



OAKLANDS INFANT SCHOOL

OAK TREE NEWS

Deep roots for future growth



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome everyone to our first newsletter of the term, it's a packed one for you to read. I hope you all had a wonderful summer, I'm glad to see the sun still shining! A very special welcome to all our new families. The children have all settled in well, especially Ash and Willow children who have had their first full day today, including lunch.

This week during assembly we have been introducing/reminding the children about Goldie's rules. Goldie's rules form the basis of our behaviour expectations throughout the school.

We focussed particularly on kindness and had responses such as:

'looking after a friend who is sad,' 'helping my friends to put things away,' 'saying 'thank you,' 'listening to others' and 'being a good friend.'

Thank you to everyone for making it such a positive start to the school year and I look forward to a great year ahead.

Miss E Weston
Acting Headteacher



Please can all parents/carers talk through the lunch menu with the children so they know what to expect on the day.

Please can you remove earrings on the days the children have PE. Otherwise, children will be asked to either remove them or cover with tape.

Children are not allowed on the play equipment before or after school due, this includes Acorn children.

On Mondays, we have Celebration Assembly.

This includes celebrating our school character awards, birthdays and achievements from outside of school.

If children have received an award, they are welcome to share it in assembly and explain to the rest of the school why they received it. For example, this award could be related to a club such as football, swimming, dance etc.



Welcome to new members of staff:

Mrs E Plonka: Teaching Assistant

Mrs K Somerville: Teaching Assistant

Mrs K Buckley: Lunchtime Controller

Mrs T Miller: Lunchtime Controller

Mrs G Thompson: has taken on the new role of Office Secretary.



On Thursday 21st September at 7pm we will be holding a Parent Information Evening. This will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and find out more information about the year ahead. Information to follow.



DROP OFF REMINDER

Please could we just remind you that school drop-off is

8:40am-8:50am

At 8:50am the class doors will be shut and you will need to come through the school office, this is recorded as a late in the register.

READING

Children will have received their reading records and reading books this week (**Foundation Stage - next week**).



These need to be brought in to school each day. Please could you ensure that water bottles are not kept in book bags, as we don't want any damaged books and that reading records are signed every time you read with your child.



CLOTHES LABELLING

Please name label all of your child's clothing, book bag and water bottle. If an item has been bought second hand please could you cross out the old name and re-write the new name. This ensures that we return all lost property to the right child.



Celebration of Learning

Each half term, we invite parents/ carers to each class to celebrate the children's learning. Please find listed below the dates and times for this half term. Come directly to the classroom for the time stated. Yr2 will be hosting a class assembly showcasing their learning. Please line up at the main entrance, we will open the hall door from 8.50am.

Class	Date	Time
Ash	Monday 16 th October	2.50pm
Willow	Thursday 12 th October	2.50pm
Chestnut	Friday 13 th October	2.55pm
Silver Birch	Thursday 12 th October	8.40am
Beech	Friday 13 th October	9.00am: class assembly in the hall
Elm	Friday 20 th October	9.00am: class assembly in the hall

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Please see the school website for information on booking clubs:

<http://oaklandsinfants.org/extra-school-clubs/>



Club	Age group	Day/Time	Location
Multi-Sports Step-Up	All	Monday 3.15 – 4.20pm	Collect from Junior playground
Street Dance	All	Monday 7:45 – 8:40am	Hall
Little Musketeers	Year 1 & 2	Tuesday 7:45 – 8:40am	Hall
Music with Mummy	Reception	Tuesday 3:15 – 4.00pm	Yr 2 Library
Multi-skills Just Play Sports	All	Tuesday 3.15 – 4.30pm	Collect from Infant playground
Violin	All	TBC	Sycamore room
Football Just Play Sports	All	Wednesday 3.15 – 4.30pm	Collect from Junior playground
Judo	Year 1 & 2	Thursday 7.45am – 8.40am	Hall
Chess Chess coaching services	Year 1 & 2	Thursday 3.15 – 4.15pm	Elm classroom

Home-Learning

We do not provide the children with formal homework but expect children to regularly practise basic skills such as reading, spelling and number facts.

