Spring 1 Term 2026

Headteacher's Termly Newsletter

Message from the Headteacher

I hope you had a wonderful, relaxing half-term break with your families and that the children are refreshed and ready for the half term ahead.

Last half term was jam packed with lots of exciting learning including Safer Internet Day and Children's Mental Health Week. The children enjoyed sharing their learning with you as part of Thumbs Up Thursday, please remember if you cannot make this event you can always arrange another time with your child's class teacher.

Highlights of the Term included:

Enrichment Activities: Our extra-curricular clubs have expanded and been bustling, and it was wonderful to see so many attend our new Culture and Writing Clubs.

Community Spirit: Thank you for your incredible support during our Outwood's Got Talent event, and thank you to our amazing PTA who put the event together. The children got to share their wonderful talents whilst raising funds for the school.

Curriculum Success: Our focus on literacy across the school is yielding fantastic results, with a noticeable increase in the variety and quality of writing among the children.

The partnership between home and school is the cornerstone of our children's success. I want to extend my sincere gratitude to you for your continued support.

OUTWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We care, we learn, we grow

A few highlights and some key information…

Outwood's Got Talent

It was such a delight to welcome back our 'Outwood's Got Talent' event after over 10 years. Thanks to our PTA who took the lead in arranging this wonderful event. Did you know some of the PTA entered Outwood's Got Talent when they were at our school! We had 17 acts which showcased a variety of talents to a packed school hall. The judges included, Ann Flatman (the chair of governors for Outwood), Pete Fox (A local musician) and Colin Owen (presenter on WFM), they had a difficult job as all of the acts were fabulous. They also kept the audience entertained with their comments.

Outwood's Sporting Achievements

The children have continued to enjoy representing the school in many sporting events again this term. This has included a team of children taking part in the Chill Factore Winter Olympics, the Y5/Y6 girl's football team coming 3rd in an event for Stockport schools at the Powerleague and a team of children taking part in an Athletics event at Etchells Primary School. All teams were praised for their positive attitude and strong team work in all events.

Mrs Mahmood is having a baby!

Mrs Mahmood will be going on her maternity leave in the next few weeks. We would like to wish her and her family all the best at this incredibly exciting time as she prepares for the new addition. In her absence Mrs Parker will be taking over and joining the Year 4 team.

Attendance



Total attendance for the school year so far is 93.7%

Our target is 96%

The class attendance figures so far this year are:

EYFS: 94.7%
Year 1: 93.4%
Year 2: 91%
Year 3: 93.1%
Year 4: 93.3%
Year 5: 95%
Year 6: 95.5%

Young Voices!

It was an honour to take the school choir to this year's Young Voices Event in February. The children were a credit to the school! After a long day of rehearsals at the Co-Op Live Arena the children performed as part of the 9,000 strong children's choir to a huge audience.

Our PTA needs you!

Last half term each child came home with a letter from the PTA, this was asking if you could offer any support to making sure our valued events such as the Choco Lotto & Outwood's Got Talent can take place. Please let the PTA know if you can offer any time at all.

Olympic Gymnast Beth Tweddle visited Outwood



Beth Tweddle came into school and delivered an inspirational assembly about why exercise is so important and her journey to success. This really resonated with our ACORN values which are at the heart of our school.

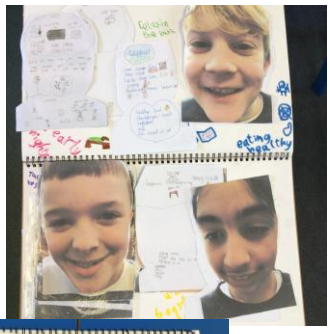
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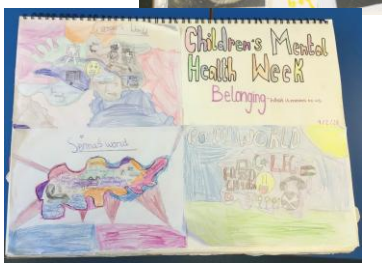
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What has been happening this term…

Children's Mental Health Week

During the week all classes completed some work Children's Mental Health Week, focusing on this year's theme of 'This is my place'. All children thought about their sense of belonging as individuals, in their friendships, in school, and in communities and how this plays a vital role in our mental health and wellbeing. The KS1 & KS2 classes took part in a live assembly with lots of schools from around the country where they explored this theme, Stockport County Football Club came to do some work with classes and each class presented their learning to all of the school in Friday's celebration Assembly.







