



OAKLANDS INFANT SCHOOL

OAK TREE NEWS

Deep roots for future growth



Dear Parents/Carers,

I can't believe we are at the end of another half term and what a busy one it has been! The children have been busy with extra activities such as visiting Pinehurst Care-home, PE with Year 6, Coronation celebrations, Road Safety assembly, Yr2 African workshop and Yr1 visiting Woolley Firs. Below is a brief overview of some of the things the pupils have been learning in their topics this half term.

Foundation Stage: In the Garden

The children have been listening to stories, non-fiction books and rhymes about plants and growing and written simple instructions on how to plant and look after a sunflower/bean seed. They have been searching the school grounds for mini beasts and looking for different breeds of birds.

Year 1: And it Grew

Year 1 have been super Scientists; identifying and describing the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees. They have learnt what plants need to grow. Each child planted their own bean and measured it's growth using their maths skills.

Year 2: Home and Away

Elm and Beech packed their suitcases and headed to Kenya. They have written fantastic stories based on the book Lila and the Secret of Rain. The classes compared location, climate and way of life between their home life to a child's in Kenya and ended the topic with an amazing African workshop, see write up on the next page.

Thank you to all the parents who completed the parent survey. We value your opinion and it helps the school to constantly develop and provide the best education we can for your children, our Governors will be writing to you soon. All of us at Oaklands, wish you all a wonderful half term, and look forward to seeing you on Monday 5th June.

Miss E Weston

Acting Headteacher

Voluntary Contribution

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of you who have donated to our voluntary contribution so far; your support means so much to us. Please feel free to share our letter with other family members who might be able to support us in various ways.

[Just Giving Link](#)

Reminders

Term starts Monday 5th June. Doors open at 8.40am and closed promptly at 8.50am. After this your child will be marked as late.

Please check the lost property boxes in the hall and in classroom for missing jumpers and water bottles. A reminder to re-label these over the half term.

Children who have received a

Laurie leaf (now on display on the Oak Tree in the hall):

Ash: Jack B, Dylan, Margaret and Ronnie.

Willow: Oscar, Scarlett, Isla and Jack M.

Chestnut: Leo, Freya, Harley and Nancy.

Silver Birch: Ava S, Theo, Chelsea and Miesha.

Beech: Imogen, Libby, Lilibeth and Mevanya.

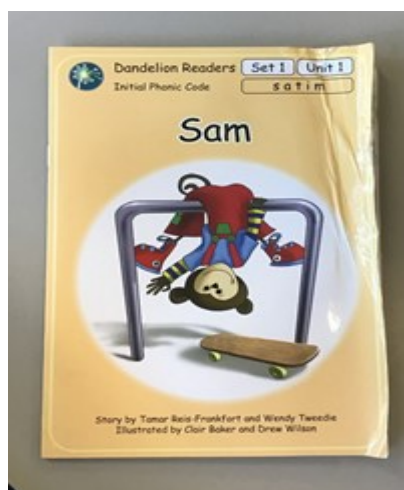
Elm: Arthur, Abigail, Suraj and Adrielle.

Goldie awards for children across the school:
Daniel (Elm)



Book damage

We have recently had quite a few reading books returned that have been damaged and are no longer able to be used. The school has invested a lot of money into purchasing these brand new phonic books and we encourage the children in school to value and take care of books. Please could we politely ask that water bottles are not put in book bags and that greater care is taken. We appreciate that accidents may happen so if a book becomes damaged, please could you inform your child's teacher.



Apologies

You may be aware that we have had some issues with our phonelines lately. The plan is to change providers. If you are unable to get through to us on the phone please do email the school and we will contact you back.



School Photos

On Monday 12th June 2023, we will be having class photos taken. Please ensure girls are wearing summer uniform.



This term in Year 1 we have been studying Judaism. We were lucky enough to have a visit from Mrs Levy, Lucas's Mum who helped us with a re-enactment of the Shabbat Meal for Chestnut and Silver Birch. Mrs Levy bought fresh Challah Bread and some Grape Juice for the children to try. She also recited a Shabbat Prayer in Hebrew to show how Shabbat is welcomed in. The children were fascinated listening to a different language. The Jewish artefacts were shown to the classes and Mrs Levy talked about their meaning and importance to Jewish family's. We had a great morning and are very grateful to Lucas and his Mum for sharing their knowledge with us. Please see our school gallery for more photos.



Yr2 Africa workshop

On Tuesday, Year 2 had an amazing day with Kwame from African Activities. In the morning, the children learnt about *Adinkra*—a traditional African fabric made by stamping or printing. Each symbol has a special meaning and the cloth can be used to convey a message about the wearer. Next we learnt a traditional African dance before finishing the morning with the story of Anansi the Spider.

In the afternoon, the children learnt to play the djembe drum (a rope-tuned skin-covered goblet drum) originally from West Africa. We learnt rhythms and patterns using different parts of the drum to create different tones.

Our fantastic day culminated in a performance of music and dance to parents. This was a great way to end our topic this half term. Please see website for further photos.



Skipping Challenge May 2023

During the last week all children have participated in a skipping challenge. Over one afternoon each year group took part in a variety of different activities that focussed on skipping both with and without skipping ropes; all skills needed to develop balance, co-ordination, agility and helping with their fitness. The activities were led by year 6 sports/house captains. They had to explain the activity, lead it and support the children who were participating. They were great leaders and the children really enjoyed participating with the year 6 children and found it fun, engaging and super tiring! The class teachers had a great time being able to observe who was really challenging themselves and trying their best.

One of the activities challenged the children to skip as many times as they could in 30 seconds and all gave this a really good go. The winners of the challenge were;

Year 2

Nathan – 30 skips

Ruby – 30 skips

Year 1

Conor – 27

Ava – 24

Reception

Christian – 17

Leticia and Ella – 15



Well done to all of you!!

Thank You



Thank you to the PTA who funded our Casey's Friendship bench and sign. Any children who may feel a little sad or are struggling to find a friend to play with sit on the bench and members of Casey's Crew will help them to find a friend to play with or cheer them up.

Thank you to Mr Joyce, a parent from Chestnut class who built a trough for our Year 1 children to plant seeds and bulbs for their growing topic. We are looking forward to Mr Joyce's next project!



Thank you to Nanny Fry, a grandparent in Silver Birch class for all her wonderful help with the Year 1 plant topic. The children are really enjoying looking at the variety of plants growing and taking care of them.



Thursday 8th June

Non-uniform day with a twist.

Rather than money donations we are asking for a colour donation so that we can put together some colour hampers for the Summer Raffle. The colours assigned to each year group are below. Donations don't have to be big or expensive. See example below.

Rainbow Hampers!

- Donations can be anything you like - Food, drink (alcoholic or non-alcoholic), confectionary, gifts, toys, decorations...
- Please match donations to your year group colour;
 - Pink - reception
 - Red - year 1
 - Orange - year 2
 - Yellow - year 3
 - Green - year 4
 - Blue - year 5
 - Purple - year 6
- Donations will be made up into hampers for a prize draw, details on how to buy tickets will be shared soon!



The PTA has organised a Summer Raffle with the draw to take place on 28th June during Sports Day.

Our top prize is a Nintendo Switch which has kindly been donated by Michael Hardy Estate Agents - huge thanks to them for their generosity! Our other prizes include;

- Round of golf for four at Wokefield Park
- Family ticket to Wellington Country Park
- Family ticket to Windsor Castle with a souvenir guidebook.
- Pair of tickets to Ascot Racecourse Christmas meet
- Family ticket to Pirates Landing
- Breakfast for Two at Jackson's California
- Wokingham Superbowl - games tickets
- Car Service at Cambridge Coachworks
- Voucher for Dopson's Butchers - £15
- Voucher for The Tasting Barn - £10
- SIREN Brewery Tour for Two
- Brown Box Gift Company Gift Box
- Charlie's Childsplay Voucher - £10
- Tinker's Gifts Voucher - £10
- Boden Gift Voucher £20 (x2)
- Cumin Gardens Meal Voucher - £50
- Elibah School of Dance Voucher - £25
- Colour Hampers - full of goodies
- And more to be confirmed...
- Tickets are £1 each or £5 a book and each child will be sent home with two books each.

CONTACT US

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If you have any feedback about our newsletter, please email

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