



OAKLANDS INFANT SCHOOL

OAK TREE NEWS

Deep roots for future growth



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a busy couple of weeks with a variety of events taking place starting with NSPCC number day everyone looked amazing in their costumes! Year 2 had an wonderful African workshop, thank you to the PTA for paying for this opportunity to the enrich the children's curriculum. Finally, we ended the half term with Chestnut class assembly. The children presented their half term's learning to their families with confidence and pride. It was lovely to see the range of learning that has taken place this half term, they've been very busy! All the children and staff in Chestnut should feel proud of themselves.

I would like to wish you all a wonderful half term, I didn't think January was ever going to end. I hope the weather brightens up and you all have a restful break. Term restarts Monday 19th February.

Best wishes

Miss E Weston

Acting Headteacher



Children who have received a Solo leaf

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

Ash: Daisy, Willow, Jayden and Otilie

Willow: Luna, Tallulah, Thomas and Alice

Chestnut: Margaret, Jack, Arian and Eleanor

Silver Birch: Edward, Alex, Darcie and Leticia

Beech: Charlie, Benji, Evie and Esme

Elm: Phoebe, Charlotte, Hadley and Heart



COLLABORATE . ENRICH . SUPPORT

Invitation to the PTA AGM Wednesday 6th March 2024

We will be holding a PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 6th March 2024

Time/location TBC

This is an opportunity to hear about fundraising from the past year and activities planned for the year ahead.

If you would like to put yourself forward to join the PTA Committee, please email oaklandschoolspta@gmail.com before the

The Noticeboard

Knowledge Organisers

Spring 1 knowledge organisers are available for you to view on the learning pages of the website. This is so you can understand what your child has learnt this half term and they are a good way for you to review and revise their learning. Regular retrieval of knowledge helps us remember more effectively and helps the children have a deeper understanding over time.

Click here: [Foundation Stage](#) [Year 1](#) [Year 2](#)

Playground

Please can we remind all parents that both before and after school the children are not allowed on the play equipment or to climb on the gazebo in the Junior playground. We would also politely request that if waiting for siblings from the Juniors that you keep an eye on Infant children as we have had a couple of incidents recently where children have been unkind to each other and used inappropriate language.

NSPCC Number Day

Thank you for all your donations for NSPCC number day. We raised **£108.55** The children looked fantastic in their digit inspired costumes.

Thank You

Year 2 Pizza Express Trip



Thank you to those who have paid for this trip already. If you haven't done so please can you either pay via the WEDUC app or drop cash in an envelope to the school office.



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.

Gallery

New photos are available to view on our website, click on communications then photo galleries to see what new and exciting things the children have been up to.

Spring Book Fair

27th February till 12th March 2024

Celebrate reading books and earn free books for your school! Books start at just £2.99. **This will be in the Year 2 library after school for two weeks from 3:10pm.** Coupons and World Book Day vouchers can be used at the Book Fair, these will be handed out after half term. The voucher entitles you to £1 off the purchase of any book at the book fair. There will also be 'pocket money' items available to buy. The school benefits hugely from the commission generated by these sales (we get 60% off on all sales). At the last book sale this resulted in £617.56 worth of 'free' books to the school. This makes a huge difference to the

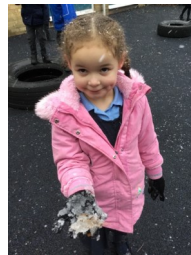
school's library and topic resources, so all your support is much appreciated. **Card payments available using a QR code or exact cash, no change is available.**



LOOK what we're LEARNING!

Foundation Stage

We have had a busy half-term learning about our planet Earth's Polar Regions. We learnt about the different animals and their habitats. Lars from the story *The Little Polar Bear* ended up floating all the way to the jungle. We sorted animals into groups, those that live in the jungle and those that live in the polar regions. We enjoyed watching some nature clips about Emperor Penguins, Narwhals, whales and other polar animals. The children were full of ideas of how we could rescue Lars from the ice (Jelly Baby in an ice cube!) and then ate him! We are delighted that both Ash and Willow Classes have been recognised for their excellent behaviour and manners when moving around the school, lining up after breacktimes and in when attending assembly. They have both been awarded the Goldie Class of the Week trophy, we are so proud of them!