Safer Internet Day

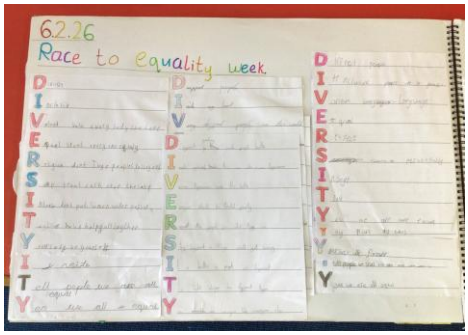


Safer Internet Day 2026 took place on the 10th of February 2026, with all classes learning, based around the theme '**Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI**'. Here are some top tips to keep safe online.

Tips for a Safer Internet Day (and year-round):

- **Use Strong Passwords:** Utilize unique, complex passwords for different accounts to protect against hacking.
- **Be Mindful of Scams:** Be cautious of requests for personal information or money, especially with the rise of AI-driven scams.
- **Review Privacy Settings:** Regularly check the privacy settings on social media and other apps.
- **Engage in Dialogue:** Have open conversations with family and friends about online experiences and potential risks.
- **Utilize Resources:** Access educational materials from organizations like the UK Safer Internet Centre to improve digital literacy.





Race Equality Week

Race Equality Week is an annual global movement to spark and renew hope, inspire progress, and keep the momentum going in addressing race inequality. The 2026 theme, #ChangeNeedsAllOfUs is a call to make it everyone's business. As a result, the children have been celebrating our diverse school community and promoting the values of cultural diversity and race equality at Outwood.

Reminders – please read:

School times	The school doors open at 8.40am with the school day beginning at 8.50am. The school day ends at 3.20pm – these times are the same for all classes.
Uniform	Details of our uniform policy are on the website at ... Correct uniform must be worn at all times - no trainers or brightly coloured socks/tights. Hoodies are not acceptable.
No jewellery	No jewellery: especially no earrings for P.E! If the ears are newly pierced and they cannot be removed parents/carers will need to put a plaster over the earrings for health and safety reasons otherwise children will be asked to remove them.
Absence from school	If your child is not in school, please phone us on the first day of absence to explain the reason on: 0161 4371715 and try to avoid appointments during the school day, if this cannot be avoided we will require a copy of the appointment card or letter. If we do not know why your child is in school this will be classed as an unauthorised absence which may lead to prosecution.
Naming of property and personal items	Please name all clothing and personal items brought into school. We always have so much lost property that is unnamed which makes it very difficult to return to its owner. Together we need to encourage our children to take responsibility for their belongings.
Free School Meals	If you are in receipt of benefits, please apply on-line via SMBC's website for Free School Meals, even if your child is receiving a Universal Free School Meal (free meals provided for children in FS2, Year 1 & Year 2). School will then receive additional funding to help your child/children. Please ask at the school office for help and advice in this process.
Paid School Meals	The cost for school meals is £2.75 per day (£13.75 per week). Children in FS2 (Reception), Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal. Therefore, paid meals are only from Year 3. The menu is on our website.
Breakfast Club (Paid and Free provision)	Please don't forget that Outwood is the only school in Stockport offering free breakfast club, to all school aged children under the Government's free breakfast club initiative. It opens at 8.15am and is proving to be popular with our families. You don't need to book, just come along! We are still be offering our paid breakfast club for those who need an earlier provision. This continues to be open from 7.30am at a cost of £4.50.
After School Club	We operate an after-school club to assist with your childcare needs. This is open Monday – Thursday, until 6pm at a cost of only £7.50. Sessions can be booked in advance or on the day using your School Spider account.
Asthma inhalers and prescription medicines	Please let us know immediately if your child is prescribed an inhaler. Please remember that school can only administer prescription medicines. These must be handed directly to the school office with a completed medical form.
Online nursery place application deadline	A reminder to parents and carers that the deadline to apply for a nursery place in September 2026 is 31st March 2026. Visits ahead of this date can be arranged with the school office. Here is the link for applications: https://www.stockport.gov.uk/start/apply-for-a-maintained-nursery-place.
Site Safety	To ensure safety on the school grounds, we kindly ask that children and adults dismount from bikes and scooters at the school gate and not ride them in the playground. Also, dogs are not permitted on the playground even if being held.
Healthy Snacks & Water Bottles	EYFS and KS1 continue to be provided with free fruit via the National Fruit Scheme. Therefore, a snack does not need to be brought in from home for these children. The children in KS2 should only bring in a healthy snack such as fruit or vegetables or they can buy a snack from our healthy tuck-shop. Please only send in **a clear reusable water bottle filled with water** and not juice due to the effects of this on teeth. **Following NHS & LA guidance we are now a NUT AWARE school – therefore no snacks can be brought into school which contain nuts.**
Contact Details	Please ensure that you inform the school office if there is a change to any of your contact details, many thanks.

