



September 2012 Issue 76

Headmistress's Message

The children (and staff!) have settled well into the routines of the Autumn Term and are working hard. I hope the parents of children in Transition found the Read Write Inc. Information Evening valuable. We have also held a Maths Information Evening for KS1 parents. The Year 1 and 2 booklets explaining teaching methods and techniques proved to be very useful. Spare booklets are available in the school office if you were unable to attend the evening.

Last Thursday was Open Day and once again we welcomed new families to Oaklands and they were able to experience first hand our caring, friendly learning environment. Pupils in Years 5 and 6 acted as guides and were great ambassadors for the school. The school looked amazing with all the children's achievements taking pride of place along corridors and in classrooms.

Parents' evenings are the week before half term which will provide opportunities for discussing your child's progress. I shall be available both evenings should you wish to see me or make an appointment for another time. My door is always open.

Cheryl Macnair

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Thank you very much for all your generous donations.



Drama Workshop

Transition, Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed a drama workshop session from the Perform group about myths and legends. They were able to use drama and role play to spark their imagination; this was done through a variety of games, creative resources and role-play scenarios.



Mini Pots of Care



This year we are taking part in the Marie Curie Cancer Care's Mini Pots of Care fundraising activity. Each child received their own pot and daffodil bulb to plant between September and November. Children will learn how to care for their growing shoots until they blossom into beautiful daffodils in Spring. They will celebrate their blooms on Mini Pots of Care Day in February 2012 by painting their pot wrappers, learning about the work of Marie Curie Nurses and fundraising.

Uniform

When we come back after the half term break, the children will wear winter uniform. Individual school photos are being taken on Monday 5 November. Please ensure that if your child is in Transition, he/she comes to school wearing winter uniform and brings their PE kit in their PE bags. Thank you.

Sparks Club

Sparks Club for KS2 (years 3 to 6) pupils starts on **Tuesday 6 November** from 8.30am until 8.50am. The club aims to support children's learning through memory and concentration games. It will be held in the ICT suite and will be on a first come, first served basis. Please ask the School Office for a form to complete so you can register for a place (max 20 places), and once received these will be date-stamped and numbered by the office. You will be notified if your child has a place.

1MS - Shape Colour Mixing

We have been looking at shapes and their properties this week so have used different shapes to mix colours in.



Harvest Festival

Thank you very much for your generous donations for our Harvest Festival and these were collected by Tony Miller from the Whitechapel Mission. From the assembly he gave last week, I know that your gifts will be really appreciated by the homeless of London. Thank you. Our harvest assemblies were led by Andrea and Stephanie from the Christian Drama Resource Centre. As always, these were very interactive with many of the children taking part and enjoying the experience.



Years 3 & 4 at Gilwell

The children in Years 3 and 4 went to Gilwell Activity Centre on Wednesday 19 September. Thankfully the weather was fine and dry which helped the children enjoy their three activities; chase trail, problem solving and climbing. The instructors at Gilwell were impressed by the childrens' enthusiasm and determination to 'have a go' at all the activities. Well done to all the children!

Headlice

There have been a couple of cases of headlice reported this week. Can you please check your child's hair thoroughly tonight to avoid any further spread.

Thank you for your help.

ISA Regional Art Competition

This year we entered over 20 pieces into the ISA Regional Art Competition. We won a 1st place, a collaborative piece from 2C called 'Harvest Lady' and 3rd place for a wooden vehicle by Maanvii. The 1st place piece will be going to the overall ISA finals later in the year.



Year 5 and Year 6 Visit to Harlow Outdoor Centre

On Monday 1 October the year 5 and 6 classes went to the Harlow Outdoors Activity Centre. The girls were split into three groups, each having an opportunity to do abseiling, kayaking and a low ropes challenge course. Even though it rained for most of the day the girls had a great time. They all tried their best at every activity and at the end of the day the Harlow instructors commented on how well they had all taken to the challenges they had faced.



Message!

Please advise the school office of any changes in picking up your children e.g. Tea time club and any other alternative arrangements as early as possible so that messages can be relayed to class teachers before the end of the school day.

OPA

Cheese & Wine Party

Parents of new children are invited to a Cheese and Wine Party on Tuesday 9 October at 7.30pm in the School Hall. This will give you an opportunity to meet other new parents and members of the Oaklands Parents Association (OPA).

AGM at 8.00pm - All parents welcome.



Firework Display



Oakland's Parents Association invites you to attend our annual fireworks display on Sunday 11 November 4-6pm.

You will enjoy a fun packed evening for all the family whilst showing your support for our school. There will be hot food and drink served, with an assortment of exciting activities.

We will end with our spectacular fireworks display.

Tickets go on sale Thursday 11 October via children's book bags.

Christmas Card and Gift Project

We look forward to receiving your child's artwork for the Christmas card and gift project being organised by the OPA this year which must be returned to the class teacher by October 13th.



We are also looking for new recruits for the parents association, class reps and volunteers !

If you would like to lend a helping hand please call Laura Carey on 07782105390.

Please add yourself on our facebook group [Oaklands School Loughton](#) to keep up to date with all upcoming OPA events.

Thank you.

All in the OPA

Breakfast Club Information

Due to the ever increasing demand for spaces, Breakfast Club in its present format, has outgrown the studio. In order for us to satisfy demand and ease overcrowding we are introducing an 'overspill' facility in the Art Room (located next to the school's main entrance). This will come into effect after half term (i.e. week commencing 5 November). Initially, we will trial the 'overspill' facility on Wednesdays only. This will enable us to determine the best way to organise the club and deploy staff before rolling it out to any other day as needed.

Registration and breakfast will always take place in the studio. However, on 'overspill' days some children will be taken to the Art Room after breakfast where toys and activities will also be available. To make room for the number expected for breakfast no table or arts and craft activities will be available in the studio on 'overspill' days. However, some floor activities will still be available.

Places for Breakfast Club must be made in advance either directly or via the office.

The decision to use the 'overspill' facility, staffing and catering requirements will be based on the bookings received. Therefore, if at any time you have made a booking (regular or one-off) that you no longer need, **please remember to tell us.**

For our regular attendees the customer satisfaction survey will not be sent out this month. Instead it will be deferred until next term so that we can get views and comments from you and your children regarding the new set-up.

Thank you for your support and understanding during the changeover period. If you have any queries or concerns please discuss these with the Breakfast Club staff.

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 11 October		Yr 3 World Challenge Camp
Friday 12 October		Yr 3 World Challenge Camp
Monday 15 October		KS1 'Wow' Assembly
Tuesday 16 October	3.30pm - 7.00pm	Trans - Yr 6 Parents Evening
Wednesday 17 October	3.30pm - 7.00pm	Trans - Yr 6 Parents Evening
Wednesday 17 October		Yr 2 Great Fire of London Workshop
Wednesday 17 October		St Mungo's Woolly Hat Day Assembly (Trans - Yr 6)
Friday 19 October		Non-uniform and Woolly Hat in aid of St Mungo's
Monday 22 October - Friday 2 November		Half Term
Monday 5 November		Individual Photographs
Tuesday 6 November	9.15 am till late	KS2 Choir to Royal Albert Hall
Monday 12 November		Yr 6 Visit to British Museum
Wednesday 14 November		Yr 1 Toys Workshop in Studio

