



OAKLANDS INFANT SCHOOL

OAK TREE NEWS

Deep roots for future growth



Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week we held two parents evening which was well attended, I really hope you found this useful.

As you can imagine, we do have Christmas activities in the diary. We are constantly reviewing the current situation and seeking guidance as to what can and can't go ahead. Please be mindful that we may need to cancel events at the last minute, due to Covid and based on the advice that we receive.

Best wishes

Mrs O'Neill

Head Teacher

WOKINGHAM LIBRARIES

Virtual Storytime Wokingham Libraries will be sharing some fun stories. Suitable for families with children aged 7 and under.

- Tuesday 16 November at 11am to 11.30am
- Tuesday 23 November at 11am to 11.30am

To sign up email: libraries@wokingham.gov.uk with the session you would like to attend, your name and library card number and you will be sent details of how to join the day before.

COVID-19 VENTILATION

One of our additional hygiene measures is to ventilate the school as much as possible, which means doors and windows are open throughout the school day. Children are permitted to wear additional layers as school may be colder than normal.

ATTENDANCE

One of our jobs in school is to monitor attendance of all pupils. Schools report regularly to the local authority on this and education welfare will be monitoring pupils that regularly fall below 95%.

Where attendance falls below 95% or a student has a high number of broken weeks, this becomes a serious concern. Research has shown that there is a strong link between attendance and achievement.

We would like to remind families that attendance is important to ensure continuity and routine. Any medical or dental appointments should be made outside of school time if possible.



School success starts
with attendance

GOLDIES

Children who have received a Holly leaf
(now on display on the Oak Tree in the hall):

Ash: Noah and Esme
Willow: Miesha and Freya
Chestnut: Adrielle and Lilibeth
Silver Birch: Imogen and Owyn
Beech: Abigail and Myron
Elm: Mason and India

Additional Goldie awards for children around school, from different members of staff:

Maria in **Chestnut**
Patrick in **Chestnut**
Emma in **Silver Birch**

Last half-term, we were focusing on the school character of Goldie. We were so pleased with how many children received a leaf, which were on display on our Oaklands Tree in the hall.



YEAR 2 - GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

After a few false starts Year 2 finally got to finish their Panic in Pudding Lane topic with a re-enactment of the Great Fire of London. Just like in 1666 the fire was slow to spread but once it did it soon destroyed the houses and St. Paul's Cathedral. There were lots of gasps of amazement and shock. This was a fantastic way to end this enjoyable topic. A big thank you to Mr Munson for facilitating this event.

Please click <http://oaklandsinfants.org/photo-gallery/>
to see the photo gallery of the burning.

I thought the burning was
good as it soared up.
Bronwen

It was amazing and looked
really cool as it was burning.
Lilly

I thought it was really good
and it was like a massive
bonfire. Albert

It was fabulous watching St.
Paul's Cathedral. Remi

I really enjoyed watching the
burning but I was a little
worried it might burn the
school. Ciana

It was very smoky and the
flames flew up. India





Merry
Christmas

&
HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Christmas 2021 at
Oaklands Infant School**



Date	Notes
Friday 26th November	South Hill Park Panto to see Cinderella x3 coaches in year group bubbles South Hill Park will be following risk assessments
Tuesday 7th December	9:15am: Christmas play performance 1 (60 parents maximum)
Tuesday 7th December	2pm: Christmas play performance 3 (60 parents maximum)
Wednesday 8th December	9:15am: Christmas play performance 2 (60 parents maximum)
Monday 6 th December	Children can write Christmas cards to others in their class ONLY—bring into school Time in between to not be handled
Friday 10 th December	Cards handed out to go home
Monday 13 th December	Carol service <u>cancelled</u> . This is due to large numbers of families altogether and too close to Christmas.
Thursday 16 th December	Christmas jumper day School Christmas lunch (Please see IFG website for meal choices)
Friday 17 th December	School finishes at 1:30pm.

Oakland Infants Character: HOLLY

This half term our character focus is Holly.

Holly was on her own feeling lonely. She decided to 'have a go' at making friends.

Before she knew it she was surrounded by lots of other holly leaves and berries.

Now she'll always have a go.

Already we are seeing children throughout the school:

- not giving up when an activity gets tricky.
- having a go at changing behaviours to make good choices.
- trying to be more independent e.g. getting changed for PE.
 - not giving up when it gets challenging in maths.
- remembering to use their phonics in reading and writing.

Well done Infants, keep on 'having a go' like Holly!

We are really proud of the children for 'having a go' like Holly and it has been wonderful to hear that this is happening at home too.

HOLLY LEAF

Children who have received a Holly leaf:

Ash: Noah and Esme

Willow: Miesha and Freya

Chestnut: Adrielle and Lilibeth

Silver Birch: Imogen and Owyn

Beech: Abigail and Myron

Elm: Mason and India





READING NEWS

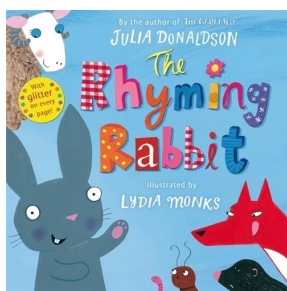


In this half term my assembly theme is Poetry. The power of a good poem can help make reading a reality for young child. From making reading fun to teaching children different ways to think about phonemic sounds, poetry is an invaluable resource in any young reader's literacy journey. Here are few ways poetry helps children improve their reading skills:

- **Motivates children to read:** Children will find joy in reciting their favourite poems and they'll gain important literacy skills at the same time. As poetry is typically only a few lines, it may feel less daunting to a young reader to tackle a poem as opposed to a longer book.
- **Teaches young readers about sound:** Reading poetry helps children learn about voice, pitch, volume, and inflection. While these are mainly functions of speech, they're also incredibly important for children learning to read. Poetry can teach young readers about speech patterns, which can give them cues to the words on a page.
- **Builds Vocabulary:** Like any form of reading, poetry can introduce children to new words. Poetry is unique in that it typically follows a rhythm.
- **Encourages creativity:** Children have wonderful, active imaginations. Poetry can help children tap into their creativity by encouraging them to think about the new and unexpected relationships between words.
- **Reading aloud:** Reading poetry aloud, just like reading other genres aloud, can help children improve their literacy skills. When children read aloud, they think more deeply about the sound of the words they're saying and therefore improve their reading skills. Poetry is the perfect genre for reading aloud because it's rhythmic, expressive, and fun.

Miss Weston (Deputy Head and English Lead)

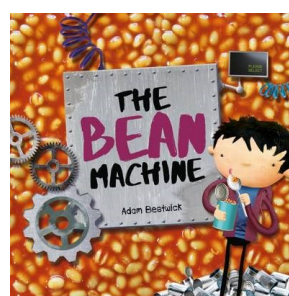
What are you reading?



Poppy from Beech class read the book:

The Rhyming Rabbit by Julia Donaldson

"I love this book. The rabbit goes on an adventure and meets lots of different animals. He makes up some really funny rhymes along the way"



Oliver from Elm class read the book:

The Bean Machine by Adam Bestwick

"This book is funny. I like it when Jack makes a really good bean machine from recycling"

What are we reading?



Silver Birch Book Recommendation

In Silver Birch class we read this book written by Patricia Hegarty and illustrated by Britta Teckentrup. A wise old owl sits in his hole in the tree trunk and watches the changes in the weather through each season. He also sees the animals that live in and around the tree and how they adapt as the tree changes from winter into spring and then summer, through the autumn and back to winter again.

Now summer's here, the sun
is high,
Bees are humming in the sky.
Ophelia



It's a rhyming
story. Felix

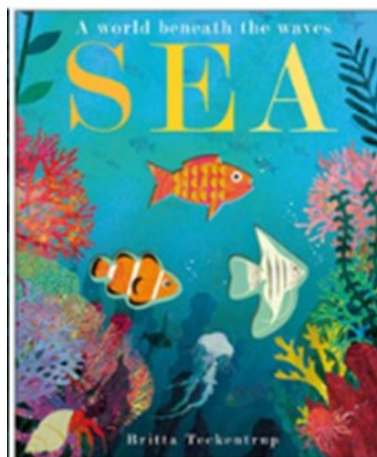
I like the changing
colours of the year.
Jack

It starts in winter and
ends in winter again.
Miles

It was beautiful because
of the colour.
Emilia

I like the leaves
changing colour and
the bears playing.
Lottie

Books by the same author:



CROWTHORNE LATE NIGHT SHOPPING

The Event co-ordinator in Crowthorne is excited to inform you that the Crowthorne Lights, Carols and late-night shopping event is happening on

Friday 3rd December 5.00pm - 9.00pm

in Crowthorne High Street. They are still confirming the final details but as well as the shops opening late, the lights will be officially switched on, there will be a brass band and carol singing outside Crowthorne Baptist Church, Father Christmas's grotto outside the library, a variety of stalls selling Christmas gifts, and so much more.

As in previous years, they would love to run a poster competition, open to all primary school children who would like to design a poster to help them advertise this event. All posters received will be displayed in shop windows around the Crowthorne and prizes for the best ones.

All posters must be A4 and sent to Crowthorne Parish Council, The Morgan Centre, Wellington Road, Crowthorne RG45 7LD. Closing date for entries is

Friday November 12th.



CONTACT US

FAMILY SUPPORT ADVISOR - Nikki Lenon

07748 415285 or email

nlenon@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Oaklands Infant School Office: 01344 774644 or email

admin@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk

GOVERNING BODY

The governing body is a committee that is in place to steer the school's strategic direction and to make sure that the school remains accountable. If you have a concern about your child, normally it is best to speak to their teacher or Mrs O'Neill first as they know them well and will probably be able to deal with it quickly. However, do get in touch if you feel this isn't working or you have other things you wish to discuss - we are happy to hear from you! Thank you.

Mat Parker (Chair of Governors)

governors@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk

Or via the school office

CHILDREN IN NEED - 19TH NOVEMBER

Both Oaklands Infant and Junior Schools will both be supporting Children in Need this year.

We would like to encourage everyone to wear **non-uniform** and something spotty and make a donation of £1.

ALEXANDER DEVINE SANTA DASH

Alexander Devine are getting active with their annual festive fundraiser, which is a great way to get children and their families active in the 'run up' to Christmas. The Alexander Devine Santa Dash is a novelty 5km fun run, made accessible for all, which is held through the centre of Windsor. It will take place on **Sunday 28th November.**

For more information about the Santa Dash, please visit

www.alexanderdevine.org/events



BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

Albert in Beech, Jia in Chestnut,

Sophia in Elm and Ellie in Willow



Please let us know if you have a **POSITIVE** COVID-19 case in your family.

admin@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk

If you have any feedback about our newsletter, please email

admin@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk