



OAKLANDS INFANT SCHOOL

OAK TREE NEWS

Deep roots for future growth



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and exciting half term, I would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support and involvement in school life. I know it can be challenging to attend multiple events, so we truly appreciate you taking the time to be involved.

Our final few weeks of term have been full of festive cheer and memorable experiences for the children. We were incredibly proud of all the pupils who took part in our Christmas play, 'Noisy Nativity' and delighted by their confidence, enthusiasm and teamwork. The children also thoroughly enjoyed the pantomime, which brought lots of laughter, a few screams and plenty of fun.

Our class Celebrations of Learning gave parents and carers a fantastic opportunity to see the children's hard work over the last term, especially their Star Writes in Year 1 and Year 2 and Drawing Club in the Foundation Stage. Our annual Christmas Carols at St John's Church were a special highlight for many of us, creating a lovely sense of community and seasonal reflection. Yesterday, the children enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch and class parties, making lasting memories with their friends.

Across every classroom, the children have been busy with a wide range of arts and crafts, alongside their regular learning, which has continued as enthusiastically as ever during this very busy term.

A big thank you to all the staff this term. A huge amount of work goes on behind the scenes to deliver these Christmas events while continuing with the curriculum and often battling colds at the same time. We are very lucky to have such a kind, nurturing and dedicated team, ensuring your children are safe and able to thrive.

I would also like to extend my thanks to our fantastic PTA. This term, you have generously given your time to support the school through events such as fireworks, discos, Elfridges and providing refreshments at the plays. These donations will not only fund future projects but also support a range of curriculum workshops later in the year for all the children.

Staff, PTA, Governors, parents, carers and children — I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you all in 2026!



Best wishes
Miss Weston



If anyone would still like to donate to raise much needed funds for a PA System to be used for Oaklands Schools and the PTA please click on the link below.

[Just Giving](#)

**We return back
to school
on
Tuesday 6th January**



Foundation Stage

Our half term started with the topic, 'People who help us.' We learnt about many different job roles in our community. The children had some great ideas about what they would like to do when they are grown-ups. We were fortunate enough to have visits from both the police and the fire brigade! Both classes have been working hard in phonics and have begun to write simple sentences with some support. We have been amazed at



their have a go attitude and the progress they are making. The last few weeks have consisted of a lot of Christmas fun including two plays, a carol concert at the church, a visit to the pantomime, Christmas lunch, parties and lots of Christmas crafts. The children are very excited about Santa's imminent arrival and are looking forward to a rest over the break after what has been a very hectic half term!

Year 1

This half term our topic has been Walk on the Wild Side. The children have enjoyed learning about different animal groups in science and shared their knowledge through the talks they have given to their class about an animal. Thank you to the parents who have supported them in some research and learning their talk at home. We now know lots of facts about all sorts of animals, their habitats and diets. In DT, we created sliders so that an animal could move stealthily through the jungle. It is great to hear that some children also had a go at home.

As the term comes to a close we have enjoyed performing 'A Noisy Nativity' as well as visiting the Wilde theatre to see 'Mother Goose' and walking to the church for our carol service.

A big thank you to all for the lovely gifts and all the support throughout the term. Wishing every one a very Merry Christmas and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Knowledge Organisers

The Autumn 2 knowledge organisers are available to you on the learning pages of the website. This is so you can clearly understand what your child has learnt this half term and 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](#)

Year 2

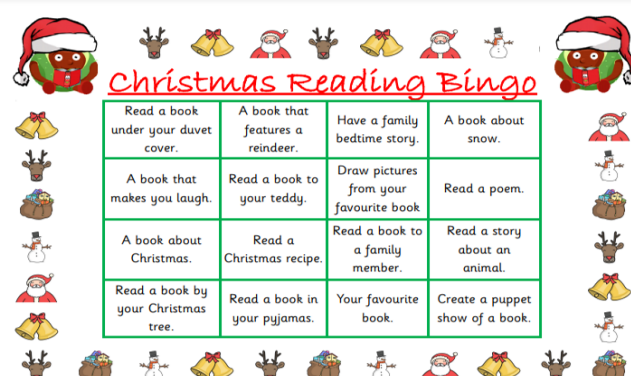
Year 2 have had another busy half term learning about the history behind calendar events marked during the months of November and December. As historians we discovered the reasons behind the Gunpowder Plot before looking at the significance of the poppy. We visited St John's Church and looked at the names of the brave soldiers from Crowthorne who gave their lives. You can see the key facts and information the children learnt in this half term's Knowledge Organisers on the Year 2 learning page of the website.