Reading books will be sent home weekly in line with each child's phonic knowledge. Children also have access to a well-stocked Library and will bring a book home each week to share with parents/carers. All books need to be kept in book bags and brought to school each day. Each child also receives a reading booklet/bookmark which includes example questions to ask to support children develop reading skills and understanding of the text. These can also be found on the school website along with more information about ['The Pawsome Gang'](#) (reading comprehension tool).



Spelling lists will be brought home as applicable to be learnt by the children. In Years 1 and 2, there is a half termly spelling challenge.

Home learning sheets are shared half termly which link to our topics. They contain ideas and activities you can do at home to support work ongoing in class. Children are encouraged to bring in any learning tasks completed at home to share with their class. Alongside the home-learning sheets we have created Victor Vocabulary sheets, these provide a list of key vocabulary being taught linked to the topics and maths learning as well as some question prompts to further develop your child's skills when at home.

Please **click** the links below for your year group:

[Foundation Stage: Ash and Willow](#)

[Year 1: Chestnut and Silver Birch](#)

[Year 2: Beech and Elm](#)





Foundation Stage

As the children are settling in to their first half term in school they will be focusing a lot on getting to know the routines and each other. There will be lots of opportunities for collaborative play, both in the inside and outdoor environments. The children will be learning about how to be super sitters remembering to sit on their bottoms with their legs crossed, with hands in their laps, eyes looking and ears listening. Our topic is All About Me. This will include a focus on ourselves and our bodies, families, pets, our school and friends. The children will learn about what makes a good friend and about the importance of sharing, taking turns, using kind words and being like our school character Goldie. The children in Ash and Willow will be learning so much and will soon be happy and settled into school life.

Year 1

This half term Year 1's topic is All About Us. Over the coming weeks, the children will be discovering, through games, songs, art and writing, more about their five senses and knowing which parts of the body link to those senses. The children will also increase their understanding of the past. We will be encouraging the children to think about the history of their lives so far and linking that understanding with recent historical events, such as the Coronation of King Charles. We will spend time thinking about our likes, dislikes, friends and families. By the end of the topic we will have all got to know each other so well!

To help the children think about the past and about changes over time, please could your child bring the following photographs into school by **Friday 15th September**:

- One photograph of themselves as a baby
- One photograph of themselves as a toddler
- One up to date photograph of themselves

Please do bear in mind that the photographs will be stuck in their books and therefore will not be returned. Please could the photographs be approximately **6 x 4 inches (10 x 15cm) or smaller in size**.

Year 2

This half term Year 2's topic is Panic in Pudding Lane. Over the coming weeks, Beech and Elm will be learning about the events of the Great Fire of London and how this significant historical event changed London. Acting like real historians, they will examine pieces of evidence to see what we can find out about how the fire started, why it spread so quickly and what happened after the fire. They will also travel back in time to see what life was like in C17th London. In Geography, we will go on a tour of the United Kingdom, finding out some of the characteristics of the four countries. The children will use atlases and draw simple maps. Our Science learning will focus on everyday materials and how their properties make them suitable for certain uses. We will look at the work of the artist Stephen Wiltshire who is able to draw detailed cityscapes from memory.

The topic will end with a re-enactment of the Great fire of London and a visit from Crowthorne fire station.



Our Core Values

“Deep Roots for Future Growth”

Here at Oaklands Infant School, we have six key characters: Goldie, Holly, Ivy, Solo, Laurie and Casey. Each of these characters represent a value and behaviour that will create an environment for your child/ren to grow and develop the skills they need to embrace modern education. The characters support the children to show respect, try their best, have a go, challenge themselves, show independence, take pride in their learning and achievements and feel safe in school.

Each term we focus on one of these characters and look for children demonstrating the values they represent. Children can receive them as an achievement in our weekly celebration assembly, look out for the achievers from each class in our fortnightly newsletter.