School Communications & Office Systems Reminder

Confused about the different ways we communicate to parents and carers? See the list below for clarification:			
School Spider	School Spider is our home – school correspondence system. Our school website contains lots of useful information too. In addition to the website, you can also download the 'School Spider' app (select Outwood Primary School) to give you quick access to the newsletters and parent login which we use for Parents Evenings and surveys. As a cashless school, we use School Spider's online payment system which can be used for school trips, wrap around care, school events, nursery fees etc.		If you would like to contact us via email, we have a number of email addresses. For same day responses always use the admin email address. Mrs Maude: headteacher@outwood.stockport.sch.uk Mrs Penwill (Mon-Tues School Business Manager) Mrs Schofield (Weds-Fri School Business Manager) businessmanager@outwood.stockport.sch.uk Mrs Moon - Administration Officer: admin@outwood.stockport.sch.uk
SchoolGrid	Our school meals are provided by TLC. School Grid is their online ordering and payment website which enables you to pre- order your child's meals in advance and arrange payment directly to TLC where necessary. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 benefit from Universal Free School meals, so please take advantage of this by encouraging your child to try our school meals service.		Our Reception and Nursery children use the Portfolio section of Dojo as an Online Journal to add observations and photographs of your child for you to view from home. Parents and carers are also encouraged to add details of special moments or activities linked to the curriculum.
	This is how is or main messaging platform. Please make sure that you have the ClassDojo app with your notifications turned on so that you don't miss any important messages. Each week teachers share information and photographs about what your children have been learning.		

Our Socials	
 	Did you know you can follow us on Facebook and Instagram? These are both active social media sites so please do like and share our posts to boost the search and promote the school. This is where we showcase our children's amazing learning. The same information will be shared across these so pick your platform and sign up! Facebook https://www.facebook.com/OutwoodPrimary Instagram https://www.instagram.com/outwoodprimary/

Outwood Primary School

Academic year dates 2025/2026

September 2025

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October 2025

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January 2026

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February 2026

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March 2026

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June 2026

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July 2026

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School holiday
Bank holiday
Term time
In-service day for all staff - School closed to pupils

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School holiday

Bank holiday

Term time

In-service day for all staff - School closed to pupils

* Provisional dates awaiting governors ratification

DATE	Key events Spring Term 2
March	
Monday 2nd March	World Book Week begins with a visit from Bookman!
Tuesday 3rd March	Year 5 & 6 Book Club
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day – children can come to school in their pyjamas and a book ready for a bedtime story
Monday 9th March	British Science Week & Assessment Week begins
Tuesday 10th March	Year 3 & 4 Book Club
Friday 13th March	Non-Uniform Day – Donations Chocolate/Easter goodies for Easter Afternoon Tea & Raffle
Monday 23rd & 24th March	Parents and Carers Evenings 3.30 – 6.30pm
Friday 27th March	PTA – Easter Afternoon Tea and Raffle
27th March	Year 2 author visit School Closes for Easter Break