



The Acorn Newsletter

July 2011 Issue 68

We have been delighted to see so many of you at our events at the end of the Summer Term. It is a very busy and enjoyable time for our children.

Events and Activities



There have been many activities in the second half of the Summer Term, including the Year 2 performance of 'Billy the Bus', the Year 3 to 6 performance of 'Robin Hood', the dance displays for Lower Kindergarten and Garden Room, the Celebration of the Year for Transition and Year 1, Prize Giving for Years 2 to 6, Display of Work and Sports Day. It was lovely to see so many parents at these events. The standard of the

performances put on by all the children was excellent. The reports and entertainment at the celebration of the year and prize giving were greatly appreciated by everyone and we were very lucky that the sun shone for us on Sports Day. We congratulate all children on their success in these events and thank the staff for their hard work and encouragement of the children.

Street Party



Staff Changes

This year we have a few staff changes:

I should like to thank Vera Sturgess who has been teaching in Year 2 for most of this year, having taken over the class at the end of Year 1 during Mrs Wright's maternity leave. Mrs Sturgess is well known at Oaklands, having previously taught in Years 2 and 4. She is an excellent teacher, who is always kind and sympathetic but at the same time demands high

standards from her pupils. Mrs Wright is not returning to Oaklands after her maternity leave as she has taken a part time job at another school. We are grateful to her for everything she did for our children while she was a Year 1 teacher and Coordinator of Key Stage 1 and Art.

We are delighted to welcome Mr Arrowsmith who has been appointed to take over the permanent position from Mrs Wright and has taught in Year 2 since half term in the Summer Term.

National Curriculum levels in Years 2 and 6

Pupils in Years 2 and 6 now sit NFER tests in English and mathematics and in Year 6 they sit NSI Science papers, instead of the SATs papers. Once again they have done well. In Year 2, 85% achieved levels above the national average in reading and mathematics, 63 % were above the national average in writing. In Year 6, 80% achieved levels above the national average in mathematics and science, 60% were above the national average in reading and writing.

Oaklands Parents' Association

There have been many trips and special events in school which have taken place during this academic year. We are very grateful to the Oaklands Parents' association for their financial support of these events and outings.

We are very grateful to Mireille Zrinzo, Sophie Rughani-Gandhi and all the other committee members for their hard work in organising events during the year and congratulate them on a very successful Summer Fete this term.

Mini-fete

Congratulations to the Year 6 girls on organising an excellent mini-fete to raise money for the charities: 'Help a London Child', the RSPCA and the Chigwell Riding Trust for Special Needs. They raised £179.60.

I should like to finish by saying how much I have enjoyed the last ten years at Oaklands School. Oaklands is a very special school and I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to be its Headmistress. I am very grateful to all the staff, parents and pupils for all the support they have given me.

I am delighted that Cheryl Macnair, who has been my Deputy since September 2005 has now been appointed Headmistress. I am confident that she together with Sue Johnson as Deputy will provide the excellent leadership required as the school enters the next exciting phase of development with the move to full coeducation. I wish all the staff, parents and pupils at Oaklands School every happiness and success in the future.

I hope that you will all have a very relaxing and enjoyable Summer Holiday and I wish all our leavers every happiness and success in their new schools. We look forward to welcoming pupils back for the Autumn Term on Wednesday 7 September 2011.

Yours sincerely

Pam Simmonds
Headmistress