

OAKLANDS SCHOOL NEWS BULLETIN



February 2012 Issue Number 69

Message from Mrs Cheryl Macnair

Kung Hei Fat Choy! Happy Chinese New Year! We are now in the year of the Dragon. According to Chinese tradition "The Dragon is a creature of myth and legend. A symbol of good fortune and sign of intense power, the Oriental Dragon is regarded as a divine beast - the reverse of the malicious monster that Westerners felt necessary to find and slay. In Eastern philosophy, the Dragon is said to be a deliverer of good fortune and a master of authority. Therefore, those people born in Dragon years are to be honoured and respected." Were you born in the Year of the Dragon?

The children in the Foundation Stage (Lower Kindergarten, Garden Room and Transition) are studying 'People Who Help Us' this term. They have had various visitors discussing various roles in the wider community. Thank you to Dr Ayra , Policeman Jay and Andy the Lollipop Man for giving up their time . Our Maintenance Team gave an excellent presentation in assembly on Monday explaining their roles and responsibilities in the school community providing such a valuable insight and appreciation of the importance of different people within the community. During these days of snow and ice we are very grateful to John and Andy who have worked incredibly hard in the early hours of the mornings to ensure the school site is safe.

Last week I was busy inspecting the Early Years department at another school which is always a fascinating experience. It is such a privilege to be able to visit other settings to see how they are organised and run. There is always room for improvement and it's good to share ideas.

This week is Curriculum Week with many exciting and enriching experiences. I look forward to telling you all about it in the next bulletin! Remember to follow us on 'Twitter' [@OaklandsSch](https://twitter.com/OaklandsSch)



Snow lessons today!!!!



In the Classroom



In Year 2 we have been learning about capacity and symmetry. For capacity we were estimating and reading scales, for symmetry we used paint to create symmetrical pictures of bugs and folding.



In Year 3 we have been learning about the Anglo—Saxons. We learnt about settlements and made our own Anglo—Saxon homes.



Year 3 have been learning about 3D shapes in numeracy. We investigated different shapes and identified their features.



Sport

Swimming

Brilliant results in Forest Swimming Gala. Oaklands School were very successful in the Forest School Swimming Gala coming 4th overall. A fantastic achievement! (A special mention goes to Katia who came first in the final of the 25m Butterfly). Our congratulations to the team consisting of Elizabeth, Katia, Megan, Millie and Ava.

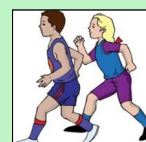


Netball

Due to inclement weather the Bancrofts Netball Tournament has been postponed. Well done to Millie, Katia, Georgina, Emily, Elizabeth, Ellis and Trinity for being selected to represent Oaklands School and we look forward to cheering them on when the tournament is re-scheduled!

Cross Country

Good luck to Sam and Henry, both in Year 3 who will be representing Oaklands in the Cross Country event at Coopersale Hall School on 8 March.



Year 3 boys activities at Peter May Centre

Year 3 boys are really enjoying activities at the Peter May Centre where they combine with Normanhurst School. They have enjoyed football, hockey, running and zumba classes!

Reminder

Please remember that your child will need a GREEN HAT, SCHOOL SCARF and GREEN MITTENS or GLOVES. Other colours are NOT school uniform. Could I also remind you that hair accessories should be discreet bottle green, black or brown. Thank you for your co-operation.

Oaklands children should be smart and in correct uniform.



Oaklands School 1935-2012 Reunion Party

Celebrating 75 years of educating children in Loughton and the Epping Forest area. After our recent coverage in West Essex Life and the local paper, lots of ex-pupils and staff are registering for our Anniversary Reunion party on Sunday 1 July. If you know any people who had connections with Oaklands School, please urge them to register on our special Anniversary page on the school web site.

Health and Hygiene

Unfortunately we have had several cases of sickness and diarrhoea just recently. We would like to remind you that your child should not return to school until after the 48 hour deadline has passed. In the case of diarrhoea your child should not be in school until he / she has passed a normal stool. If your child has been prescribed antibiotics, they should remain at home for the first 24 hours in case they have an allergic reaction to the medication. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.



Forthcoming Events

13 – 17 February 2012	Half Term
Thursday 15 March 2012 - 9.15am – 11.30am	Open Morning
Tuesday 21 & Wednesday 22 February 2012	Parent Evenings (Transition to Year 6 Pupils)
28 February 2012	Year 6 trip to Duxford

OPA

The OPA are delighted to announce that a May Ball is being organised in conjunction with FOCHS (friends of Coopersale Hall School) and will take place at the Metropolitan Police Sports Ground in Chigwell on Saturday 26th May. The evening will include a champagne reception, sit down 4 course meal, fantastic entertainment and an auction. Tickets will go on sale in the coming weeks and are limited. Please put the date in your diaries!

The Mums' Christmas night out at Mooro's in Chigwell was a fun night and the raffle raised over £500. Thanks very much the 80+ Mums that helped make the evening such a success, and to the generous donors of raffle prizes.

The Christmas Cards for Schools raised £350 for the OPA, thank you to all those that ordered cards. Thanks also to all the parents that helped with festivities in the lead up to Christmas. Many Mums helped in the buying (and wrapping!) of gifts, and were on hand to help with the parties. Your help is greatly appreciated and the children had a great time!

Our recent clothing sale had to be postponed, but there are plans for another after half term. We will also be holding a coffee morning after half term to get together and discuss forthcoming fundraising events.

