



NEWSLETTER

July 2019

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Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

This has been another successful year at Oaklands School. Many pupils have made outstanding progress this year and achieved impressive academic targets and results. Some pupils have excelled in sports, all pupils have performed enthusiastically and confidently in expressive arts events and our Year 6 pupils have excelled in their 11+ entrance exams and their roles of responsibility.

All the achievements of the pupils were showcased at last week's 'Celebration of the Year' and 'Prize Giving' events. I am sure that, like me, you are very proud of them all. Well done!

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank all the hard working staff, which includes not only the teaching staff, teaching assistants, specialist teachers and SEND staff, but also the office ladies, IT staff, lunchtime assistants, maintenance team, catering staff and cleaners.

To those pupils who are leaving, I wish you every success at your new schools and indeed for the future.

Finally, I wish you all a very happy, relaxing summer break. I look forward to welcoming you all back to Oaklands for the new academic year which starts on Wednesday 4 September 2019.

Kind regards

Sue Belej
Sue Belej

Athletics Club

On Friday 28 June, our children who attend Athletics Club took the trip to Lee Valley Athletics Centre for an afternoon of specialist coaching from two athletes.

They learnt techniques to help them master the long jump, high jump and sprints.

It was an invaluable experience for them being in such an inspirational environment.



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Story time

A selection of Year 4 to Year 6 children were given the opportunity to read a variety of stories to our Reception children during lunch time. The readers were allowed to choose their own book that was suitable for this particular age group.



This was a lovely session and all the readers were excited and thrilled to read to their group and took this responsibility very seriously. Next year, our aim is to make this a more regular event, where we will give more children the opportunity to read stories to our younger children at Oaklands.

Year 1 Maths

For the Outdoor Maths Day, Year 1 used their multiplication and division skills to create arrays using cones and other outdoor equipment. They were also challenged to answer tricky division sums practically using hoops, and to count out how many outdoor resources they needed in teams.



Making French Cakes

This term pupils created a recipe for a yoghurt French cake called "le gateau au yaourt", which is a very popular cake in France.



The children combined their maths and cookery skills whilst learning some new French vocabulary.

The children were focused and engaged with this topic.

Bon appetit!





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House Cross Country Event

During the first week back after the half term break, pupils from KS2 took part in the House cross country event. Years 3 and 4 ran for 10 minutes to try and complete as many laps of the school field for their House, and Years 5 and 6 ran for 15 minutes. As a joint effort, the children clocked up a massive 662 laps which is a total distance of 94.5 miles. This is the same distance from Oaklands School either going North to Coventry or South to Dover!

The results were as follows:

- 1st – Beech 178 laps
- 2nd – Sycamore 172 laps
- 3rd – Willow 165 laps
- 4th – Holly 157 laps

Everyone managed to cover at least 1 mile which is very impressive and they should all be very proud of their efforts.



Year 1 visit to Chigwell & Hainault Synagogue

On Thursday 20 June, the children in Year 1 visited Chigwell and Hainault Synagogue in order to consolidate their learning of the Jewish celebration of Shabbat.



They were able to see some of the things that they had learnt about in the classroom and asked the Rabbi a variety of questions about how he celebrates Shabbat with his family.



'3 Tees Cricket World Cup Tournament'



On Tuesday 18 June, pupils from Year 3 took part in a '3 Tees Cricket World Cup Tournament'. They have been learning the basic skills over the last few weeks and put it to good effect. England, India, Australia and New Zealand took on each other playing this exciting format of the game and the

pupils had a great time batting and fielding!



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Athletics

On Friday 20 June, Year 5 pupils took part in an athletics warm up before taking part in rounders and basketball activities. The children paired up with one counting their partners' laps, whilst the other person ran a shuttle between both ends of the playground aiming to score as many as possible.



This 3 minute activity tested their speed endurance with everyone working so hard to score as many marks as they could. **Well done Year 5!**

Year 6 Outdoor Maths

The Year 6 children were given the task to measure the height of different trees. All they had to work with was: a pencil, rope, a meter wheel and their partner. By following clear step-by-step instructions through practical experiments, they all managed to measure the height of their chosen tree. This was a very good lesson where everyone was actively involved in practical maths.



