



OAKLANDS INFANT SCHOOL

OAK TREE NEWS

Deep roots for future growth



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Welcome to our first newsletter of the term, it's a packed one for you to read! Please take note of the key information, some of which has also been shared in previous years and in the Parent Handbook. As always, key dates are included here and are also available on WEDUC.

A key date for your diary is **Thursday 18th September – Parents' Information Evening**. This is a great opportunity to meet your child's class teacher(s) and find out more about the year ahead. PowerPoint presentations will be uploaded to the school website afterwards, but not all details are shared in this format, so if you are able to attend, it will be very valuable.

A very special welcome to all our new families. The children have settled in well, especially our Ash and Willow children who joined us this week. From Monday, they will be full-time and staying for lunch for the first time. Our Year 1 and 2 children are excited to support them on the playground and in the school hall for lunches.

During assemblies this last week, I have been talking to the children about our School Values and the Oaklands Way. We have already seen many children around school showing these behaviours – from *Marvellous Manners* and *Legendary Listening* to *Wonderful Walking*. Please see page 5 of this newsletter to remind yourselves of the Oaklands Way.

A quick reminder: please label **everything**. At the end of last term, our lost property was overflowing, with many unclaimed items being donated or even thrown away. We always do our best to return items to the right child, but if belongings are not named, this becomes impossible.

Thank you to everyone for helping us start the school year so positively. I look forward to another exciting year ahead.

Miss E Weston

Key Information

Celebration Assembly

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.



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.

School Equipment

PLEASE, PLEASE make sure that there are no children on the school playground equipment at any time. It is **only** for use during school times, this is for health and safety reasons. This is school property and needs to be respected by our whole school community.

Thank you

Bikes/Scooters



Please dismount
your bike or scooter
when entering the
school grounds

Please make sure your child dismounts their bike/scooter at the school gates and does not ride them on the school grounds. This is for health and safety reasons.

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.

As we have an increasing number of children with allergies, our policy is no sweets/cakes or snacks to be shared. Also as part of our PSHE curriculum, we promote healthy eating.

Car Parking in Ellis Road



Please do not drive onto the school grounds, especially at the beginning and end of the school day. It is also vitally important that the zigzag areas are left clear in the morning and afternoon during drop off and pick up times and that parents collecting their children in the afternoon leave their cars in order to escort their children across the road. The zig-zag lines provide a safe crossing for our families and particularly for those Junior School pupils crossing the road independently.

Uniform

- We have noticed some children coming into school in trainers. Children should be wearing school shoes unless there is a valid reason for them not to do so which has been communicated to the class teacher.
- Long hair should be tied back, this is for health and safety reasons. Headbands with ears are not permitted as part of the school uniform.
- Please could you label all of your child's clothing. 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.
- For the correct uniform please follow the link to the school website

<http://oaklandsinfants.org/school-uniform/>





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 22nd October	2:50pm
Willow	Friday 17th October	2:50pm
Chestnut	Monday 20th October	3pm
Silver Birch	Monday 20th October	3pm
Beech	Thursday 23rd October	9.00am: class assembly in the hall
Elm	Friday 17th October	9.00am: class assembly in the hall



Children who have received a Goldie leaf

Each week the class teachers award two children to receive one of our character leaves. Over the year, all children will receive at least one character leaf. The leaves are displayed on the tree in the hall and will come home at the end of a half term. They will attend an afternoon tea with Miss Weston where they share why they received a leaf, have a cup of water and a treat! If the weather is nice they'll get to sit outside too.

This half term is Goldie leaf, children receive a leaf for using their Marvellous Manners.

The children who received a Goldie leaf this week are:

Chestnut: Ethan and Ada

Silver Birch: William and Olivia

Beech: Seb and Margot

Elm: Alice and Thomas



Foundation Stage

It has been a fantastic start for our Ash and Willow children. They have enjoyed their part days and are looking forward to staying with us all day from next week. Routines are being introduced and the children are settling well. They are doing a great job of being Super Sitters and learning to be like Goldie; who always remembers their Marvellous Manners! This half term we will be getting to know each other. Our topic will be 'All About Me'. We will focus on families, hobbies, pets and our likes and dislikes before learning about our bodies. Daily phonics will start very soon; learning how to say sounds correctly and practise our blending and segmenting skills. In our Mastering Number sessions we will be learning to recognise numerals and the composition of numbers to 5. We will also be singing lots of songs and rhymes and listening to lots of stories.