Year 1

What an exciting half-term of learning we have enjoyed in Year 1. On returning to school after Christmas, the children received a letter asking for help to redesign a ruined castle. We excitedly accepted the challenge but recognised we would need to become castle experts first! Through reading stories, looking at paintings, photographs and non-fiction texts, we have learnt all about the different features of a castle, why castles were built and the different roles of those who once lived in a castle. We were even lucky enough to visit a real castle owned by King Charles. Our visit to Windsor Castle was the highlight of the half-term for many of us, photos on the website. Yesterday, we celebrated our castle learning adventure by making sandwiches, adorning our crowns and enjoying a class banquet. In science we have been learning about seasonal change and how this affects the weather, plants, and animals around us. The best way to learn about the seasons is to get outside, and we have enjoyed putting on our warm coats and taking winter walks around our school grounds. We have been measuring the outside temperature and rainfall and have been looking very closely at our school trees and plant life. Signs of the coming spring are everywhere. We have noticed that our beautiful camellia is full of buds and the bulbs that we planted in the autumn are growing in abundance.

In maths we have been learning to recognise, sort and discuss the features of 2D and 3D shape and we are currently exploring place value to 20. The children are becoming very confident at using a range of manipulatives to build numbers up to 20 and are able to recognise how many tens and how many ones are in each teen number.



Year 2

Year 2 have spent an enjoyable few weeks touring the country of Kenya. We have found out lots of information about this diverse and interesting country. As Geographers we have studied the location, climate, topography and landscapes, carrying out lots of map work using a compass. We found out about the Big Five animals and collected data which we presented in a spreadsheet. In Art, we looked at masks from different African nations, learning about the customs and traditions around wearing them. We then use the technique of cardboard relief to make our own masks which look amazing. In English we read the story of Lila and the Secret of Rain which is rich in descriptive language. We collected our own 'Wow' words and wrote setting and character descriptions. We have also been working hard on our handwriting, learning more joins and trying to ensure our writing is consistent in size. In Maths, we have learnt various addition and subtraction strategies and looked at different types of questions, identifying key words so we know which calculation to carry out. Finally in Science we learnt about what living things need to survive. To finish the topic, we enjoyed a day with Kwame from African Activities and worked in small groups to make information books to share with Year 1. A fantastic half term's learning—well done Year 2!



Competition Time

Science and Maths Event

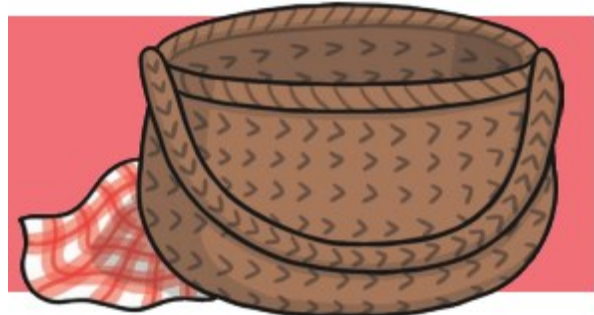
26th February - 28th February

The theme of our Science and Maths event is Fairy Tales and over the three days the children will be in mixed year groups, working together as a team to solve problems and design solutions for various fairy-tale characters. To launch the event, we would like to invite the children to enter a competition to design and make a strong basket for Little Red Riding Hood to carry the food to Grandma. The basket must be able to hold:

- An apple
- A digestive biscuit
- 500ml bottle of water

To make your basket you may use:

- Paper
- Card
- Tissue Paper
- Lolly sticks
- Tinfoil



You may decorate the basket in any way you like.

Your competition entries must be in school by **Friday 23rd February** and can be given in to your class teacher. We will test them out during our Science and Maths event with a prize for the best basket. We look forward to receiving your entries. GOOD LUCK!

Miss Davies, Mrs Joliffe and Miss Devereaux



On **Tuesday 6th February 2024**, we joined with schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2024. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to join together in helping to create a better internet. Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote at Oaklands Infant School, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is always a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

The theme for this year's Safer Internet Day was "Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online"

Here at Oaklands Infant School we got involved by sharing and discussing stories aimed at helping us to understand how to keep safe online and how to make the internet better.

We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home.

To help you with this, some top tips suggested by the UK Safer Internet Centre are shared below.

Top Tips parents and carers of under 7s

These top tips have been written for you (parents and carers) to share, and talk about, with your children. It's never too early to talk about life online!

Inspire change by spending time online together

As your child starts to spend more time online and on devices, there will be opportunities for them to interact with others, make decisions and see a wide variety of content. Spending time with your child online together is an important part of them learning how they should behave and what to do if they are ever worried, upset or unsure about something on the internet.

Make a difference by having regular discussions about the online world

As your child learns about the internet, they will likely have lots of thoughts and questions. Having regular discussions with your child gives them opportunities to tell you about the things they like doing online, as well as any concerns and worries they may have. A great time to have these conversations is whilst you are spending time online as a family.

Manage influence by being aware of the different things which engage your child online

Your child might be influenced by a range of different things when online, such as exciting adverts, their favourite characters, and even by their friends. Not all influence online is negative, but it is important to be aware of what is engaging your child online and the impact this could have on them as they get older. Balance online influences with your own and your child's thoughts by talking about what they see and hear.

