



Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

Happy New Year or as the Chinese would have us say 'gong hei fat choi'! As many of our Year 1 pupils will tell you, this is the Year of the Horse. If you were born in the Year of the Horse, it is believed that you are clever and kind to others. Sometimes you can be a little too chatty and stubborn! You are usually cheerful, perceptive and talented.

A very big thank you for all your cards, good wishes and gifts I received this Christmas. You are very thoughtful and generous.

The children have settled back into the School routine after the Christmas break and are working hard. We wish those pupils who are currently sitting entrance exams all the very best of luck.

Cheryl Macnair
Headmistress

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Parking

The traffic wardens continue to patrol the local area so just another reminder about the parking restrictions in force around the School! You are not allowed to park on the zigzag or yellow lines outside the in School gate at the times stated. If you decide to park with two wheels on the pavement, please ensure there is enough room for a buggy/wheelchair to pass. Please do not obscure vision of other drivers and pedestrians which does happen if you opt to park on the corner of Spring Grove on the double yellow lines.

Above all please be considerate and try to park a little further away from the School and walk. This is for the safety of YOUR **CHILDREN**. Thank you.

Minibus

The long-awaited Oaklands School minibus has arrived! Thank you so much to the OPA and all those who have been involved with the massive fund raising events we have had over the past couple of years. Your efforts have helped us purchase a School minibus; the OPA has contributed 50% towards the cost and Oaklands School will be responsible for the maintenance and insurance etc. It will make it so much easier to transport children to various sporting events as well as School trips. A very big **THANK YOU!**



Forest School Swimming Gala

On Tuesday 21 January 2014, six KS2 girls represented the school at the Forest School Swimming Gala. There were teams from Woodford Green Prep, St Paul's Cathedral, Theydon Bois, Canonbury, Woodford Wells, Daiglen, St Aubyns, Bancrofts, Snaresbrook College, Loyola and Forest schools.

All the races were very competitive and the girls all swam their best. Alana (Y6) came 4th in her butterfly heat; Lara (Y6) came 4th in her breastroke heat; Danae (Y6) came 3rd in her backstroke heat; Libby (Y5) came 2nd in her 25m front crawl heat and Amy (Y4) came 2nd in her 50m front crawl heat.

In the medley relay heat, our team of Danae, Lara, Alana and Libby came 5th. In the freestyle relay, our team of Libby, Kitty, Alana and Amy came 4th in their heat.

Congratulations to all the swimmers!

Charities

We have been busy raising money for the NSPCC through a sponsored 'workout' in our PE lessons. Please bring any outstanding sponsorship money to the School Office.

As always, thank you for your generous donations to our charity work which helps the children understand that they are part of a much wider community and their help and support is important and valued by many who are less fortunate than themselves.



On Monday 20 January **Transition** children took part in a circuit activity to raise money for the NSPCC. The children were asked to balance, make their way across crocodile infested water and hoop through rings of fire! The children loved the added excitement of using their imaginations and were thoroughly exhausted after the activity.

When the children came back to class they were asked what they thought of their lesson. Here are some of their comments:

Summer – 'It was great'

Chloe – 'I am so tired now!'

Gwilym – 'I liked jumping in and out of the hoops'

Amber – 'Brilliant'



Buddy's Big Workout!

Children took part in Buddy's Big Workout to raise money for the NSPCC.

The aim of the of the challenge was to have fun, get fit and raise money to help more children. Lots of fun was had by all – they hopped, jumped and bounced their way and completed their sponsored circuits.

Well done all!



Year 4 Globe Theatre Trip

Year 4 enjoyed their educational visit to the Globe Theatre. The children gave an excellent performance on the Globe stage and worked very hard in a workshop which was based on A Midsummer Night's Dream.



River walk across the London Millennium Footbridge looking towards St Paul's Cathedral

Year 5 Ragged School Trip

At the start of term year 5 embarked on an exciting trip to the Ragged School Museum in Stepney Green. We certainly looked the part in our ragged Victorian clothes and sooty faces, and even came prepared with some interesting, if rather strange, Victorian names. We had the opportunity to take part in a Victorian lesson which proved to be a lot scarier than we were used to! We learnt about old money and practised our cursive handwriting with chalk on slates. After lunch, we headed up to the Victorian multi-purpose room where we learnt about everyday life and got to handle some interesting artefacts. We put all of our learning to good use, showing off all we had learnt at school and the staff were very impressed! We have some fascinating souvenirs (along with some very funny memories) to remember this brilliant trip.



Forthcoming Events—Spring Term

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 28 January	8.45am	Y3 Coffee Morning
Wednesday 29 January	9.00am	OPA Meeting in Studio
Friday 31 January	8.45am	Y4 Coffee Morning in Studio
	9.00am - 3.00pm	Y3 Cuffley Camp
Monday 3 February		Happy Puzzle Maths Day TR, Y1-Y6
Tuesday 4 February	8.45am	Y5 Coffee Morning in Studio
Wednesday 5 February	1.30 - 4.30pm	Forest School Science Competition
Thursday 6 February	10.00 - 12.00pm	Y2 Trip to Synagogue
Friday 7 February		“Dotty Day” Guide dogs and RNIB - Non uniform
Monday 10 February	10.00am	Y2 Stratford Music Festival
Tuesday 11 February	All day	ISA Cross Country at Rushmoor School
Wednesday 12 February	3.30pm onwards	Lower Kindergarten + Garden Room Parents Evening

Monday 17 - Friday 21 February

Tuesday 25 February	3.30pm onwards	Transition - Year 6 Parents Evening
Wednesday 26 February	3.30pm onwards	Transition - Year 6 Parents Evening
Thursday 6 March		World Book Day (dressing-up day!)
	1.15pm	KS2 Coopersale Hall School Cross Country
Friday 7 March	9.00am-3.30pm	ISA Netball Competition - Redbridge Sports Centre
Monday 10 March	10.00-11.00am	KS2 National Prep Schools General Knowledge Quiz at Forest School
Thursday 13 March	9.15am	Open Morning
Tuesday 18 March	9.00am	GR Assembly to Parents
Wednesday 19 March		Oaklands KS2 Swimming Gala at Loughton Pool
Friday 21 March	9.30am	GR Assembly to Parents