Year 1



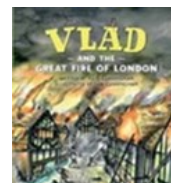
Well done to all of Year 1 for coming into your new classes confidently and ready to learn. Every day we are trying to be like Goldie and working on our marvellous manners, we are getting back into the routines of school with our super sitting. This term in Year 1 our topic is 'This is us'. We will be looking at how we have changed and grown from baby to toddler to now, creating self-portraits and finding out about our likes and dislikes. In Science, we will be labelling our body parts and studying our senses and conducting a taste experiment. In Geography we will be finding out about our school and our local area and looking for signs of Autumn.



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.

In English, our focus will be on revisiting key skills from Year 1, making sure our sentences are correctly punctuated, our letters are all formed correctly and Year 1 everyday words are spelt accurately. We will be using the books below to re-tell and write simple recounts of events.



Our Maths learning will focus on place value. We will begin to partition numbers to 100 and use their knowledge of counting in multiples of 10 to label number lines. Children will estimate the position of numbers on number lines and learn to count both forwards and backwards in 2s, 5s and 10s.

Behaviour Policy

At Oaklands Infants we are committed to creating a positive learning environment with high expectations of behaviour which benefits both staff and pupils. We strive to ensure that all pupils at our school, have the right to feel safe; the right to learn; the right to be respected and to have fair treatment.

The school's core values are represented by six different characters and embody the behaviours the children are encouraged to develop. We encourage everyone in the school community, to adhere to these core values, whatever their role or involvement. [Click here to read Oaklands Infants Behaviour Policy.](#)

Our Character Rules

Goldie

I will remember my Marvellous Manners

- I will listen to adults and other children
- I will speak in a polite tone
- I will be ready to learn and allow others to learn
- I will knock before entering a room



Holly

I will have a go

- I will try new things
- I will have a go at tasks set by my teacher
- I will try my best



Solo

I will try it on my own

- I will try to do tasks by myself before asking for help
- I will look after my own things
- I will try to find a way to solve a problem myself
- I will say 'stop it, I don't like it' if a friend does something I don't like



Ivy

I will challenge myself

- I will not give up when something is difficult
- I will act on advice to improve my work
- I will keep trying



Laurie

I will be proud of achievements

- I will show others that I am proud when they achieve something
- I will take pride in all that I do



Casey

I will be caring

- I will be a good friend to others
- I will look after our school
- I will use kind hands and words
- I will offer to help



Extra-Curricular Clubs

Please see the school website for information on booking clubs:

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



Multi-Sports: Step-Up	Monday's 3.15 – 4.20pm	All age groups
Mindful Minis	Monday's 3:20 – 4:20pm	All age groups
Little Musketeers	Wednesday's 7:45 – 8:40am	All age groups
Violin	Wednesday lunchtime	Year 2
Football: Just Play Sports	Wednesday's 3.15 – 4.30pm	All age groups
Judo	Thursday's 7.45 – 8.40am	Years 1 and 2

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.

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.

Each half term, children will focus on a set of maths Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRF) to practise and learn at home.

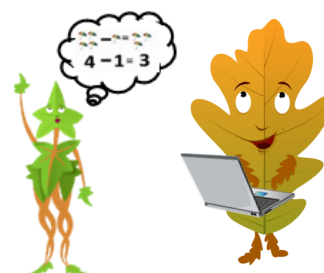
Home-learning sheets are shared half termly which link to our topics. They contain ideas and activities you can do at home to support work ongoing in class. Children are encouraged to bring in any learning tasks completed at home to share with their class. Alongside the home-learning sheets we have created 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 where you will find this half terms home-learning sheets and more information about year group curriculum.

