while in Verbal Reasoning, they have tackled challenging analogies, strengthening both logic and vocabulary.

Science has sparked plenty of curiosity as we explored evolution, focusing on the fascinating story of the peppered moths and how their adaptations supported survival in changing environments.

In History, pupils have continued their study of the short-term causes of World War II, concentrating on the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and discussing its impact on global events.

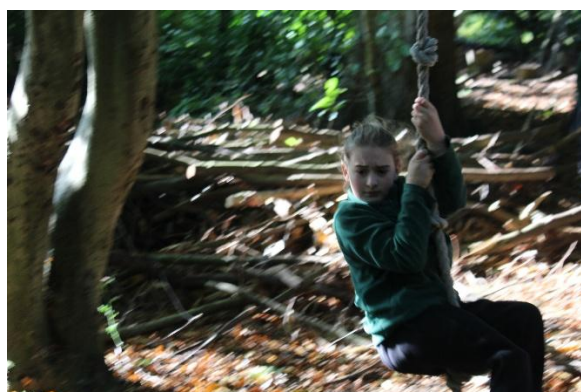
On Tuesday, we visited Lingfield for a Junior Citizenship morning. The children learnt a wealth of valuable information including how much sugar is hidden in cereals, train safety on platforms, awareness of fraud and scams involving money, and essential first-aid skills such as chest compressions and how to use a defibrillator. They also discovered the important reasons why we should never enter a construction site. It was an incredibly informative experience.

Finally, in Computing, we have begun our new ‘We Are Creators’ unit. Pupils have started planning their own school magazine, considering layout, content, and design ideas as they prepare to bring their creative visions to life in the coming weeks.



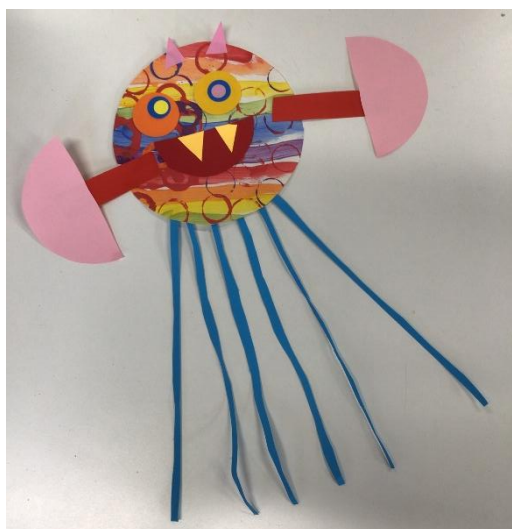
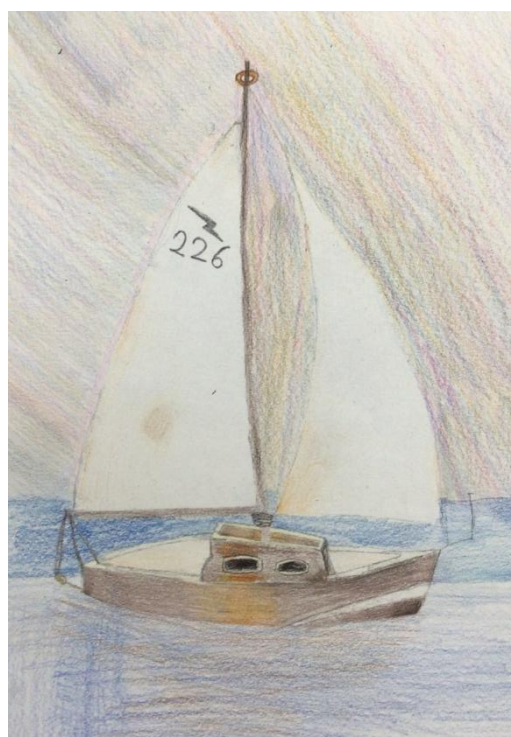
OTHER NEWS

Forest School





Autumn Tree by Lillian (R), Tiger by Ethan (Y3), Peacock by Honor (Y3), Sailing Boat by Leela (Y6), Monster by Lucas (Y1).



Exclusive Christmas wreath making masterclass for Oakhyrst parents

Parents from year two have organised an exclusive OGS Christmas wreath making masterclass in partnership with GRACE, a charity which exists to support local women who are diagnosed with gynae cancers.

Taking place in the evening (7:30pm to 10pm) on Monday, 1st December at Robert Denholm House, near Bletchingley, the event will be hosted by GRACE and led by an experienced and qualified florist.

Tickets cost £65 and include everything you need to make and take home your own stunning wreath, as well as a glass of prosecco (or soft alternative) on arrival and festive nibbles and treats throughout the evening. There will also be plenty of Christmas cheer to kick off the festive period.

Places are limited so don't miss out. You can book your place via a dedicated OGS link on the charity 's online shop: [Exclusive Oakhyrst Parents' Christmas Wreath making masterclass - Monday 1 December 2025 - GRACE Charity -](#)

Mrs Harrison and Mrs Morgan-Robinson

After very successful donations over the years, we are hoping that we can continue to support this appeal. Mrs Judy Baker our Flute Teacher has once again asked us to her support the Salvation Army New Gift Christmas Appeal 2025

They are looking for new unwrapped gifts for children aged from birth up to older children/teenagers too.

The NEW gifts get distributed to local families with the Caterham area
0-5 years: (Baby and Pre School age): large dolls / dinosaurs, soft toys, mobiles, bath toys, nursery rhyme and story books, large and wood block puzzles, large cars / lorries, crayons, building blocks / Duplo, musical toys, dressing up outfits; wooden train sets
5-11: (Primary school age): family and trivia games, toys, stationery (colouring sets, felt-tip pens, paints), books, puzzles, construction kits / Lego, art & craft activities, Barbie / action dolls, foot or hoops balls, hair accessories, gloves/hats/warm socks, race track sets
11-14: (High School age): £10 "Amazon" or £10 "All store" gift cards, Toiletry Sets or Make Up
If you would like to make a donation, please send your gift(s) into the school office and we will arrange to pass your donation onto Mrs Baker.

The last day for donations will be 28th November 2025. Thank you for your continued support.

A Helping Hand



Be a S^TAR and donate a gift to our
Christmas Present Appeal
OUT SHOPPING?
Please help us make Christmas special for those who are struggling this Christmas.

By adding an extra gift to support Caterham Salvation Army

We believe every child deserves **NEW GIFTS** so they are special. So we are unable to take second hand items for the Christmas Present Appeal. Stuck for gift ideas? Suggested gifts are:

- **0-5 years: (Baby and Pre School age):** large dolls / dinosaurs, soft toys, mobiles, bath toys, nursery rhyme and story books, large and wood block puzzles, large cars / lorries, crayons, building blocks / Duplo, musical toys, dressing up outfits; wooden train sets
- **5-11: (Primary school age):** family and trivia games, toys, stationery (colouring sets, felt-tip pens, paints), books, puzzles, construction kits / Lego, art & craft activities, Barbie / action dolls, foot or hoops balls, hair accessories, gloves/hats/warm socks, race track sets
- **11-14: (High School age):** £10 "Amazon" or £10 "One4All" gift cards, toiletry sets or make up.

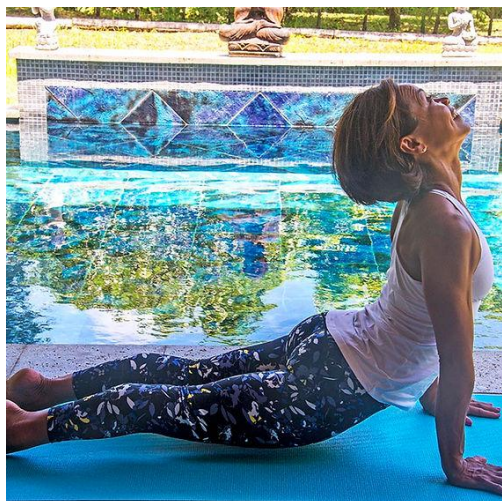
PLEASE DONATE NEW UNWRAPPED GIFTS BEFORE 1st DECEMBER.
Collection points are at Caterham Tesco, Morrisons and The Westway Centre.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help sort, pack and deliver the gifts between 2nd and to 13th December. Do call 01883 330718 for detail of how to get involved.

THE SALVATION ARMY Christmas Appeal

FR REGULATOR
The Salvation Army is a Christian Church & registered Charity No 214779 and in Scotland 5040889. Social Trust Registered Charity No. 215479 and in Scotland 5037691. The Salvation Army Trustee Company, registered number 00258322 (England and Wales).

Parents Monday evening Yoga Club at Oakhyrst Grange School




The Hummingbird Studio with Karen Cadogan

Vinyasa Flow Yoga – Monday 6.15pm to 7.15pm – BWA Hall
Access through the swimming pool gate

Please book your space through
[Yoga In Caterham](#) | [The Hummingbird Studio](#) | [Caterham](#)

Kids Adventure Show

A promotional poster for the Kids Adventure Show. It features a collage of children's faces in the background. At the top center is a circular logo with a stylized 'e' in orange and yellow. The text is overlaid on the collage in yellow and white boxes. The text reads: 'Do your kids spend most of their time in the online world?', 'Are you an over protective parent but think it's now time for your child to learn life skills and have an adventure of a lifetime?', 'The BAFTA award winning TV production company behind Clarkson's Farm, Expectation, are looking for parents and their kids for a exciting, fun new TV show for a non-broadcast pilot.', 'If you have confident kids aged 9-11yrs and want to hear more get in touch below!', 'KIDSADVENTURESHOW@EXPECTATIONTV.COM', and 'EXPECTATION PRIVACY POLICY HERE' at the bottom.



Do your kids spend most of their time in the online world?

Are you an over protective parent but think it's now time for your child to learn life skills and have an adventure of a lifetime?

The **BAFTA** award winning TV production company behind Clarkson's Farm, **Expectation**, are looking for parents and their kids for a exciting, fun new TV show for a non-broadcast pilot.

If you have **confident** kids aged **9-11yrs** and want to hear more get in touch below!

KIDSADVENTURESHOW@EXPECTATIONTV.COM

EXPECTATION PRIVACY POLICY [HERE](#)

FREE TO JOIN

Little Acorns
A fun and friendly toddler group

Join us for stories, games and sing-a-long songs

Term-time Mondays 10:30 - 11:30am
Starting Monday 8th September 2025
No need to book

JOIN US AT:
Oakhyrst Grange School,
Stansted Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 6AF
01883 343344 | office@oakhyrstgrangeschool.co.uk

Oakhyrst Grange School

Forest Friends
AT OAKHYRST GRANGE
Come and have some
Autumn Adventures

For preschool children (ages 2-5)

- ✓ Leaf hunts & autumn treasures
- ✓ Conker and acorn collecting
- ✓ Nature crafts & storytime
- ✓ Bug discovery & outdoor play

Autumn sessions now open
Around 1 hour
Oakhyrst Grange Sch

Wrap up warm,
pop on your wellies,
and come explore!

office@oakhyrstgrangeschool.co.uk
01883 343344

ROTATIONAL WEEKLY MENUS

Oakhyrst Grange School
Autumn Term Menu 2025

Week 1	Week Commencing: 1 st , 22 nd September 2025, 13 th October, 17 th November 2025				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Jacket Potatoes served with Baked Beans Cheese and Sweetcorn	Beef Chilli Con Carne served with Nachos and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Chow Mein Served with Seasonal Vegetables	Roast Turkey Roast Potatoes served with Stuffing Balls and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Goujons and Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Plant Based Chilli	Stir fry Oriental Vegetables with Noodles	Vegetarian Strudel	Plant Based Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake	Water Melon and Pineapple	Yoghurt	Ice Cream	Chocolate Chip Cookies
	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table

Oakhyrst Grange School
Autumn Term Menu 2025

Week 2	Week Commencing 8 th , 29 th September 2025, 3 rd , 24 th November 2025				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Margherita Pizza Served with Hash Browns and Sweetcorn	Beef Pasta Bolognese served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Korma Curry served with Basmati Rice Naan and Seasonal Vegetables	Roast Pork with Roast Potatoes Gravy served with Yorkshire Pudding and Seasonal Vegetables	Battered Pollock with Steak Cut Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Veggie Pasta Bake	Chickpeas and Potato Curry	Vegan Roast Strudel	Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake	Water Melon and Pineapples	Yoghurt	Ice Cream	Chocolate Chip Cookies
	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table

Oakhyrst Grange School
Autumn Term Menu 2025

Week 3	Week Commencing: 15 th September 2025, 6 th Oct, 3 rd November, 1 st December 2025				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Tomato and Cheese Pasta served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables	Beef Burger and Hash Browns served with Ketchup and Cucumber Batons	Mediterranean Chicken with Basmati Rice and Vegetables	Roast Turkey Roast Potatoes Rosemary Gravy served with Stuffing Balls and Seasonal Vegetables	Breaded Fish with Steak Cut Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Plant Based Burger	Vegetarian Paella	Richmond Vegan Sausages	Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake	Honeydew Melon Pineapples	Yoghurt	Ice Cream	Chocolate Eclairs
	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table

KEY FORTNIGHTLY DATES

- Saturday 11.01.25 U11 Football Tournament away at Caterham School all morning commencing 9.00am
- Monday 13.10.25 Year 6 Interview Practice with Mrs Armstrong, Board Member
- Tuesday 14.10.25 Selected pupils to Woldingham School Junior Choir Festival – leave OGS 12 noon
- Wednesday 15.10.25 U11 Versatility Netball Tournament (selected teams) – leave OGS 1.30pm
- Thursday 16.10.25 Mr Richard Bool, Headteacher, Lingfield College – Years 4, 5 & 6 Parents Forum 9.00am
- Thursday 16.10.25 Grandparents' Teac Party – 2.15pm to 3.15pm please book seats through Wisepay
- Friday 17.10.25 Years 5 & 6 Epsom College Cross Country leave OGS 12.15pm
- Monday 20.10.25 Autumn Half Term Holiday week 1
- Monday 27.10.25 Autumn Half Term Holiday week 2
- Monday 3.11.25 Whole School return for second half of the Autumn Term
- Monday 3.11.25 Afternoon Tea Time Concert and Public Speaking Event – selected pupils please book through Wisepay
- Tuesday 4.11.25 U8 & U9 Football (away) and Netball (home) fixtures v Chinthurst School – 2.00pm Parents welcome
- Wednesday 5.11.25 Year 6 Mock Exam conditions today
- Wednesday 5.11.25 U10 & U11 Netball (away) and Football (home) fixtures v Chinthurst School – 2.00pm Parents welcome
- Thursday 6.11.25 Years 4 & 5 11+ Evening for Parents – 6.30pm please book seats through Wisepay
- Friday 7.11.25 Year 6 and 5 Remembrance Day Assembly - 8.45am Parents welcome
- Saturday 8.11.25 U8 Football Competition away at Caterham School commencing 9.00am