



May 2012 Issue 73

Headmistress's Message

What a shame, that due to the "rainy season" we had to cancel Sports Day and the Panoramic Photograph! The weather has been beautiful of late and we hope that our Panoramic Photograph will go ahead on the afternoon of Monday 25 June and Sports Day will take place on Tuesday 10 July. Watch this space

Our Year 6 pupils are spending this week on a residential course at Gilwell Park, Chingford. I spent Monday and Tuesday with them enjoying the lovely weather and some of the activities as well as looking after them. Activities include climbing, abseiling, archery, kayaking and various team building challenges to name but a few. They return on Friday for the Jubilee Picnic.

I hope the good weather continues for the forthcoming Jubilee Bank Holiday and indeed the rest of the half term break.

I look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 11 June when pupils in Transition to Year 6 will be busy preparing for the Dance Display and School Fete and Years 5 and 6 will be putting the finishing touches to their play 'The Little Mermaid' as well.

Have a lovely break and I look forward to seeing you at our next event - Dance Display and the School Fete on Saturday 16 June. Never a dull moment

Cheryl Macnair

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Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

On Friday 1 June the children will be able to enjoy a picnic lunch in the playground wearing red, white and blue to help celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.



2A Play

The theme for the Year 2 Play was 'Around the World'



2C Play 'dress rehearsal'

Class 2C getting ready for their big day on Thursday 31 May



'Mad Science' Assembly—Wednesday 23 May 2012

During the Autumn Term 2012 a new 'Mad Science' club will be held on Wednesdays in the Science Room.

'Cosmic Chris' from the 'Mad Science' Company visited Oaklands on Wednesday 23 May to tell the children in Year 1 to Year 6 about the fascinations of science.

'Cosmic Chris' gave a thoroughly entertaining talk and demonstrated how to keep different sized balloons floating around the school hall using hair dryers!

This new club promises to be exciting and educational.



No Pen Day

The children will be taking part in a 'No Pen Day' on Monday 18 June to help childrens' speaking and listening skills which is a whole school focus this year. For one day the school will put down their pens and pencils and all learning will take place through speaking and listening rather than writing. This day will give your child a chance to practise their speaking and listening skills.

ISA Athletics Championships

A combined Oaklands and Normanhurst team travelled to Bedford on Monday 21 May 2012 to compete in ISA Athletics Championships. The Oaklands girls did extremely well, with Ashleigh in Year 4 coming 2nd in her 60 metre sprint final and Katia in Year 6 coming 4th in her 80 metre sprint final. The Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 relay teams all qualified for their respective finals. The Year 4 team came 3rd in their final. Millie in Year 6 came 4th in the high jump event.

Congratulations to all the girls for trying so hard in all their events.



Hayes Hill Farm

The Garden Room children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Hayes Hill Farm. They were able to bottle feed the lambs and stroke a snake, tortoise, chinchilla and bearded dragon. Despite the fact we had to be aware of the escaping water buffalo who were also at Hayes Hill Farm on a visit. A great day was had by all.



Music Festival

On the evening of Thursday 22 March, the pupils of years 3, 4, 5 and 6 joined with the pupils of Coopersale and Normanhurst to perform together in the 2nd Oak-Tree Festival of Music and Dance. It was held at the James Hawkey Hall in Woodford and was enjoyed by a large audience of parents and friends. The concert began with a joint schools' orchestra of over 60 instrumentalists and a choir of 100 performing The Titanic Theme. Each school then performed a variety of items, which included Oaklands Year 6 Samba Band, the Choir and the Violin Ensemble. The second half of the Festival had a 'Space' theme. This was interpreted in different ways, with Oaklands Years 3 and 4 performing two space songs, Year 5 playing a percussion piece, and Years 5 and 6 Dance Club exploring different spacial dimensions. The evening's finale saw all three schools joining together to sing "Don't Stop Believin'" with specially adapted words by Sarah Digby from Normanhurst. A packed audience showed their appreciation with long and loud applause. All agreed it was a splendid occasion and a pleasure to see the three schools of Oak-Tree together.

Boys' Noise

During the winter and spring term this year, a new club began - Boys' Noise. This was a singing and music club for the boys from Years 2 and 3, designed to encourage boys to sing. Much has been written recently about this topic and although it is recognised that young boys do want to sing, they are more comfortable in a boys only group. The twelve or so boys who joined were a lively group and it quickly became clear that movement was going to be a big part of our club. Over the next few weeks, we developed a 'rap' with lots of ideas from the boys themselves. This culminated in a performance to the school at the end of the Spring Term of the "Anycar.Com Rap". Our track was very ably accompanied by Jake Omer from Year 3 on the drumkit and the boys threw themselves into it with great gusto. I'd like to thank Mr Paul Bartels (our drumkit, flute, guitar and piano teacher) for the initial rap idea and his work with Jake. Boys' Noise will appear again, next autumn – watch this space!



Donations

Thank you for the help which you so kindly gave during the recent collection for the lifeboats. The amount collected was £19.69. Your help and support is very much appreciated.



On the 25 May the children dressed in yellow, gold and red to raise money for Action Aid. We are pleased to announce that we raised £185.80. Thank you all for your generous donations.

Thank you to everyone who has handed in their Tesco vouchers so far. The deadline for these is Friday 6 July and we would be very grateful if you could hand in any you may still have.

Forthcoming Events

Monday 4 – Friday 8 June		Half Term
Saturday 16 June	1.15pm	Dance Display
Saturday 16 June	2.00pm	Summer Fete
Monday 18 June		No pen day
Tuesday 19 & 20 June	6.45pm	Years 5 & 6 Play at Lopping Hall
Tuesday 19 June	9.15am - 3.00pm	Year 2 trip to Rye Meads
Wednesday 20 June	9.30am - 3.00pm	Year 1 trip to Epping Field Centre
Friday 22 June	11.25am	Year 6 Crucial Crew
Monday 25 June		Year 5 Parents Meeting
Tuesday 26 June		Year 5 Parents Meeting
Monday 25 June		Revised Whole School Photograph
Tuesday 26 June	9.15am (LK) 2.15pm (GR)	Lower Kindergarten and Garden Room - Dancing Display
Tuesday 26 June		Years 3 & 4 trip to Kew Gardens
Wednesday 27 June	1.00 - 3.30pm	Year 6 trip to Chigwell Riding Trust
Friday 29 June	9.00am - 3.00pm	School Young First Aider Award Scheme

Oaklands School would like to thank the OPA, especially the outgoing committee of Mireille Zrinzo, Alyson Rees and Sophie Rugani-Gandhi, for their fundraising achievements and the recent provision of six gazebos which will keep the children dry in the rainy season and cool in the sun. Our new committee are working hard and building on previous efforts. Together we are hoping to purchase a mini bus as well as continuing to support trips and special events such as Christmas treats. The OPA are invaluable in providing 'extras' for the children and we thank all of you for your time and commitment.

NOTE

Tea Time Club. Please remember that this phone is for Tea Time Club use only after 4.30pm. Telephone number is **07928 297868**.

OPA

After months in the planning, the May Ball took place on Saturday with over 200 parents and friends in attendance from both Oaklands and Coopersale Hall School. Over £10,000 was raised and will be shared equally between the two schools. A great night was had by all; a big thank you to everyone that attended, donated, bid and danced!

We have just received back your children's fantastic artwork for the 75 anniversary. Please purchase any items online. Items include cards, mugs, tea towels, mouse mats and bags. 20% of the value of all orders placed will go to the OPA.

With the fete less than 2 weeks away on Saturday, if you are able to give half an hour on the day to help with a stall, please do contact us or your class representative.