



OAKLANDS INFANT SCHOOL

OAK TREE NEWS

Deep roots for future growth



Dear Parents/Carers,

It doesn't feel like spring is here yet with all the wind and rain that we have had this week but it's lovely to see the daffodils growing. A reminder to speak to your children about not walking/running over the grass outside the entrance to the Infants as new plants are trying to grow.

This week we had a visit from the Wokingham Attendance Officer, she looked at any child below 90% and the reasons why. As we know sickness can't be helped. A reminder, that arriving late, in term holidays and medical appointments all impact not only your child's overall attendance but most importantly their education. We are pleased that we are in line with Wokingham's average whole school attendance of 95% and lots of pupil's attendance has improved.

We've had a busy few days at school with our Math and Science event, there's been a real buzz of excitement in the school from the children and staff. A huge thank you to Miss Davies, Mrs Jolliffe and Miss Devereaux for organising the event and a special thank you to the PTA for paying for the whole school workshop. Photos will be available on the school website soon!

On **Tuesday 5th March** we will be hosting another Reading for Pleasure morning. Please enter via the hall door (through the playground) from **8:15am—8:40am**, younger and older siblings are more than welcome to join you.



Crowthorne Library

Next term each class will be walking to Crowthorne library. This supports many aspects of our curriculum,

in Geography we will learn about our local area and use directional words turning left and right. For PE, we are developing physical stamina in walking the distance. In the library our love for reading will grow as we learn more about different sorts of books and expand our choice of reading material. We would love each child to choose a book to borrow from the library. If your child is not already a member of the library it is easy to join. Take some photo ID to Crowthorne library on the High Street and the helpful staff will enrol you and your child/ren.



THE CULINERA TEAM ARE REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO CELEBRATING THIS WITH YOU ON THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2024

A taste through the wonderful mind of **David Walliams** & his hit Books!

Book your meal online using ParentPay now!

The 'Mr Stink' burger
Battered chicken burger, served in a soft bun

OR

The Rat burger
Bean burger. Served in a soft bun

Both served with a Gangsta Granny green salad and Bad Dad jacket wedges

Followed by either

The Boogie Bear chocolate cookie

OR

Billionaire Boy fruit salad

OR

Fing fruit yoghurt

OR

Queen's orang-utan Jelly

culinera
feeding the future

Children who have received an Ivy leaf

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

Ash: Jaxon and Cesar

Willow: Margot and Sebby

Chestnut: Samhitha and Daisy

Silver Birch: Thevan and Harrison M

Beech: Leo and Harry

Elm: Stephanie and Elif

Well done to Willow in Ash class for receiving a Goldie leaf for helping on the playground at lunchtime



This term our focus for the school character is Ivy

Ivy was fed up with being at the bottom of the tree. She wanted to see more. She worked hard to grow over the obstacles in her way. When she reached the top she could see the whole wood.

Ivy often says....

- ♦ challenge yourself!
- ♦ keep trying! Stretch and reach for your goals!
- ♦ how are you going to challenge yourself today?
- ♦ keep trying, can you do even better?
- ♦ keep trying; reach the next branch like me.



What things can you do at home to be like Ivy?

Could you.....?

- ♦ read more books
- ♦ try new food
- ♦ make your bed everyday without being reminded
- ♦ create a new family tradition
- ♦ give your family a new challenge





LEARNING CELEBRATION

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	Wednesday 27th March	2:50pm
Willow	Monday 25th March	2:50pm
Chestnut	Thursday 21st March	3.00pm
Silver Birch	Friday 22nd March	9.00am: class assembly in the hall
Beech	Tuesday 26th March	3.00pm
Elm	Tuesday 26th March	3.00pm

Red Nose Day—Friday 15th March 2024



Once again Oaklands Schools will be helping Comic Relief raise money to help disadvantaged children, with a non-uniform day in return for a donation of £1 or more.

Dress up for Joy (children and staff)

Go red from head to toe or simply dig out your brightest socks. Wear something that makes you and your school smile. Wearing something red could just be a red nose and we ask that anyone with a bought red nose, keeps it safe when not being worn i.e. in a pocket or school bag.