In Art, the children have used watercolours and pastels to create some amazing pictures of poppies. We learnt about the artist Georgia O'Keefe and used her work as inspiration for close up images.

In Literacy we have continued with our Clever Writer Key Skills. We have written a diary entry and a character description based upon two brilliant texts, *Vlad and the Great Fire of London* and *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*. In Maths, we have started looking at strategies for addition and subtraction. Year 2 have also been super Scientists, investigating the most suitable material for making Nanna's sock! Well done Elm and Beech for a great first term in Year 2!



Please find attached to the newsletter Christmas reading bingo that your children might like to participate in to keep reading fun during the holidays.



Year 2's Letter to a World War I soldier

Dear Robert Holdway

Thank you for giving your life in World War 1. Your family missed you and Im sure it must have been terrifying going to war. I am sure your family were devastated to receive the telegram saying you would not be returning home. I would love to know more about you because it was a long time ago, we dont have much information. Each year we will remember you by wearing a poppy on Remembrance Day.

From

Jake (Beech Class)

Dear Victor

Thank you for risking your life in the war. Im sorry you had to live in the trenches for a long time. Im sad that you had to leave your family. You had to sleep in your uncomfortable clothes. Thank you for making England a peaceful and happy place with no more wars.

Lots of love

Isla M (Elm Class)



Thank you for your continued support. We've raised over £14,500 through our events so far.

Huge thanks to the Knight family, Ian Phipps, our volunteers, and all parents — your support makes a real difference. Since September, we've funded TA support (£1,200 per school), new infant playground equipment (£240), and are contributing to a new PA system.



With sincere thanks,
The PTA Team

2026 AGENDA



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

16th **AGM**
JANUARY 2pm - Friday

JANUARY **Raise £20.26 for 2026**
FEBRUARY Half Term

25th **Easter Bonnet & Raffle**
MARCH 3pm - Wednesday

15th **Crazy Hair Day**
MAY Friday

3rd **Sports Day Raffle**
JUNE Wednesday

11th **Oakfest**
JULY Saturday

17th **Make the Rules Day**
JULY Friday

TBC **Disco**
Friday

Our Charity number #296449

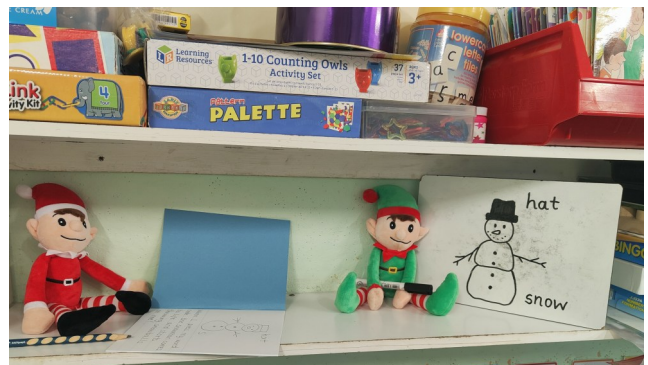
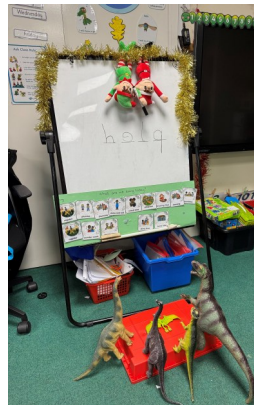
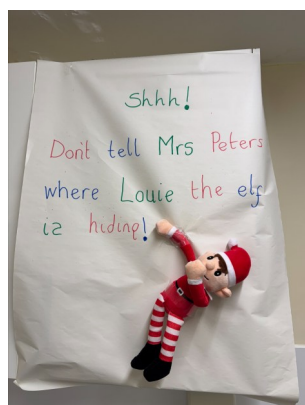
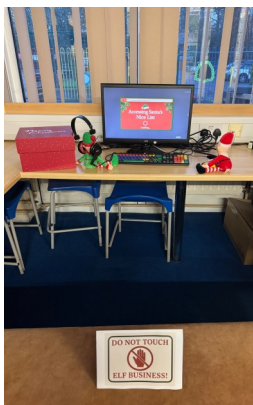
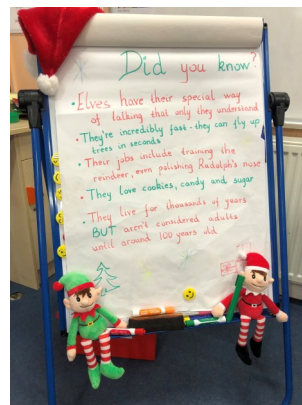
Value Awards

Today at our end of term assembly, class teachers presented six children with a Value Award, based on our school characters. The teachers nominated different children from across the classes for these awards. It is always extremely hard to choose when everyone has been doing so well. All the children appeared surprised to receive their certificate but proud at the same time. Well done from everyone at the Infants.

Character	Name of pupil	Class
Ivy – rising to challenges	Hallie W	Ash
Holly – not afraid to fail	Arlo H	Willow
Laurie – pride in achievement	Ellerie D	Silver Birch
Solo – encouraging independence	Jessica H	Beech
Goldie – respect for all	Hattie D	Chestnut
Casey – being happy, cared for and cared about	Thomas S	Elm



Elves at Oaklands





Oaklands Infant School

Spring Term Dates 2026

Date	Activities in January
Spring 1	Character Focus: Solo
Monday 5 th	Inset day
Tuesday 6 th	Children return to school
Monday 12 th	9am: Juniors Open morning (Yr2 parents)
Tuesday 13 th	Yr2 Yoga starting
Wednesday 14 th	Scooter workshop – Yr1
Thursday 15 th	Deadline for applications to Juniors and Foundation Stage 2026
Friday 16 th	Newsletter & Home-Learning sheets 2pm: PTA AGM
Thursday 22 nd	All day: Yr1 Windsor Castle trip

Date	Activities in February
WB 2 nd	National Story Telling Week National Mental Health Week
Wednesday 4 th	9am: Silver Birch class assembly
Friday 6 th	NSPCC Number day
Tuesday 10 th	Safer Internet Day 3.30pm - 7.00pm: Parents Evening
Thursday 12 th	3.30pm – 6.00pm: Parents Evening
Friday 13 th	Newsletter 3.30pm: End of half term
HALF-TERM Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February	

We are pleased to inform you that we are offering scooter training on **Wednesday 14th January 2026**. The training is open to pupils in **Year 1** only.

The main objective is to improve your child's awareness of road safety issues, particularly with those children who use their scooter to travel to school. **If they do not own a scooter then they can share/ borrow, please do not buy a scooter just for this session.**

Your child will need to bring with them for the session:

A scooter (labelled with child's name)

A helmet (which must be of the correct size and fit properly)



Children who have received a Holly leaf

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

Ash: Jack, Indy, Arthur G, Cara, Sophia H, Margot, Leah, Ebrahim, River and April

Willow: Ryan, Max, Reilly, Mila, Raphael, India, Sophie, Finlay, Benjamin and Remy

Chestnut: Bryce, Ari, Hayley, Esme, Arti, Shayden, Lily, Persephone, Aryash and Robyn

Silver Birch: Rocco, Louis, Alfie, Louella, Evie, Rosie, Sam, Zola, Benjamin and Nathan

Beech: Lucas, Oliver, Alex, Ottilie, Arthur, Domnic, Benjamin, Avery, Ryan and Connor

Elm: Archer, Luna, Arabella C, Kenan, Raphy, Bethan, Ava, Ezra, Alex and Ivy



Little Musketeers

They will run a 10-week course, sessions begin on **Wednesday 14th Jan at 07:45 - 08:40am**, running weekly till **Wednesday 25th March 2026** (excluding half term). This session has now been opened up to reception classes. To book this and any of our other clubs, please use the link below to our website. More information on Little Musketeers is in the video below.

