



# Oakfield School



**Welcome** to the latest edition of the Oakfield School newsletter. This second half-term of the academic year has provided its own challenges with some students learning from home and adapting to taking more responsibility for their own learning. The school remains a positive place for staff and students alike, with a widening range of curriculum and activities available.

## ACTIVITIES

This term Oakfield has offered a wide range of activities for students to take part in during the afternoon sessions. Table tennis has proved particularly popular, along with photography and ICT.

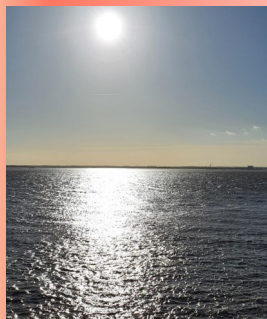
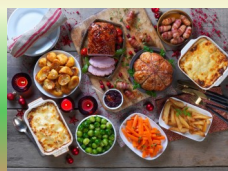


Photo of the Humber taken by a Year 8 student during afternoon photography sessions.

### Christmas Lunch

Oakfield traditionally holds its Christmas lunch on the last day of term, with the whole school gathering in the sports hall for food and a visit from Santa.

This year, due to distancing rules, things will be slightly different although the school is determined



to give our students a Christmas experience worth remembering.

The dinner will be held on Thursday 17th December, with each tutor group eating together in their classroom.



### Residential

Since opening back up after lockdown, residential is embracing healthy eating, with the key part of this being the fruit of the week initiative. So far this term houses have had strawberries, kiwi, mango and pomegranates, mixing a blend of popular and less popular fruits. The idea behind this is primarily to encourage the students to have more fruit, but also to broaden their horizons and expand their pool of liked fruits.

Residential is currently going from strength to strength, with more and more students embracing what it has to offer. On top of the 3 boarding houses (Girls, KS3 and independent), residential has since Developed the LEAP programme, offering students extended evenings with structured activities and independent life skills training. Initially the programme started very small, however it has seen huge success with more and more students requesting to be part of the programme since its conception at the start of term.

A massive part of residential is its termly Culture Evening, with this term's event focusing on Christmas. The evening sees a variety of activities on offer, all centred on differing subjects with past evenings including Japan, World Cup, Eid and WW2. The idea behind the night is to embrace different cultures and beliefs of the World. This term's Culture Evening included a Christmas scavenger hunt, with Dr Seuss rhyming riddles, Christmas cooking class with students making and designing their very own ginger bread house, as well as Christmas crafts designing baubles and decorations.





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### Art

Recently in the Oakfield Art room, we have had a series of art lessons focusing on capturing the Sky At Night. Yr 8 and 9 students have experimented with different brush techniques to create visuals that capture the night sky. We have focused on Galaxy Skies and the Northern Lights.



### Online conference

In November some Year 10 students took part in the “Young People Say No” online conference. They discussed domestic abuse and its effects on victims.

### Covid

In order to reduce potential disruption to learning for large groups of students you must keep your children off school if they have any COVID-19 symptoms. Increasingly we are finding that those testing positive have not had the main symptoms of a persistent cough, high temperature or loss of taste/smell. Students with cold like symptoms or a sore throat, headaches and aching muscles are also testing positive so please be cautious and if in doubt keep your child at home and get a test! This also applies to anyone in your household, if you suspect Coronavirus you **MUST** keep your children at home pending the test result. In school, we have installed new handwashing facilities at entrances to enable staff and students to wash their hands as they enter and leave the buildings. Handwashing is an integral part of our system with which to keep everyone safe.

See the latest advice at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

### Jumpers

On Friday 11th December our staff and children took part in the national Christmas Jumper Day, raising money for Save The Children. It's always a popular day in school.

### Finally

Oakfield School would like to wish you a very merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

### Music and performing arts



It has been a busy half-term for Music and performing in school. The last few weeks has seen the introduction of online guitar lessons, delivered via Teams by Hull Music Service. The system has worked well and has proved very engaging for those students taking part.

Oakfield has also been awarded the Music Mark Award for dedication to providing Music in school.



At this time of year there is usually a school talent show “Oakfield’s Got Talent” taking place. As it’s impossible to have the whole school in one place for this at the current time, there will be a series of concerts instead, performed by The Squirrels. The Squirrels is the name for the school band: an ever-changing line-up of students and staff. They will perform 4 short sets on the last day of term, giving everyone a chance to join in with some festive singing.



Following the success of last year’s inaugural school pantomime “Elvis And The Beanstalk”, work has been underway to rehearse this year’s edition: Cinderella.

This year the panto is being performed by a mix of residential and school staff and is being filmed and then edited for broadcast on the last day of term.



### Healthy Eating

Like many schools, Oakfield is committed to healthy eating. Our kitchen staff provide nutritious food for students and staff both in school and residential.

We encourage Oakfield students to make the right choices in their diets and as a part of this discourage drinks and snacks which are high in sugar, caffeine or salt. Energy drinks are not allowed in school.