If possible, please pay using the Just Giving link below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/oaklands-rednoseday23-1677669609818>



Please note: we will still accept cash.



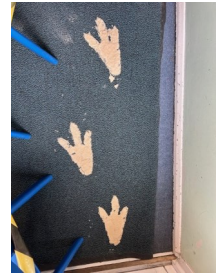

LOOK what we're LEARNING!




Foundation Stage



We had a very exciting start to the half term when we returned to school to find mystery footprints in our classrooms. After lots of investigating we found out a Parasaurolophus had been visiting at night. He is a bit cheeky and even ventured into Miss Weston's office where he ate some of her plants. It was a great launch for our Adventure time topic. We will be focusing on dinosaurs and learning about features of different dinosaurs, what they like to eat and how they protected themselves. We have already discovered that we have some budding palaeontologists in Ash and Willow. We are going to be learning about Mary Anning and her discovery of fossils. Later this half term we will be venturing into Space for an extra-terrestrial adventure.



Year 1

This half term year one are travelling 'Far Far Away' in our Geography based topic. We will be using maps and globes to name and locate the 7 continents of the world and using directional language including near and far, left and right. We have heard about where children went during half term both locally and much further afield as they develop their oracy skills in speaking in full sentences. 'The Magic Paintbrush' is a traditional story, we will use the Julia Donaldson version as our text to build our language and writing expertise. In Science we continue to consider the seasons as we move from winter to spring. Throwing and catching are the areas we will be working on in PE along with some exercises to develop core strength.



Year 2



This term Year 2 will be learning all about how to stay healthy as part of their PSHE and science curriculum. The children have already learnt about how to have a healthy lifestyle ensuring that they rest, eat healthily and exercise. In the weeks to follow they will be learning all about personal hygiene, safe and unsafe medicine and how to look after their mental health. To start off their 'Healthy Me' topic, the children visited Pizza express to find out how to make healthy pizzas. The children were fortunate enough to make and eat their own pizza! In literacy the children will be looking at the book 'Light House Keepers Lunch', From this, they will write a letter to Mr Grinling explaining how to keep healthy as well as write a set of instructions on how to make a healthy pizza. Grammar and punctuation will also continue to be a focus. In maths the children will be learning all about division and multiplication and will be focusing on their 2s, 5s and 10 time tables.



STEM Event (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)

26th February— 28th February



This week in school the children worked in small teams consisting of a mix of the three year groups. The idea of this event was to enthuse the children for Maths and Science! It built problem solving skills, communication skills and got across the idea of fair testing.

Like true engineers, the children had to help and solve problems for different fairy tale characters such as make a chair that could hold all three of the bears from Goldilocks, make a raft to help the Billy Goats Gruff cross the river, help Rapunzel escape the tower, help Jack descend the beanstalk quicker and make a golden egg delivery container to withstand a drop from the top of the beanstalk.



The children worked co-operatively in their teams and had to include an element of fair testing to see how well their designs worked. The 'best' designs over the two days were showcased in a sharing assembly.



Competition Winners

Well done to our ingenious engineers who came to Little Red Riding Hood's rescue by designing and making a new basket to carry goodies to Grandma.

Our winners were:

Alex—Willow

EI—Silver Birch

Freddie—Chestnut

Phoebe—Elm

Heart—Elm

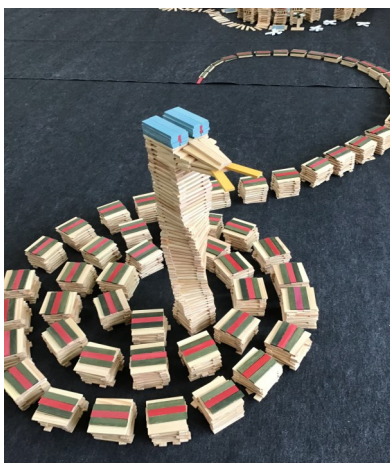


Kapla UK Build

On Wednesday 28th February, we welcomed KAPLA Club to Oaklands Infant School. The workshop was a unique, 3D hands on learning activity in which every single child participated. Each class worked on specific construction together under the guidance of Jennifer our KAPLA expert. The finished monumental masterpiece filled the hall and there were lots of gasps of amazement when the children saw the final exhibition.