Year 1 'House 3 Tees Cricket'

On Friday 21 June, pupils from Year 1 played a friendly game of 'House 3 Tees Cricket'. On a beautiful sunny morning, the children were put into their House teams and played against each other aiming to score as many runs as possible by hitting the ball into spaces across the field. The fielders had to work hard to get the balls placed back on the tees shouting 'STOP!' once the last ball was placed. It was great to see them all putting their skills to good effect after weeks of practice. Well done to Beech House who were the overall winners. The results were as follows:



1st – Beech 127 runs

2nd – Willow 101 runs

3rd – Holly and Sycamore 90 runs



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'Let The Games Begin' Production

We had another successful production, being entertained by fantastic Year 6 and Year 5 performers. This year, the children performed a play called '*Let The Games Begin*'. The production started when three technology obsessed youngsters were transported to a strange land of Lady Fortune where they become trapped pawns in her games. Each of them had to compete against the devious, devilish diva in a game of their choice, and had to win their freedom and avoid being a game piece in Fortune's land forever.

The children encountered many eccentric and humorous board game characters as they embarked on their journey: the pompous Stationmasters and the Fleet Street 'hack' Reporters in Monopoly, the defensive suspects in Cluedo and the quarrelling Castles in the final game of Chess. This production was filled with excitement, laughter, tension and it definitely had a few unexpected surprises.

Well done to all the children who took part in this thrilling production. **All your parents as well as teachers were very proud of you!**



The Avenue Tennis Club

On Thursday 27 June, KS2 pupils from our short tennis club made the short walk down to the Avenue Tennis Club for an afternoon of specialist coaching and games. We cannot thank the staff there enough as the children had a great time developing their stroke play whilst playing games such as 'card tennis', 'jail break' and 'champions tennis'.





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Year 4 visit to Kentwell House



On Friday 28 June, Year 4 travelled through the Time Tunnel at Kentwell, back to the year 1683 when Queen Elizabeth I was on the throne.

There was great excitement at the rumour that the Spanish Armada was coming and everyone had to be ready for an attack.

The children learnt about explorers and the New Worlds, Tudor jobs and life in the big house.

Everyone had fun when they took part in Tudor dancing and learnt how to make cheese. It was a fabulous day out and everyone looked fantastic in their Tudor outfits.



Early Years Celebration of the Year



It was lovely to hear Reception children recount their memories which ranged from the chocolate dessert at Christmas lunch to our summer trip to Hylands Park. Our fluffy chick visitors also received a few mentions. The children also impressed with a French song about a butterfly.

Lower and Upper Kindergarten sang songs linked to their topics, with some making the most of being in front of the microphones.

Lower Kindergarten sang about being a little penguin, Upper

Kindergarten sang about spotty socks and Reception entertained us with 'Vole, Vole, Papillion'.

All of the children spoke clearly and sang beautifully. It is hard to believe that some of our youngest children have only been in school for 10 weeks. The celebration ended with Mrs Belej presenting each of the Reception pupils with a certificate to congratulating them all for their achievements throughout their time in Early Years. It was a wonderful way to end the year!

Well done everyone!





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Prize Giving



The annual Speech Day and Prize Giving was held on Wednesday 3 July, celebrating the many achievements and successes of the pupils throughout the year. The celebration took place in a marquee on the field which was packed with a large audience of family and friends.



The guest speaker this year was Miss Jessica Herbert, who is a former pupil of the school.

As well as prize giving, the afternoon was filled with performances from Year 1 to Year 6 pupils. The boys' choir impressed the audience with their rendition of 'Banuna', 'I'd Rather be a Sparrow than a Snail' was sung beautifully by the girls' choir, 'Big Bad Lad of the Ocean' was performed by KS1, and KS2 sang 'Doe a Deer'. There were also reports about sports, our



charity work and expressive arts read by Year 6 pupils. Each class read about a special highlight from their year which gave a fantastic overview of the entire year at Oaklands.

It was a lovely afternoon full of proud pupils, staff and parents and friends alike. **Huge congratulations to all the pupils, especially to our prize winners.**



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Year 1 Paradise Wildlife Park

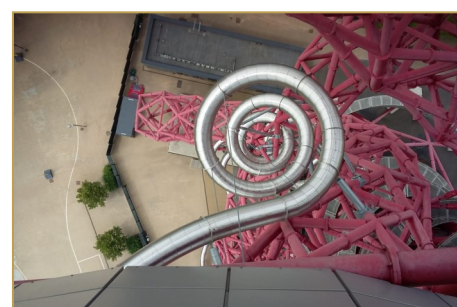
On Thursday 4 July, Year 1 visited Paradise Wildlife Park to consolidate their learning about animals. They attended a talk called 'All the Vores' where they showed off their knowledge of herbivores, carnivores and omnivores and learnt all about food chains. They then had the opportunity to see lots of animals including lions, sloths and jaguars and even dinosaurs!



ArcelorMittal Orbit trip



On Thursday the 4 July, the Year 6 children went to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in Stratford. They enjoyed the breath-taking views from the 80m high viewing platforms of the ArcelorMittal Orbit sculpture and challenged their classmates to a 40 second descent down the *world's tallest, longest and fastest tunnel slide*. This was by far the highlight of the day.



They got up close to London's landmarks with innovative and interactive touchscreens that allowed them to zoom into the view and learn more about the city. The children also identified a variety of landmarks and services linked to our History topic called 'Settlements'. The pupils learned how the area was transformed to host the London 2012 Olympic Games and what the future holds for this amazing park. In the afternoon the pupils went on a river boat cruise down the beautiful waterways, spotting the London Stadium, the Aquatics Centre, the Copper Box Arena and the Lee Valley VeloPark. This wonderful experience was definitely both educational and entertaining.

Loughton Library Assembly

On Friday 5 July, Mike from Loughton library spoke to all the children in Reception to Year 5 about the Summer Reading Scheme based on 'Space Chase' that the library is promoting during the forthcoming summer holidays.



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Sports Day

Monday 8 July saw the annual Sports Day finally arrive at Oaklands School. The weather was sunny and warm and it was a fantastic day for the children.

The children had been practising really hard over the last few weeks to make sure they were prepared going into the day's activities. Firstly, the Key Stage 1 pupils took part in running races, tennis racket and ball races and an obstacle course race. There were some really close races during the heats and congratulations to everyone who took part.



The second half of the morning saw our younger pupils take part in their races. They also took part in running races, an obstacle course race and bean bag balance race. They all did fantastically well with a few members of staff helping the little ones over the line.

After a much needed lunch break for all the staff and pupils involved, it was the turn of Key Stage 2 children to wrap up the day's activities. They took part in the same races with a few different pieces of equipment to navigate. There were again some very close calls for our judges to make and everyone competed in the right spirit. Pupils were then organised for their house relay races. Everyone gave it their all and finished the day on a high with some fantastic running displays. All the children can be so proud of their efforts.

Holly House won the KS1 Sports Day Cup and Holly House were the eventual winners in KS2.

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Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Year 6 children celebrated the end of their journey at Oaklands by hosting a fantastic leavers assembly to all the children in Oaklands as well as their parents. There were many tears and lots of laughter but we are sure that all the Year 6 children will leave Oaklands school with lots of wonderful memories to take with them on their next journey to secondary school.



Good luck to the Class of 2019!

Year 6 Mini-Fete



Year 6 children were challenged to be entrepreneurs for half a day and manage their own stall at Tuesday's Mini-fete. They did a fantastic job in planning their stall, designing posters, marketing their stalls and on the day selling their products. Reception to Year 5 were invited to support the Year 6 class and they all had a very

busy but productive afternoon. **Year 6 raised £219.77 Well done Year 6.**





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KS1 and KS2 'Wow' Assemblies

During the week beginning Monday 24 June, KS1 and KS2 held their 'Wow' assemblies. The following pupils received 'Wow' certificates in a range of subjects, including Maths, English, Art and Topic.

Well done everyone!

Class	WOW
1R	Zara, Oliver
1Z	Lucy, Stefan
2C	Chanel, Henry
2S	Henry, Ronnie
3C	Zayan, Sienna
3L	Saffiya, Maja
4C	Annabella, Millie
5G	Jack, Aadi
5Z	Inaya, Artie
6J	Whole Class

Friendly '3 Tees Cricket Festival'



On Wednesday 19 June, Year 2 pupils from Normanhurst and Oaklands took part in a friendly '3 Tees Cricket Festival' on the school field. They have been learning to play this variation of the game over the last few weeks during PE and put their skills to the test during a 'Cricket World Cup' theme.

We split the pupils into 5 teams consisting of; England, West Indies, Australia, India and New Zealand. They all played each other with each contest only being decided by a run or two showing the pleasing talent that we have across the schools. Well done to all involved!



Have a fantastic Summer.
See you in September!