

# Term 1

## *Newsletter 1*



## Message from School



Well, what a first term we have had here at Oastlers! It's been filled with excellent and exciting events and feedback for our learners and from external sources. There is never a dull moment, there is always plenty going on here at school! What you see in the newsletter is only a fraction of what actually takes place, and we still have a jam packed final week of term to come!

We've had exam mocks and resits prepared for and completed, rewards trips, musical events, residential; and we still have, to name a few things :

More rewards trips to go out on

Keighley learners going out to carol sing at Sutton Lodge Care Home next week to spread some Christmas cheer to the residents

Oastlers' Got Talent showcase

Christmas dinners & Christmas jumper day (Wednesday 17th December)

Thank you for your continued support with your child's learning journey and school experience as we continue to guide them through these years before they head out in the big wide world!

We hope that you all have a wonderful holiday break, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We will see you in 2026!

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## Student Council - Head Boy & Girl



This year at Oastlers, we have brought in a student council and introduced a brand new position of Head Boy and Head Girl.

Each learner that put themselves forward for these positions worked extremely hard to put forward and deliver a manifesto speech, with their views and how they would like to impact school life for their peers.

A voting poll station with learner security was set up at voting time to make sure all voting was done without bias across the learners and staff. It was incredibly close between all candidates but...

Congratulations to our new Head Boy, Finley and Head Girl, Skyla!

## Money Ready Sessions



This term, our learners had the privilege of visits from the Money Ready Team!

The learners learnt skills including budgeting, savings, how to get a mortgage, how taxes work. This is a real insight into the ways of the working adult world and how to manage all



The first week back in September brought us a special visit from the Bradford Music Arts Service for our year 7 & year 8 learners, with a live orchestral music performance in our small hall.

Learners and their teachers got to listen to a variety of music played live and then were invited to ask questions and look at the instruments in more depth.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable visit for all learners and staff that were there to partake in it!





## Malham Residential Trip October 2025



In October, learners from Years 7 to 11 took part in an unforgettable three-day residential to Malham, packed with challenge, adventure, and teamwork. The trip gave learners the opportunity to step outside their comfort zones, build confidence, and strengthen friendships across year groups.

Throughout the residential, learners enjoyed an exciting range of outdoor activities, including mountain biking, climbing, hill walks and gorge scrambling. Each activity encouraged them to push their limits, work together, and support one another through every challenge. For many, it was their first time trying such adventurous pursuits — and they showed great enthusiasm and determination.

Evenings were filled with activities, laughter, reflection, and time to sometimes relax after busy days outdoors. By the end of the trip, the attending learners had not only developed

new practical skills but also gained a deeper appreciation for teamwork, perseverance, and the great outdoors.

The October residential was a wonderful success and a memorable experience for everyone involved.

## Design & Technology Excellence Award

Massive congratulations and well done to our very own Chris Davis, who was named winner of this years Design & Technology Excellence Award.

This national accolade celebrates his exceptional contribution to the field of Design and Technology (D&T), highlighting his dedication to inspiring young people, championing creativity, and supporting the growth of a vital subject area for the UK's future workforce.



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*Tony Ryan, CEO of the Design and Technology Association, praised Chris's achievement, saying: "Chris has shown outstanding dedication to advancing Design and Technology education, inspiring students and supporting the subject's growth in ways that go above and beyond. As employers across advanced manufacturing and creative industries face skills shortages, we need more educators like Chris to motivate and guide the next generation of designers and engineers."*

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## International School Award



**Oastlers School has been awarded Foundation level of the British Council's prestigious International School Award in recognition of its work to bring the world into the classroom.**

Oastler's international work includes work around looking through the lens of children across the globe who find themselves in refugee camps, including writing letters to MP's and creating literature and art work from what they understand of those children's experiences.

**Lyndsey Brown, Headteacher** said: 'This work is incredibly important and I am thrilled that the school has been granted the International School Award from the British Council in recognition for the work taking place in school as we discover what life is like for children around the world!' We are on an exciting journey!

Oastlers has been presented with a certificate for this achievement which you can see located in our reception area. Well done to all the learners and staff that were involved in this work!

## Sixth Form Army Residential

Some of our Sixth form learners, along side our Assistant Headteachers, went on a residential trip with the Army in November.

It was a four day work experiences at Strenshill exploring different career paths within the army. The learners got to take part in a range of activities in the field, with an overnight stay under bachers in very very wet weather, sleeping under the stars.

Hunting and strategy games were played and enjoyed to give the learners the full army experience, including obstacle courses and climbing walls!

Our participating learners had an amazingly valuable experience for personal growth and development!



## Remembrance Day At Keighley

We had two brilliant events taking place at our Keighley site for Remembrance Day!

We had an assembly with invited guests from a local residential care home and a serving Royal Naval Officer; and a session from the CEO and founder of Mansfield Pollard doing an empowering girls and woman session!

Our learners thoroughly enjoyed listening to stories and learning more about what Remembrance Day is about and all the reasons behind it. The memorial talks were heartfelt and inspiring, and we hope our learners went away with a new appreciation of the day.





## Matilda - 12th November 2025

Our year 7 learners got the opportunity to head to Bradford Alhambra to see Matilda the Musical Live on the UK Tour linked with the English and performing arts curriculum.

Both learners and staff were witnessed dancing and singing along to the songs within the show and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all!

A massive well done to all learners who also attended as they were a credit to you all and to the school whilst out at the show! We're so proud of you all!



## Construction - Demolition



The learners on our construction courses from both Bradford & Keighley, had the amazing experience of witnessing a demolition of part of Airedale Hospital.

With all safety precautions and barriers in place; our learners were close enough to witness the entire event and gain insight into the other side of their construction course, and gained valuable knowledge that will assist them in their course learning and careers in construction!

Feedback from the learners who were in attendance was excellent; they found the whole trip really exciting and were impressed by the demolition happening.

## Rewards Trips!



A large number of our learners were invited to go onto their rewards trips over these last 2 weeks of term!

Our rewards trips are based on our points based system, and it was lovely to see so many of our learners reaching that goal!

Learners have enjoyed things like trampolining, Lazertag, Nando's and Pizza Hut visits, just to name a few! All the students have had outstanding behaviour whilst out, and have been credits to the Oastler School name!

We've had great feedback from the venues that have been chosen and from all the accompanying staff!

Huge well done to all the learners who made the points goal this time around - and good luck in gaining the points you need for the next set of rewards trips!

## **Oastlers Together - Parent / Carer Group**

Our Parent / Carer Group has had another fabulous event meet-up 11th December at school doing Wreath Making.

The main aim of Oastlers Together is to provide mutual support and empowerment. We recognise that, although each of our journeys with our young people is unique, there are many shared experiences among us, through a welcoming and non-judgemental environment.

Through sharing our individual journeys, we have discovered a sense of connection and understanding. This openness has helped us feel less isolated and alone, reminding us that we are not facing challenges by ourselves.

The group is always open for new people to come along; so if you would like to join in on the next session you are more than welcome! It's also free flowing, so if you are unable to make a session or more, don't worry! The door will be open to you again when you are able!





## Oastlers' Got Talent



We will be welcoming all our parents and carers to come and support our participating learners and staff in our annual Oastlers' Got Talent Show on Thursday 18th December! We will be opening our doors for entry around 9:30am for the show starting.

We look forward to seeing all the acts doing their absolute best in the show!

Break a leg everyone! (But please not literally!)

## Goodbye from Anne



This term ending also sees the end of time at Oastlers for our wonderful Head of Catering Anne!

Anne has been with us at Bradford since we opened and has been an integral part of the school for so many years, making sure that all the learners and staff are met daily with incredible home cooked meals, and who can forget the birthday cakes for each learner!

We are so sad to see her leave, but Anne is looking forward to her retirement time and has plenty of trips away planned for her and her partner!

Anne you are amazing, and you will be missed massively by all of our staff and learners! WE LOVE YOU!

## Dates For Your Diary



### **December**

Tuesday 16th - Christmas Dinner Day Keighley

Wednesday 17th - Christmas Dinner Day Bradford

Thursday 18th - Oastlers Got Talent Showcase - parents and carers welcome to attend to watch from 10am

Friday 19th - Last Day of term - Christmas Break Starts

### **January**

Monday 5th - Back to School! New Term Starts

From January 5th Year 8 classes at Bradford will commence swimming lessons every Monday. Please ensure that your child attends with a full swimming kit for each Monday session.

**Immunisations** - HPV - 29 January 2026

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