Please click on the link below for the school vision booklet to read more about each character:

<http://oaklandsinfants.org/visions-and-values/>



Ivy
Rising to challenges



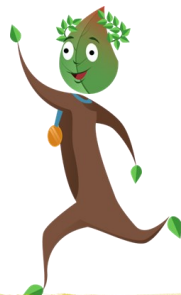
Goldie
Respect for all



Casey
Being happy, cared for and cared about



Solo
Encouraging independence



Laurie
Pride in achievement



Holly
Not afraid to fail

This term our character focus is: Goldie

At Oaklands Infant School, Oak Tree is the most important tree, so Goldie knows he is the most important leaf.

He is really proud that he is given to the children when they show respect for someone or something in our school.

We expect all children to follow Goldie's rules but each week two children who are showing exceptional behaviour will be awarded a Goldie leaf in our Celebration assembly.



Goldie's Rules



Remember your manners:

- Listen to others
- Use kind words and hands
- Look after our school
- Try your best
- Allow yourself and others to learn

Behaviour Expectations

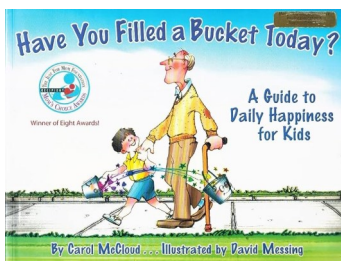
We have updated our behaviour policy to ensure a consistent and positive approach across the whole school.

Please find our updated Behaviour Policy on our school website: [Behaviour policy](#)

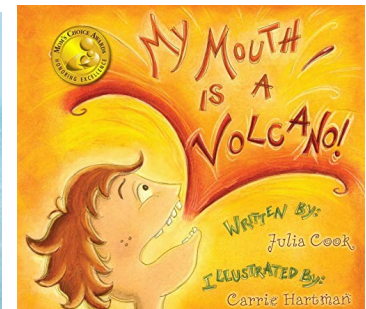
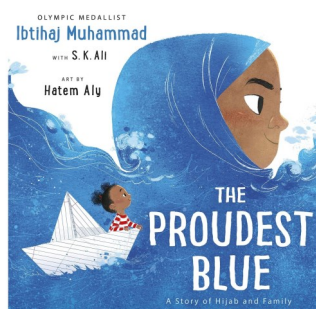
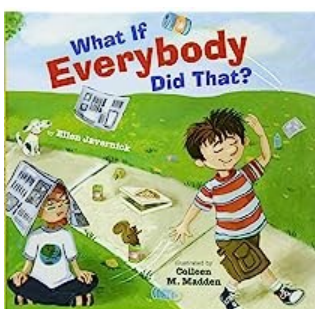
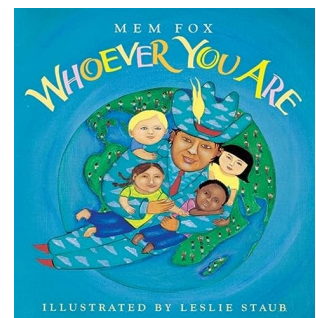
This week during class and in assemblies we have spoken and modelled to the children about Goldie's Rules.

What are manners? How do we use kind hands? What does it mean to be kind? How do we look after our school?

Please speak to your child/ren about Goldie's Rules, these could also apply at home too!



Story books we are reading to the children to teach them about respect and kindness.



TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023 - 2024



Date	Autumn term 2023
Friday 1 st September	Inset day
Monday 4 th September	Return to school
Friday 20 th October	Finish for half term (3.30pm)
Monday 23 rd October – Friday 27 th October	Half term
Monday 30 th October	Return to school
Friday 15 th December	Finish for Christmas holidays (1.30pm)
Monday 18 th December – Monday 1 st January	Christmas holidays
Date	Spring term 2024
Tuesday 2 nd January	Trust Inset day
Wednesday 3 rd January	Return to school
Friday 9 th February	Finish for half term (3.30pm)
Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th February	Half term
Monday 19 th February	Return to school
Thursday 28 th March	Finish for Easter holidays (1.30pm)
Friday 29 th March – Friday 12 th April	Easter holidays
Date	Summer term 2024
Monday 15 th April	Return to school
Thursday 2 nd May	TBC Polling/Election day (Inset day) *
Friday 24 th May	Finish for half term (3.30pm)
Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May	Half term
Monday 3 rd June	Inset day
Tuesday 4 th June	Return to school
Friday 19 th July	Finish for summer holidays (1.30pm)
Monday 22 nd July	Inset day
Tuesday 23 rd July	Inset day
Inset days: Friday 1 st September 2023 Tuesday 2 nd January 2024 (Trust Inset) * Thursday 2 nd May 2024 (TBC Polling/Election day) – Please note an Inset day will only apply on this date should the School be closed as a result of Polling/Election day. Monday 3 rd June 2024 Monday 22 nd July 2024 Tuesday 23 rd July 2024	



Oaklands Infant School
Autumn Term Dates 2023

Date	Activities in September
Autumn 1	Character Focus: Goldie
Friday 8th	Foundation Stage start full-time
Monday 11th	Clubs start this week
Thursday 21st	7.00 – 8.00pm: Parent Information Evening
Date	Activities in October
Tuesday 3rd	8.15 – 8.40am: Reading for Pleasure in the hall: Information soon
Wednesday 4th	9.00am: Harvest Festival Assembly
Thursday 5th	CENSUS
Monday 9th	AM: Individual and sibling school photos
Friday 13th	9am: Beech class assembly PTA Disco
Tuesday 17th	Parents evening
Thursday 19th	1.30pm: Yr1 Parent workshop: Reading, phonics and early writing Parents evening
Friday 20th	9.00am: Elm class assembly
HALF-TERM Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October 2023	
Date	Activities in October
Autumn 2	Character Focus: Holly
Monday 30th	Back to school Flu Spray
Date	Activities in November
Thursday 2nd	1.30pm: FS Parent workshop: Reading, phonics and early writing
Saturday 4th	PTA: Fireworks
Tuesday 7th	8.15 – 8.40am: Reading for Pleasure in the hall
Friday 17th	Children in Need
Date	Activities in December
Tuesday 5th	Christmas play performance: Time TBC
Wednesday 6th	Christmas play performance: Time TBC
Friday 8th	PTA: Elfridges TBC
Tuesday 12th	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 14th	Carol Service
Friday 15th	Christmas jumper day TBC 1.30pm: Break-up for Christmas holidays
Date	Activities in January
Tuesday 4th January 2024	Trust Inset day
Wednesday 5th January 2024	Children return to school



Please **do not** drive into the school ground. You will be turned away at the gate.

The police have agreed that the most satisfactory way for parents to park cars along Ellis Road when bringing or collecting children is as follows:-

Park on the *school* side of Ellis Road in the morning when depositing the children

Park on the *opposite* side when collecting them after school

It is vitally important that the **zigzag area is left clear** in the morning and that parents collecting their children in the afternoon leave their cars in order to escort their children across the road.

Furthermore, cars should **not** be parked opposite the zigzag lines. It is felt, however, that a complete satisfactory arrangement will never be arrived at because there are just too many cars in that small stretch of road. The situation could be relieved somewhat if the children were brought by car only when really necessary.



Is it your Birthday?

When it is your child's birthday, they have the option to wear their own clothes to school - please can they make sensible choices e.g. footwear.

If their birthday falls during a school holiday or at a weekend, they can wear it on a Monday or Friday.

Please can we ask that no sweets are shared out to the children, as we have an increasing number of children with allergies and it is proving very complicated in class. We would also like to try and promote healthy eating.

CONTACT US

FAMILY SUPPORT ADVISOR

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Chair of Governors

Mat Parker

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If you have any feedback about our newsletter, please email

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