[Foundation Stage: Ash and Willow](#)

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

[Year 2: Beech and Elm](#)





Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs)

To develop your child's fluency and mental maths skills, we are introducing **KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts)**. KIRFs are a way of helping your child to learn by heart, key facts and information which they need to have instant recall of.

KIRFs are designed to support the development of mental maths skills that underpin much of the maths work in our school. They are particularly useful when calculating, adding, subtracting, multiplying or dividing. They contain number facts such as number bonds and times tables that need constant practise and rehearsal, so children can recall them quickly and accurately. Instant recall of facts helps enormously with mental agility in maths lessons. When children move onto written calculations, knowing these key facts is very beneficial. For your child to become more efficient in recalling them easily, they need to be practised frequently and for short periods of time.

How can we access the KIRFs at home?

Each half term, children will focus on a set of Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRF) to practise and learn at home. Year 1 and 2 children should have brought a sheet home this week or they are available on the school website. <https://oaklandsinfants.org/maths/>

How do we practise the KIRFs?

They are not designed to be a time-consuming task and can be practised anywhere – in the car, walking to school, etc. Regular practice - little and often – helps children to retain these facts and keep their skills sharp.

How are the KIRFs developed in school?

Throughout the half term, the KIRFs will also be practised regularly and in short bursts in school. At the end of each half term, there will be an informal assessment and the children will share these with you.

We believe that - if the KIRFs are developed fully - children will be more confident when working with number, understand its relevance, and be able to access the curriculum more readily.

If you have any questions about how to support your child at home with our KIRFs, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Davies

Maths Subject Lead



Attendance matters!

Here is a reminder of some important facts about pupil attendance. With the introduction of the new National Framework for School Attendance, there are some changes that will come into force after 19th August 2024.

Holidays in term time will not be authorised.

First Offence - Fixed Penalty Notice issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:
£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.
Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Please be aware that we also liaise with other schools to track sibling absences

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling 10 week period will be referred for a fixed penalty notice.

Second Offence (within 3 years)
The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:
£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)
The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.
Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Where school are unclear or given reason to be suspicious about the absence we may ask for proof. This may be in the form of medical evidence, flight or holiday bookings.

Illness guidance – being ill may prevent your child from coming to school but if they can get out of bed and play or enjoy TV/Gaming then they should be in school. Coughs and sneezes are not an excuse to miss school and feeling tired is not an illness. Please be specific when calling/emailing in about your child's symptoms. We need to know what these symptoms are not just a message saying ill/unwell.

Meet Mrs Bunce

I thought I would introduce myself to those of you who I didn't meet at the new parent meeting or are new to the school. I am Mrs Suzanne Bunce and have been working at Oaklands Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) and teacher for many years. Part of my role is to support children and staff to effectively minimise barriers to learning, so children can reach their full potential, happily accessing the broad school curriculum. If you would like to know more, there is a leaflet in the reception office or our Information report is on the school website.



<https://oaklandsinfants.org/parents/sen/>

I will be working Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in school, so please come and talk to me on the playground.

Meet Mrs Lenon

My name is Nikki Lenon and I am the Family Support Adviser at Oaklands Infant and Junior Schools. I have worked in both schools for the last 14 years when the role was first introduced to schools.

Parenting can be a challenge at the best of times, but today, families are under additional pressures and this can also impact on parents and children in many ways.

My aim is to work with you to chat over issues that may be concerning you regarding your child's learning, for example: behaviour at home and at school, routines, social skills and self esteem. We can work together to put strategies in place to try and improve things, followed by further meetings/chats to see how things are going. Class teachers will also refer children to me if they have any concerns and I will contact parents to discuss these matters over the phone or invite them in for a meeting. I currently work Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday across both schools. If you would like to contact me you can do this by email at nlenon@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk.





