



# Oaklands School

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## HEADMISTRESS

MRS SUE BELEJ B.A. (JNT HONS), CERT.ED.

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9 January 2018

Dear Parents

Welcome back after the Christmas and New Year break! I hope you enjoyed the holidays and the time together with your families. Thank you for the many lovely gifts I received for Christmas. It was very generous and thoughtful of you. I hope you are looking forward with expectation to 2018 and thinking about whether you are going to keep to your New Year resolutions.

We have another busy term ahead so do check our website and your portal/group call for information. All our extracurricular clubs begin this week as well as swimming for Years 3 and 5. We shall be continuing with our programme of coffee mornings for parents and there are some class assemblies and plays to which parents will be invited to attend. Our 'Drop-in' sessions for parents to informally view their children's work, will re-commence after February half term.

The term also sees some of our pupils, particularly in Year 6, take entrance examinations to a number of independent secondary schools. I know you join with the Oaklands staff in wishing them all the very best of luck in their endeavours.

### Snow

Our 'Blue Team' works hard to make the school paths, steps and entrances clear and safe for use in the event of snow. Please check the website for updates and announcements in the event of heavy snow. We also aim to text parents by 7.15am to provide up to date information about the condition of the roads surrounding the school and the organisation of the school day ahead.

### Curriculum Overviews

I am pleased to announce that in future, the Curriculum overviews for each age group will be published on your parent portals every half term. They will provide you with more detailed information about the teaching content in each subject. I hope you will find them useful documents.

### Coffee mornings with Mr Hagger and Mrs Belej

Coffee mornings for Garden Room, Transition, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6 parents took place last term. This term, parents of Year 3, 4, 5 and Lower Kindergarten children have the opportunity to attend their Coffee Morning in the studio to chat with Mr Hagger and me about school life on the following dates:

CLASS	DATE	TIME
Year 5	Tuesday 16 January	8.45am to 9.45am
Year 3	Tuesday 23 January	8.45am to 9.45am
Year 4	Tuesday 30 January	8.45am to 9.45am
Lower Kindergarten	Tuesday 6 February	8.45am to 9.45am

### 'Drop-in' sessions

The 'Drop-in Sessions' that we held during the second half of the Autumn Term proved very popular and I received many positive comments about them. The children enjoyed showing off their work and I know many of you found them useful too. We plan to hold a second set of 'Drop-in Sessions' after half term. Please note below the dates and times for each year group.

CLASS	DATE	TIME
Y1J	Thursday 22 February	8.30am to 8.50am
Y1R	Friday 23 February	8.30am to 8.50am
Y2C	Thursday 1 March	8.30am to 8.50am
Y2S	Friday 2 March	8.30am to 8.50am
Y3L	Friday 9 March	8.30am to 8.50am
Y4C/Z	Thursday 15 March	8.30am to 8.50am
Y5	Friday 16 March	8.30am to 8.50am
Y6	Thursday 22 March	8.30am to 8.50am

### School Uniform

All children should be wearing the correct school uniform, including the school scarf, hat and gloves. All items of school clothing and PE kit should be clearly labelled. At this time of year, it is essential that the children wear their winter coat to school every day as they will be going out to play, except in adverse weather conditions.

### OPA

I would like to thank the OPA for funding all the wonderful Christmas events for the children. Children in EYFS and KS1 danced and laughed through their Christmas parties and their visit to Santa. Children in Years 1 to 6 enjoyed their trips to see a pantomime at a local theatre, while the EYFS children were entertained in school by the visiting Pyramid Group performing 'Aladdin.'

My thanks to the OPA committee, class representatives and parent volunteers who gave up their time to wrap Santa gifts, transform the library into the most amazing grotto I have ever seen at Oaklands, and supervise the Years 3-5 Disco on the last Friday of term.

### Charities

The children were incredibly busy in their charity work last term. Generous gifts of tinned food and toiletries filled the school stage at Harvest in October, which were thankfully received by the Whitechapel Mission. The School raised £247.30 on 'Jeans for Genes' Day in October. At the Carol Service at St Mary's Church, Loughton, your donations at the end of this event raised £233.10 for the Mill Field Family Centre.

We were overflowing with your donations of shoes, boots, trainers and sandals during the last three days of the Autumn Term. These have all been sent to the organisers of the Wynaud Trust who are in the process of managing their safe transportation to the people in Zambia.

Thank you so much for your generosity.

We look forward to other Charity days during the Spring Term, including Children's' Mental Health Week, Book Aid International, Sports Relief and Great Ormond Street Hospital's Crazy Hair Day.

It promises to be yet another busy term working to help people less fortunate than ourselves in the world.

### Parent's Evenings

Parents' Evenings will be held on the following dates:

Year 1 to Year 6 Wednesday 21 February 3.30-6.30pm

Year 1 to Year 6 Thursday 22 February 3.30-6.30pm

### Collection at the end of school

Please notify the office if a different person from normal, is collecting your child after school, extracurricular clubs or Tea Time. This is to help ensure the safety of the children at all times. Thank you.

## EYFS Celebration of Year and Years 1-6 Prize Giving 2018

An advance date for your diaries: Both these events are due to be held on Wednesday 4 July, 2018 in a marquee on the school field. The EYFS Celebration of Year will be at 2.00pm and Years 1-6 Prize Giving will be at 4.00pm. These are both lovely events, when we celebrate together the successes and achievements of the children during the school year.

## Forthcoming events/dates for Spring 2018

Tuesday 9 January	First day of Spring Term
Wednesday 10 January	Y3 + Y5 First swim of Spring Term
Friday 12 January	OPA Recycled school uniform sale 2.30pm
Tuesday 16 January	Y5 Coffee Morning 8.45am
Tuesday 23 January	Y3 Coffee Morning 8.45am
Thursday 25 January	TR trip to St Albans Abbey
Tuesday 30 January	Y4 Coffee Morning 8.45am
	Y1 Lego workshop
Friday 2 February	Y1 – Y6 Maths workshop
Tuesday 6 February	LK Coffee Morning 8.45am
Thursday 8 February	3L Assembly to Parents 9am
Friday 23 February	Aldenham School, Elstree – Cross Country 12pm
Thursday 1 March	Coopersale Hall School – Cross Country 12.30pm
Thursday 8 March	Open Morning
Friday 9 March	ISA London North U11 Netball
Monday 12 March	Quantum Science (Science week)
Thursday 15 March	4C Assembly to Parents 9am
Friday 16 March	GR Assembly to Parents 9am
	U11 ISA Hockey, Old Loughtonians
Wednesday 21 March	Y2C Play to Parents
Thursday 22 March	Y2S Play to Parents
Monday 26 March	Y4/5 Young Mariners Base residential visit
Wednesday 28 March	Last day of Spring Term
	Y4/5 Return from Young Mariners Base

With my best wishes for the coming term and for 2018.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

*Sue Belej*

Sue Belej  
Headmistress

