



# OAKLANDS INFANT SCHOOL

## OAK TREE NEWS

Deep roots for future growth



Dear Parents/Carers,

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, I had the privilege of joining the Y1 children on their trip to Windsor Castle. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day and the children were excellent, and great representatives of our school.

Book Week was celebrated along with World Book Day, lots of activities happened, as well as dressing up as a book character – all aiming to promote a love of reading. Thank you to everyone, including the staff, for making this such a positive experience for all and a special thank you to Miss Weston for co-ordinating activities across the school. The real highlight was the shared reading between the infants and juniors, great to bring the two schools together again.

Unfortunately, this week we have seen a huge increase in Covid cases, especially amongst our staff and in some pupils. Please can I ask that everyone within our school community remains vigilant and continues to monitor the situation in their household. Thank you.

*Mrs H O'Neill*

Head Teacher

### LEAVES

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



**Ash:** Thea, Harper-Jane, Harley and Milly

**Willow:** Zac, Heart, Ava and Oscar

**Chestnut:** Frank, Antonia, Maria and Stanley

**Silver Birch:** Arthur, Max, Imogen and Chloe

**Beech:** Isaac, Harrison, Teddy and Oliver

**Elm:** Alexi, Thomas, Joshua and Michael

**Goldie awards for children across the school:**

**Chestnut** – Nyla

**Silver Birch** – Ophelia

### STAFFING

Sadly, we are having to say  
goodbye to two members of staff  
at the end of this term.



Firstly, to Mrs Goodenough who has been based in the school office. Thanking her for her dedication and support that she has given to the school, on and off, for the past 21 years.

Secondly, Miss Lewis, a teaching assistant in Willow is relocating with her family. We have loved having her join our team and would like to thank her for all her support.

As with any staff leaving, we are sad to see them leave and we wish them all the best for the future.

### CELEBRATIONS OF LEARNING

We would like to invite ONE parent per family to the class Celebration of Learning. Please go to the classroom on the day and you will be invited in to celebrate.

**ASH**                      **24 MARCH 2:50PM**

**WILLOW**                      **24 MARCH 2:50PM**

**CHESTNUT**                      **30 MARCH 3PM**

**SILVER BIRCH**                      **31 MARCH 8:40AM**

**BEECH**                      **28 MARCH 3PM**

**ELM**                      **30 MARCH 3PM**

### UPDATED WEBSITE

Please have a look at the updated school website for new galleries with all school events - World Book Day, Windsor Castle, Pets As Therapy etc. Common childhood illnesses and school Nursing Newsletters. Plus leave of Absence form.



# READING NEWS



Last week was a very exciting week in school for reading! On Thursday 3rd March, the children celebrated World Book Day 2022! All the children (and grown-ups) made an amazing effort to dress up as a range of book characters. Throughout the day the children participated in a range of activities linked to the book 'Rumble in the Jungle'. During the day some children had a virtual call with Pinehurst Care-home where they showed off their outfits and told the residence all about the book character they dressed up as. We asked them questions about reading and what books they loved. During the afternoon we had lots of reading fun with children from the Junior School. It was lovely to see all the children with big smiles on their faces all day.

On Friday 4th March, more fun continued with a drama workshop led by Perform. We ended our week with a book sale led by some Year 2 children. We are pleased to announce that we raised nearly £100!! The Reading Ambassadors will now choose some books for us to purchase using these funds. Thank you so much for your support. Some photos have been loaded to the school website for you to see. <http://oaklandsinfants.org/photo-gallery/>

Miss Weston (Deputy Head and English Lead)



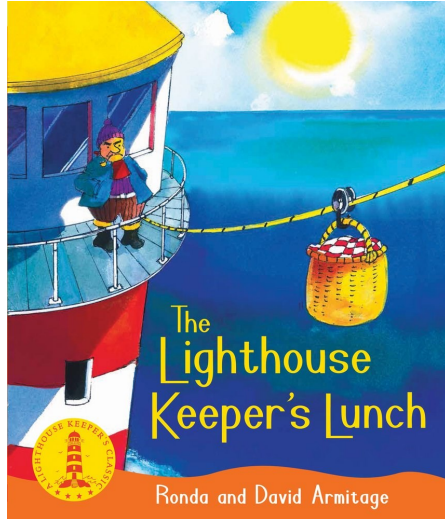


# What are we reading?

## Year 2 Recommendation

Once there was a lighthouse keeper called Mr Grinling. At night time he lived in a small white cottage perched high on the cliffs, and in the daytime he rowed out to his lighthouse to clean and polish the light. Every day Mr Grinling tucks into delicious lunch, prepared by his wife, Mrs Grinling. But Mr Grinling isn't the only one who enjoys the tasty food, so Mrs Grinling has to think of a way to stop the greedy seagulls from stealing the lighthouse keeper's lunch. The Year 2 children are thoroughly enjoying reading the series of books written by Ronda and David Armitage. This week the children have even written their own version of the story!

Lache—I like when Mr Grinling shouts at the seagulls!



Abigail – My favourite part is when Hamish is meant to scare the seagulls but gets scared himself.

Poppy – I like this book a lot because the seagulls eat Mr Grinling's lunch!

Jacob – Hamish is my favourite character because he is cute.

Sophia – My favourite part is when Mrs Grinling makes mustard sandwiches.

Ciana – Hamish is my favourite character.

Arthur – It is an amazing story! I think we should keep it in our book corner so everyone can read it.



Other books written by Ronda and David Armitage



# It's British Science Week!



British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, that runs from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> March. It's time to celebrate all things science!

The focus for 2022 is **GROWTH**. Growth is part of our everyday lives, it affects people, plants and animals! Growth can also include the growth of buildings and having a 'growth mindset'



The organisers of British Science Week would like you to enter a poster competition on the topic of 'different areas of growth'. For details go to <https://www.britishscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/poster-competition/>

## What is Science?

Science is learning about all the things around us. Scientists find answers to questions such as,

- \* Why is the sky blue?
- \* What is the biggest animal?
- \* Will we ever run out of water?
- \* What is a star?



## Here are some ideas for growth activities you could try at home to celebrate British Science Week:

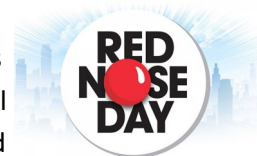
- Share the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, think about the growth of the bean into a beanstalk. Using the story, talk about how the beanstalk began as a small bean and then grew taller and taller. Why not grow your own beanstalk, you could even add Jack and the Beanstalk character cut-outs for extra fun!
- Think about your own growth and how people change as they grow. How have you changed since you were born?
- Explore a range of seeds using a magnifying glass and talk about their different sizes and shapes.
- Think about the growth of buildings. Be like Ivy and challenge yourself to build a tall building using cardboard boxes, cardboard tubes and masking tape. How tall can you make your building? How can you make it strong and stable?
- Why not go on a tree hunt walk in your local area? How many different types of trees can you spot? Look carefully at the different types of leaves and bark on the trees. Are the trees all the same height? Which trees do you think have been growing for a long time?
- Take photos when you are out and about of things that grow and create an 'I spy' game with them at home.
- Go on a walk to find natural items that link with growth, twigs, leaves, seeds etc. Use a magnifying glass to look closely at them remember not to put anything in your mouth and wash your hands afterwards!
- Science is such a big part of our daily lives. You could have a think about some questions that interest you and try to find the answers to them with the help of an adult.
- The BBC offer lots of educational videos for Primary School age children. Why not explore <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/british-science-week/zg9c3j6>

### PETS AS THERAPY

Thank you so much to Pets as Therapy. Zac is an amazing dog and he is having a really positive affect.



### RED NOSE DAY



On **18 March 2022** Oaklands Infant and Junior Schools will be supporting the event 'Red Nose Day'. On the day,

children can come dressed in something 'red' and bring a donation of £1. The past year has been really tough, especially for schools. This event will give us the chance to help other people and be a part of something positive. Any money raised will make a huge difference at a very difficult time. Let's help provide safety to families who need support. Tackle mental health stigma. Take action against domestic abuse. And help to give children a brighter future.

**Let's spread JOY and LAUGHTER!**

### REMINDER

As a hygiene measure, school remains ventilated as much as possible with doors and windows open throughout the school day. Children are permitted to wear additional layers as school may be colder than normal.

### CONTACT US

FAMILY SUPPORT ADVISOR - Nikki Lenon

07748 415285 or email

[nlenon@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:nlenon@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk)

### SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Oaklands Infant School Office: 01344 774644 or email

[admin@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto:governors@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk)

Or via the school office



### BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

Have a terrific day!

**Isabelle in Elm**

**Henry in Ash**

**Fynn in Beech**

**Patrick in Chestnut**

### OFFICE CONTACT

If you have any feedback about our newsletter, please email

[admin@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk)