Navigate change by having a clear picture of your child's developing interests

As your child grows up, their interests and hobbies will constantly change, and the things they are doing online are no different. Something they liked yesterday may be something they've lost interest in today. It is important to be curious and stay up to date with the games, apps and sites they are using and the safety settings available, so that you can help keep them safe as they start to explore the online world more.



Oaklands Infant School

Spring Term Dates 2024

Date	Activities in February
Friday 9 th	3.15pm: End of half term
HALF-TERM Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February	
Spring 2	Character Focus: Ivy
Monday 19 th	Children return to school
Tuesday 20 th	100 days in school
Tuesday 27 th	AM: Yr2 Pizza Express trip
Wednesday 28 th	Whole school Kaplan workshop: lunch in classrooms
27 th Feb till the 12 th March	Book Fair
Date	Activities in March
Tuesday 5 th	8.15am: Reading for pleasure in the hall
Wednesday 6 th	PTA AGM
Thursday 7 th	World Book Day
Friday 8 th	PTA Disco
Friday 15 th	Red Nose Day
Thursday 21 st	PM: Maths workshop
Friday 22 nd	9am: Silver Birch class assembly
Thursday 28 th	1.30pm: End of term
EASTER HOLIDAYS Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April	
Date	Activities in April
Monday 15 th	Children return to school

Children’s Mental Health Week - from 5-11 February 2024.



Children's Mental Health Week raises awareness of mental health and empowers, equips and gives a voice to all children and young people in the UK. Everyone can take part and free resources are available for parents on line [Children's Mental Health Week \(childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk\)](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)

Now in its 10th year, the theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'. Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.



In school we have been raising awareness through our assemblies and in class during PSHE time. We have been highlighting the importance of mental health and the theme 'My Voice Matters' through stories and role play and how we can support each other and the importance of listening to each other.

READINGMUSEUM.ORG.UK

FEBRUARY HALF TERM

DON'T MISS OUR SPECIAL MONDAY OPENING!

ALL WEEK, THROUGHOUT FEBRUARY HALF TERM

ACTIVITY CART
Free, drop in

MONSTER MAYHEM TRAIL
£1.50, pay on the day or book online via our website.

NATURE EXPLORER TRAIL AT READING MUSEUM
£1.50 per trail, pay on the day or book online via our website.

MONDAY 12 FEBRUARY
OUR GREEN STORIES: LIFE ON LAND STOP MOTION ANIMATION WORKSHOPS

TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY
SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS: HEDGEHOG BREAD BUDDIES

WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY
MAKE & TAKE: CLIP ON MUSEUM CREATURES, LIFE CYCLE OF A BUTTERFLY

WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY - EVERY WEDNESDAY
RHYMETIME AT READING MUSEUM

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY
SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS: DISCOVER HOW PLANTS GROW

FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY
VICTORIAN SCHOOLROOM EXPERIENCE IN THE GATEWAY

FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY - EVERY FRIDAY
OBJECT HANDLING



Primary Schools Competition

Walk or cycle to school more in 2024

BETWEEN MONDAY, 15 JANUARY AND WEDNESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY WE WOULD PUPILS TO DRAW OR TAKE A PHOTO OF SOMETHING THEY LIKE TO SEE WHEN TRAVELLING ACTIVELY TO SCHOOL.

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE YOU TO WRITE A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF WHY YOU LIKE TO SEE THIS.

SEND YOUR ENTRY TO: MYJOURNEY@WOKINGHAM.GOV.UK BY WEDNESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY

PRIZES ARE:
FAMILY TICKETS TO A READING FOOTBALL MATCH SPONSORED BY READING FC
RUNNERS-UP PRIZES:
KS1: FAMILY SWIM TICKET SPONSORED BY PLACES LEISURE
KS2: BORN TO MORE CLASS SPONSORED BY PLACES LEISURE



In case you haven't seen the information The Education News, Wokingham Town Council is holding an **event to celebrate Lunar New Year**, in Wokingham Market Place on **Sunday 18th February** from 11-3pm. The lion dance, one of the most important traditions at Lunar New Year, will be performed at 12pm and 2pm, alongside music, arts and crafts.

https://www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/lunar-new-year/?fbclid=IwAR2ro1anNINzQVdCL78CyNCAleFE1-YH0vQZym2B5hv8bMnbCq4F1bIX_hk

Celebrate the Lunar New Year

Sunday 18th February 2024
11am to 3pm
Market Place, Wokingham
Free Entry



CONTACT US

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Chair of Governors
Mat Parker
mparker@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk

If you have any feedback about our newsletter, please email

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