



November 2025

## Whole School News

Dear Oakthorpe Families and Community,

I hope you had a wonderful half term break and enjoyed the autumn colours!

What a fantastic month October was at Oakthorpe! So much happened! We celebrated Black History Month, Book week, Harvest and had lots of visitors to the school! A massive thank you to all of the wonderful parents who helped with our Cultural Afternoon - it was fantastic!

As we move into November, our teachers are looking forward to meeting with you all to discuss your child's learning and achievements during our Parents' evening sessions. Please do make sure you have signed up for yours! We will also be sharing our annual PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE, which is a great opportunity to share your thoughts and help us to improve further.

As we move into winter, please ensure you send your children in with a nice warm coat, hat and gloves.

I can't wait to see lots of you at our annual Fireworks Night on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November! We are always looking for more parents to support our incredible events!

Warm regards,  
Mr J Wheeler  
Every child, every day.



## November Dates for your diary

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> INSET Day
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> children return to school
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> FOO Fireworks night (6PM)
- 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> Anti-Bullying Week
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Parents' evening & Y6 cinema trip
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Y1 & Y2 cinema trip
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Parents' evening
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Individual and sibling photo day
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> Y4 cinema trip
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> Y3 cinema trip
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Non-uniform day

## Important Health & Safety reminders:

- Please do not park on the yellow keep clear lines located down Lister Gardens. This is to keep all families safe and also allow for vital emergency service access. Please do not park in front of our neighbours' driveways. Unfortunately, our rubbish collections haven't been able to take place due to the gates being blocked.



A reminder that we are a NUT FREE SCHOOL. Please check any snacks and lunchbox items to ensure that they do not contain nuts of any kind. Children with allergies to nuts can be severely affected by an exposure to them.



## Attendance



At Oakthorpe, we want all children to maximise their learning time by having 96%+ attendance! Currently our whole school attendance is 95%.



## Our core values

Respect  
Responsibility  
Excellence  
Confidence  
Creativity

Value of the  
month

**RESILIENCE**



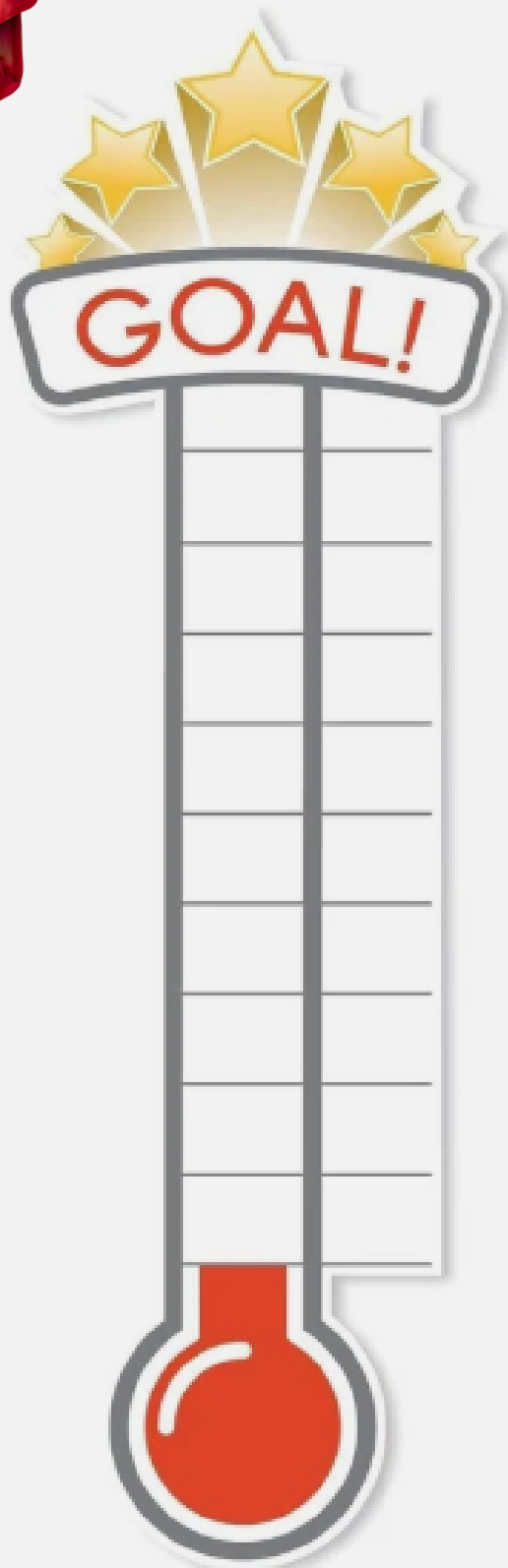
## Donate a birthday book!

When it is your child's birthday, instead of cakes, why not consider donating a book to our wonderful school library! We will put a lovely sticker in the book to show who the birthday book has been donated by and a certificate will go up in the library! If you are going to bring in cakes for the class, please can these be pre-packaged to support us being allergy friendly!

Please see our [Birthday Book Wishlist](#), which has been carefully created by the children.



# £10,000



Oakthorpe really knows how to put on a good show! However, our stage has seen better days.

Any fundraising events we do as a school will all go towards investing in a NEW STAGE so that we can continue to dazzle and shine in style!

We will keep you updated with how much we have raised. We are estimating a £10,000 refurbish cost!

2025

Friends of Oakthorpe

Presents

# FIREWORKS NIGHT

THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

GATES OPEN AT 6PM

GLOW STICKS

BBQ

POPCORN &  
CANDYFLOSS

MULLED WINE

BAR

Parent Pay Prices  
In Advance Only

ADULT - £6

CHILD - £4 (UNDER 14 YEARS)

2 ADULTS, 1 CHILD - £15

2 ADULTS, 2 CHILDREN - £17

1 ADULT, 2 CHILDREN - £13

1 ADULT, 1 CHILD - £9

HOT CHOCOLATE  
& MARSHMALLOWS  
& MORE

Prices On The Gate

NO FAMILY TICKETS ON THE GATE

ADULT - £7

CHILD £5

# Reception 2026



**Was your child born between  
September 2021 and August 2022?  
Join our Reception Classes in  
September 2026!**

At Oakthorpe, we believe that every child, deserves the best education possible, every day! From the moment your child starts with us in Reception, they will be supported, challenged and inspired to thrive! Come and see our fantastic school. Join our 2026 cohort and start your child's journey with us!

 **Date:** Tours in October, November and December 2025

 **Time:** 1.30pm on Wednesdays and 10am on Fridays

 **Location:** Oakthorpe Primary School, Tile Kiln Lane,  
N13 6BY

**To book your tour, please call the  
school office on  
020 8807 4689  
Or email  
[office@oakthorpe.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:office@oakthorpe.enfield.sch.uk)**



Is your child due to start Reception in September 2026?

Do you have any friends or family who have a child ready for Reception in September 2026?

Make sure to tell them to book their tour date in with us ASAP!

Please do support us by sharing the above flyer with friends, family and on social media!





2020  
**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**  
#BLACKHISTORYMONTH



# CULTURAL CELEBRATION AFTERNOON



The Communication Pod uses natural resources and interactive technology, built into a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration and storytelling.





A massive thank you to all of our families and staff who donated towards our Harvest Festival; All donations went to the Enfield Food Bank!

[LINK](#)



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

### ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

### IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

### VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

### CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

### FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular renewals help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

### POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

### SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

### ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

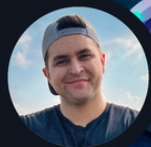
Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

### BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



At Oakthorpe, we are always looking at ways to reduce, reuse and recycle! We are teaming up with 'The Little Recyclers' to help unwanted clothes and fabrics ending up in landfill!

In the run up to and over the Christmas Break, please do bag up any of your old, unwanted items (use the list below!) and bring them to school on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026!



# SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes -  
more funds for  
your organisation  
**1 kg = £0.45**

## YOUR COLLECTION IS ARRANGED ON:

**9 JANUARY**  
FRIDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND  
BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION  
WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

✓ WE ACCEPT

- Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- Shoes (paired)
- Bags
- Hats & scarves
- Belts
- Fashion accessories
- Swimwear, lingerie
- Jewellery
- Perfumes

✗ WE DON'T ACCEPT

- Uniforms
- Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing
- Traditional clothing
- Duvets & pillows
- Single shoes
- Toys, stationery
- Bric-a-brac & electrical items
- Books, CDs, DVDs
- Workwear
- Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains
- Hygiene items, diapers
- Linen & towels

PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!

RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING  
AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES

Raise free donations for Oakthorpe Primary School when shopping online with easyfundraising. It won't cost you a penny extra. All you need to do is:

1. Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/oakthorpeprimaryschool/> and join for free.
2. Install the app and Donation Reminder extension.
3. Activate your donation before shopping online and the retailer will automatically donate to us for free!

Thank you for your support.

8,000+ retailers will donate to us whenever you shop with them



Plus, you'll get...



Exclusive retailer offers



Competitions



A warm feeling inside!

Over  
**£60m**  
raised for UK good causes

**£0**  
extra cost to anyone



 Advertise with Us!

Would you like to promote your local business or community group to Oakthorpe families?

Our monthly school newsletter reaches a wide and engaged audience of parents, carers, and staff—making it a great opportunity to share your services or events.

To find out more or to book an advert, please contact the school office at:

 [office@oakthorpe.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:office@oakthorpe.enfield.sch.uk)

 020 8807 4689

All proceeds go towards supporting enrichment activities for our pupils

# Keep Your Child Safe Online



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C

H

## TALK

**Talk** to your child about their internet use and safety

**Have meaningful conversations** about how they use the internet

**Praise** your child for safe online behaviours

**Welcome** your child if they want to ask you a question or tell you about a problem, even if they've done something unwise themselves

## EDUCATE

**Learn as much as you can** about games, platforms, parental controls and the benefits and risks of online activity

**Teach** your child about specific issues and concerns

**Teach** your child about safe and unsafe relationships and how to repair friendships following disagreements online

## CO-VIEW

**Co-view** your child's online activity at least 1x/week

**Interact** with your child online

**Model** appropriate online behaviour

**Co-operate** with each other to promote the well-being of all



## HOUSE RULES

**Set clear routines, rules and boundaries** ("house rules")

**Keep** to age ratings and guidance for apps, games and devices

**Restrict** online activity to daytime and communal areas

**Use** filters and parental controls

**Spend regular screen-free time** with your child



AGE  
**11+**

for a basic phone or highly restricted smart phone without internet access or social media

AGE  
**14+**

for a smart phone with parental controls

\*Agree a contract with your child to encourage responsible phone use