Oaklands Infant School
Autumn Term Dates 2025

Monday 15th	Foundation Stage start full-time
Thursday 18th	7.00 – 8.00pm: Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 23rd	3.15pm: Booknic: more information to follow
Date	Activities in October
Thursday 2nd	National Poetry Day CENSUS Day
Tuesday 7th	9.00am: Harvest Festival: more information to follow
Wednesday 8th	AM: Individual, sibling and staff school photos in the hall
Friday 17th	Elm class assembly
Tuesday 21st	Parents evening: more information to follow
Wednesday 22nd	Flu Vac
Thursday 23rd	Beech class assembly Pm: Phonic workshop – Yr1: more information to follow Parents evening: more information to follow
Friday 24th	INSET DAY
HALF-TERM Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October	
Date	Activities in November
Monday 3rd	Back to school
Saturday 8th	PTA: Fireworks
Monday 10th	TBC: Yr2 to visit St Johns church/library
Friday 14th	Children in Need
Wednesday 19th	Pm: Phonic workshop – FS: more information to follow
Friday 21st	PTA disco
Date	Activities in December
Tuesday 9th	9.15am: Christmas play performance
Wednesday 10th	9.15am: Christmas play performance
Tuesday 16th	AM: Pantomime – South Hill Park
Wednesday 17th	PM: Carol Service
Thursday 18th	Christmas lunch
Friday 19th	Christmas jumper day 1.30pm: Break-up for Christmas holidays
Date	Activities in January
Monday 5th	INSET DAY
Tuesday 6th	Children return to school

TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026



Date	Autumn term 2025
Wednesday 3 rd September	Inset day
Thursday 4 th September	Return to school
Thursday 23 rd October	Finish for half term (3.15pm Inf/3.20pm Jnr)
Friday 24 th October	Inset day
Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October	Half term
Monday 3 rd November	Return to school
Friday 19 th December	Finish for Christmas holidays (1.30pm)
Monday 22 nd December – Friday 2 nd January	Christmas holidays
Date	Spring term 2026
Monday 5 th January	Inset day
Tuesday 6 th January	Return to school
Friday 13 th February	Finish for half term (3.15pm Inf/3.20pm Jnr)
Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February	Half term
Monday 23 rd February	Inset day
Tuesday 24 th February	Return to school
Friday 27 th March	Finish for Easter holidays (1.30pm)
Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April	Easter holidays
Date	Summer term 2026
Monday 13 th April	Return to school
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday
Friday 22 nd May	Finish for half term (3.15pm Inf/3.20pm Jnr)
Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	Half term
Monday 1 st June	Inset day
Tuesday 2 nd June	Return to school
Tuesday 21 st July	Finish for summer holidays (1.30pm)
Wednesday 22 nd July	Inset day
Inset days: Wednesday 3 rd September 2025 Friday 24 th October 2025 Monday 5 th January 2026 Monday 23 rd February 2026 Monday 1 st June 2026 Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	

2025/2026 AGENDA



We invite you to save the date for the important PTA events at Oaklands Schools and mark them in your calendar.

08th
NOVEMBER

Fireworks

21st
NOVEMBER

Disco

29th
NOVEMBER

Wreath Making Class

12th
DECEMBER

Elfridges

11th
JULY

Oakfest

Oaklands first ever festival with live music and more.

Our Charity number #296449

SONNING *family* GLOW RUN

Run the sights of Sonning under torch light and enjoy a BBQ and Silent Disco afterwards

SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER
BERKSHIRE COUNTY SPORTS CLUB

SONNING
GLOW
RUN

SONNING
GLOW
RUN



KIDS FUN RUN (1.5K MIN AGE 4): **£5**
ADULT GLOW RUN (5K MIN AGE 11): **£24**
FAMILY TICKET (2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN): **£50**

ALL ENTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A MEDAL AND GLOW STICKS

← **SIGN UP HERE**

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/SONNINGGLOWRUN25](https://bit.ly/sonningglowrun25)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



CONTACT US

Family Support Advisor

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Oaklands Infant School Office

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Chair of Governors

Kathryn Pierce

chair@oaklandsgov.co.uk

If you have any feedback about our newsletter, please email

admin@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk

La four
THEATRE SCHOOL

Free Taster Class

Saturday 13th September 2025

Act, Sing, Dance & perform with us this Christmas

FROZEN

www.lafourtheatre.co.uk