This was a great way to end our Science and Maths three day event and the children got to use lots of different skills including fine motor, problem solving, teamwork and perseverance. Thank you once again to the PTA for funding this event and to the parents and children who helped demolish the structure after school and help pack the thousands of planks away.

Further information about Kapla Club can be found on their website [Home - Kapla Clubs UK](http://www.kaplaclubs.co.uk) and there is a voucher for 5% of the Kapla planks in this week's newsletter.



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.

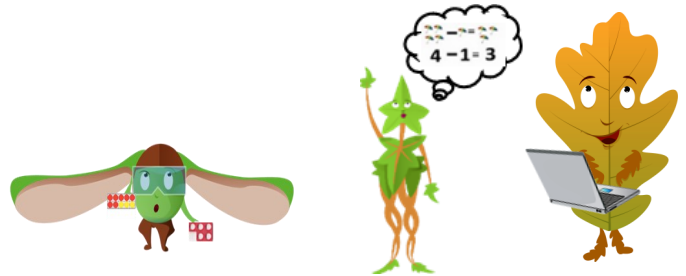
Home learning sheets are shared half termly which link to our topics. They contain ideas and activities you can do at home to support work ongoing in class. Children are encouraged to bring in any learning tasks completed at home to share with their class. Alongside the home-learning sheets we have created 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](#)



KAPLA
Clubs UK

We build. We connect. We learn.

Just look at what we can offer at KAPLA CLUBS UK

- Giant construction workshops for primary and secondary schools
- Public events and festivals
- Team building and corporate events
- Holiday and after school clubs
- Parties and weddings
- Home-Education workshops
- Family sessions

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Oaklands Infant School

Spring Term Dates 2024

Date	Activities in February
Spring 2	Character Focus: Ivy
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 6pm Elm Class
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	Easter Egg raffle 1.30pm: End of term
EASTER HOLIDAYS Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April	
Date	Activities in April
Monday 15 th	Children return to school



AGM - Wednesday 6th March @6pm. Will be held in Elm class in the Infant School.

Disco - Friday 8th March. Tickets are on sale now and we'd welcome any volunteers! (poster attached)

Easter Egg Raffle - Thursday 28th March @1:30pm. Egg donations to be handed to reception by Tuesday 26th March



OAKLANDS SCHOOLS PTA

DISCO

8TH MARCH 2024

JUNIOR SCHOOL HALL

Infants	4:30 - 5:30 PM (£5)
Juniors	6:00 - 7:30 PM (£6)

BEAT THE QUEUE AND BUY TICKETS ONLINE!

Buy your tickets here:
WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/OAKLANDS/

Snacks and water available for infants
 Tuck shop available for juniors
 Tickets will also be sold on the door
 via cash or card payments.



Family Funday
Good Friday 29th March
10am – 2pm

Find us at the Gardening Club Trading Hut behind Sandhurst Park Cafe, Yorktown Road
 Car Parking at Sandhurst Memorial Park

Free Activities for all

New to gardening? Unsure where to start?

Ask an Expert – your gardening questions answered!

Sowing & growing demonstrations

Taking cuttings

Growing mediums & feeds explained



Children's activities:

Seed sowing

Decorating flowerpots

Nature themed treasure hunt with prizes



<http://www.sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk/>

Find out more by contact@ngsecretary@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk or chair@sandhurstgardeningclub.co.uk

WOKINGHAM BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday 17th March at 7pm

*Join us for a fabulous evening of popular music
 performed by BWCB's Second Wind band*

**SECOND WIND
 IN CONCERT**

Kevin Ransom Conductor



Raffle in aid of

**THE
 BRAIN
 TUMOUR
 CHARITY**

Interval refreshments

Wokingham Baptist Church, Milton Road, Wokingham RG40 1DE
 Tickets: £12, 16 and under free when accompanied by an adult
 Advance booking: secondwindbwcb@outlook.com
 Also on the door, subject to availability



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 all week from 3:10pm.** Coupons and World Book Day vouchers can be used at the Book Fair. These vouchers 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, should you wish. 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.



CONTACT US

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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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