[Clubs on the website](#)

[Little Musketeers Virtual Assembly on Vimeo](#)



Dear Parent

Little Musketeers at Oaklands Infant School | Red Term – Resilience

Little Musketeers are back offering a fun, safe and educational environment for young children to learn the sport of fencing. What child has not grown up pretending to be a swashbuckling pirate, a duelling Musketeer, or even the master of swordplay himself, Zorro? Why do they do it? Because it's fun!

Little Musketeers provide bright coloured foam and plastic foils and plastic masks with mesh visors that are safe and yet hard enough to give children the real feel of fencing. We ensure visors are worn at all times giving peace of mind as well as that genuine fencing experience.

Little Musketeers classes are designed and managed by Olympic fencer and 4 times British National Champion James Beevers. All staff are CRB checked, First Aid certified and trained personally by James.

This term's course will focus on building your child's resilience, as well as developing their timing and spatial awareness. Once the course is completed, they will be awarded with the Red term wristband.

We hope you can join us for our 10-week course, held at Oakland Infants School as follows:

- Wednesday 14th January - Wednesday 25th March 2026 / 07:45 - 08:40 / Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4

The cost for the course will be £50.00 per child.

If your child would like to sign up for this course, please visit:

<https://bookings.littlemusketeers.com>

Once there, follow the instructions to complete your booking online. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.

Yours Faithfully

Jen Farsons
jen@littlemusketeers.com



What is Little Musketeers?

- The UK's No.1 dedicated primary school fencing programme.
- A welcoming and friendly club giving children a fun and safe introduction to the sport of fencing.
- Founded in 2009 by Olympian and 10x British champion James Beevers.
- Currently operating in 60 schools across Berkshire.



Why choose us?

Because its fun!



- Classes provide a unique mix of mental, social and physical stimulation.
- Strategic, disciplined, physical nature makes it attractive to a wide range of students.
- Endorsed by the worlds leading cognitive, developmental neuroscientist.
- Teaching the art of friendly confrontation & conflict resolution.
- Emphasis on a child's social emotional well-being.
- Development of a child's executive functions.

Festive fun at
The Beehive Christmas Holiday Clubs
22nd-23rd & 29th-31st December

Crown Wood Primary School
 22nd-23rd December

Nine Mile Ride Primary School
 22nd-23rd & 29th-31st December

22nd: Brambles Animal Encounters
 23rd: Christmas Party
 29th-31st: Beehive Express Play Bus
 29th: Magic Show
 31st: K Pop Disco

Plus arts & crafts, outside play, games, toys and lots more!



www.beehiveclub.co.uk


GROWN-UP & CHILD RETREAT DAY

FINALLY - A RETREAT YOU CAN BRING YOUR CHILD TO - BECAUSE WELLBEING SHOULDN'T STOP WHEN YOU BECOME A PARENT





1 CONNECT WITH FAMILY, YOGA, PLAY, MINDFULNESS & MASSAGE

2 SEPARATE FOR YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND SOUNDBATHS - EACH IN YOUR OWN SPACE

3 COME TOGETHER TO COREGULATE, REFLECT, RELAX & RECHARGE

TIME TOGETHER. SPACE APART.
 CALM FOR YOU BOTH

30% CHRISTMAS OFFER: £49 PER PAIR USING CODE MINDSET30 (USUAL PRICE £70)
 10:30 - 4:30
 18TH JAN AGE 4-7 | 25TH JAN AGE 7+ MY LITTLE BOARDROOM, WOKINGHAM


WWW.MINDSETUNLIMITED.CO.UK

ST. JOHN'S PRESENTS...
OUR ANNUAL CRIB SERVICE
THE VERY GRUMPY INNKEEPER
 (WITH A SPECIAL GUEST...)

BRING YOUR BEST GRUMPY FACE, NATIVITY DRESS UP & SINGING VOICES!
CHRISTMAS EVE 3PM & 5PM
 (THIS YEAR IT'S DOUBLE THE FUN...BOTH SERVICES ARE THE SAME)

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, WATERLOO RD, CROWTHORNE, RG45 7NT



 WWW.STJOHNSCROWTHORNE.CO.UK 

If you have any feedback about our newsletter, please email

admin@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk