



November 2020

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Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

Despite the restrictions of Covid-19, Oaklands continues to be a thriving and busy school. The children have been involved in a series of thought-provoking class and 'bubble' assemblies, voiced their opinions during lots of engaging and stimulating lessons and celebrated their achievements and progress with their peers. The children are also enjoying attending their extracurricular clubs, some of which are included in this newsletter.

We held a very successful Open Morning on Thursday 8 October and we had many new families visit us virtually to see the school in action.

I hope you enjoy reading about all the activities and learning your children have been involved in.

Kind regards

Sue Belej

Sue Belej

Girls Football

Our Girls Football club participants have been working hard on their attacking and dribbling skills during their club sessions and have particularly enjoyed playing 'wall-ball' which helps their ball control, first touch and passing ability!





NEWSLETTER

Awards

Congratulations to all the children who have been presented with an award since the last newsletter.

Class	Merit Certificates	Values	Good Behaviour	Friendship
1F	Class home learning	Zara	Bryony	Lilah
1Z	Class home learning	Aziah	Aizah	Libby
2C	Aakarsh, Arabella	Jamie	James, Zachariah	Kaitlyn, Arabella
2S	Arriana, Ashika	Scarlett	Ashika, Emilia	Ni'al, Siana
3C	Richard, Abigail	Alicia	Lina, Prabhlok	Abigail, Erin
4C	Georgia, Ava	Gabriella	Henry, Enzo	Georgia, Arjun
5Z	Sienna, India	Lilly	Jusleen, Zayan	Melveen, Alanna
5G	Cleo, Saffiyah	Olivia	Cleo, Santiago	Libby, Kristina
6C	Maya, Sophia	Millie	Konstantin, Jamie	Kaylan, Maya

Virtual Open Morning

We held our first virtual Open Morning on Thursday 8 October which was very well attended by prospective parents. We received a number of complimentary emails and phone calls after the event congratulating the school on presenting such an informative event that included Mrs Belej's speech, some of our Year 6 pupils conducting a tour of the school and our Head Boy and Head Girl talking about their years at Oaklands. The Open Morning concluded with a virtual Question and Answer session with Mrs Belej and Mrs Potts, Head of Early Years.



If you have not done so already, please do watch the different parts of the Open Morning which are available [HERE](#).



NEWSLETTER

Remembrance Day, Wednesday 11 November

To raise the children's understanding and awareness about the meaning of Remembrance Day, Year 2 to Year 6 watched and discussed a power point in their classrooms with their teachers. Besides recognising that the peace treaty to end the First World War was signed at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month of the year, the children also realised the importance of why poppies are worn on this special day.



The children and their teachers observed a 2-minute silence at 11am in their classrooms or in the playground.

Thank you for your donations, we have contributed £112 to the work of The British Legion.



Lower Kindergarten

Lower Kindergarten really enjoyed their PE lesson with Mr Paine, where they had to complete a challenging assault course in the Hall. The children listened carefully to instructions, before warming up together. Next they moved around the course sliding, crawling, climbing, jumping and balancing.



It was fantastic to see the children grow in confidence as they moved around the equipment. They were very proud of themselves when they managed to do the course by themselves. **Well done Lower Kindergarten!**



Construction Club

The children in Construction Club have worked brilliantly in their year group as a team and have taken on their weekly Lego Challenge with enthusiasm. They have been busy building their spatial abilities as they visualise and plan three-dimensional structures including houses, boats, bridges and playgrounds.

At the same time, the blocks of varying sizes and numbers provide hands-on learning for mathematics. With each structure attempted and completed, the children have become more experimental with their designs. Once something works, they've learnt or discovered new solutions to make it better! Engineers spend a lifetime doing this. Even the most brilliant invention is never finished.

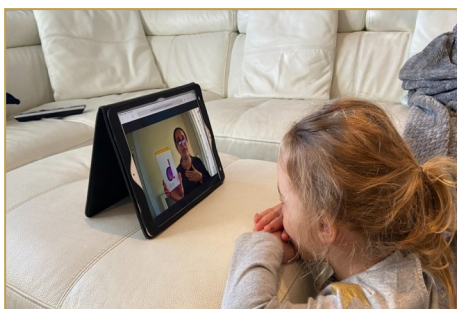




Upper Kindergarten Home Learning

We were very proud of all of Upper Kindergarten pupils' hard work during their home school learning recently. They completed a number of activities including making Diya lamps, Rangoli patterns and completing colouring in sheets to celebrate Diwali, made their own poppy paintings for Remembrance Day, created some autumn hats, completed some online activities and even made their own rockets. **Well done to everyone on a fantastic week.**

Upper Kindergarten Foxes



Upper Kindergarten Rabbits





Upper Kindergarten Home Learning Continued

Upper Kindergarten Badgers



Reception Owls

Reception Owls have enjoyed being very creative in class recently. They used paint and forks to create their own fireworks for Bonfire Night, tissue and straws to make poppies for Remembrance Day and clay to make Diya lamps for Diwali. **Well done Owls!**



Reception Robins



Reception Robins have been learning about Diwali in class. They enjoyed working together to make a big class Rangoli pattern and then moulding and decorating their own Diva lamps using clay.



Reception Woodpeckers

Reception Woodpeckers have been busy learning about festivals and celebrations; first they learnt about Firework night and made some excellent firework paintings using a cardboard stamp they had created. They also learnt that fireworks are lit to celebrate Diwali. They carefully painted their own Rangoli Pattern and made Diva Lamps using clay to reinforce their understanding of how the festival is celebrated. Look at their amazing display in their classroom, it is full of colour! Can you guess which festival they will be learning about next...?



Year 1F Maths



In Maths, 1F have been learning to multiply using counters and objects. They can now multiply groups of 2, 5 and 10!
Great work 1F!





NEWSLETTER

Year 2C Design and Technology

Year 2 started their Autumn Design and Technology project to design their own moving vehicle. 2C went on a walk to find vehicles around Oaklands and made some observational drawings of them. Back in the classroom, they labelled their sketches and used them to give for ideas for our own 3D models.



Year 2S

In PSHE, 2S have been celebrating the differences and similarities between each other. In partners they discussed why it is important that we are not all the same and came up with some really good answers! **Well done 2S.**



1Z Shields

1Z are very proud of the shields they designed and decorated linked to their topic work. They look great 1Z, **well done!**



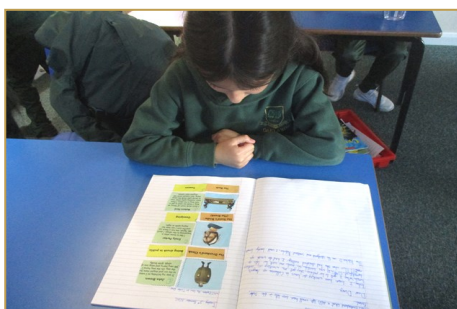


No Problem for Year 3!

Year 3 have really been enjoying completing some problem solving tasks. They have used computer based applications to challenge each other with their Maths knowledge, and even built fully functioning worlds in three dimensions! Pupils loved completing all the activities available. Who knew that building resilience and making links in learning could be so exciting?!



Year 4C Humanities



Year 4 have enjoyed looking at Tudor law, crime and punishment. For their class activity, they had to work out what some Tudor outlaws had done wrong then find and match the retrospective punishment that suited. **Super detective work 4C!**



5G Japanese Art

Year 5 are studying Japanese Art and have been focusing on Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849), one of the most successful and well-known landscape painters from nineteenth century Japan. His most famous artworks are within a series of prints entitled, 'Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji'. These images depict the mountain from a variety of different locations and in all four seasons. The Year 5's have used this as inspiration for their own interpretation of Mount Fuji in different seasons.



Year 6 English



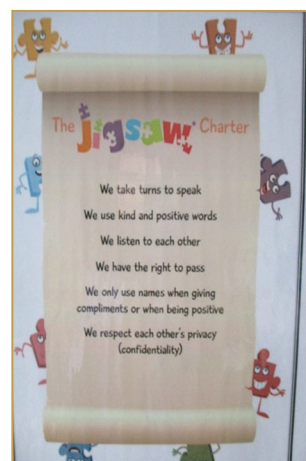
Year 6 have been learning about persuasion in English. They have held a mini debate to discuss which is better, home schooling or traditional schooling. They used all the ideas they had generated to write a balanced argument. They all had interesting points to make, especially reflecting on their own experiences during lock down!



Year 5Z PSHE

5Z have made a good start on the next Jigsaw topic for PSHE, 'Celebrating Differences'. Within this, pupils are looking at developing mindfulness through 'Calm Me' time which enables children to 'calm' their minds as well as 'Pause Points' which encourages them to 'Stop and look inside.' The children are gradually developing an awareness of their thoughts and feelings and are starting to use a range of strategies to help them deal with different situations. They are beginning to expand their emotional vocabulary so that they can express themselves more confidently.

5Z are enjoying the Jigsaw Scheme and are working hard to improve their skills within PSHE.



Reception Owls PE

Reception Owls have enjoyed participating in a number of fun activities during PE this term to practice their hand eye coordination and movement and reaction skills! This has included negotiating ladders, running fast between markers and lots of ball work.





Netball Club

During Netball Club, the girls have been taking part in a range of skills including speed pass and move as well as honing in on their shooting practice! They will no doubt be ready for matches when we hopefully can play again!



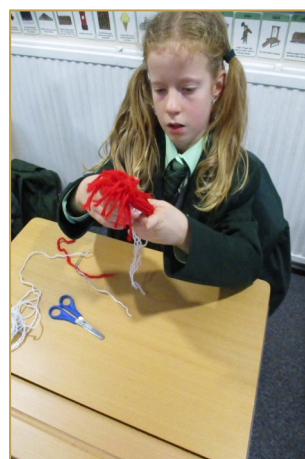
KS1 Art Club

The KS1 Art Club went hunting for fallen leaves last week and it did not take them long to collect a good variety of various shapes and shades of autumn! They used them to create their own woodland creatures, giving them googly eyes and drawing on other details such as legs, prickles, noses, and tails. They absolutely loved their leaf-creatures!



KS2 Art Club

KS2 Art Club are excited about Christmas and are starting to make decorations to trim their trees. They have been making Christmas tree decorations that look like Santa using curtain rings and wool. They cannot wait to finish so that they can start their festive celebrations!





Strategy Board Games Club



Pupils are enjoying attending Strategy Board Games club after school. They have particularly enjoyed chess, Chinese chequers, Uno, draughts and Ludo. Although there can be many rules to learn in the beginning, the sense of achievement is always worth the effort.



Reception Wild Woods



Reception enjoyed exploring colour mixing while making spooky potions in the Wild Woods. They also added natural resources to

their potions to observe the effects. Watch out, some of the children's potions turned the teachers into frogs!

Key Stage 1 also enjoyed making potions in their club session!



Year 6 11+ Mock exams

On 14 and 15 of October, Year 6 sat their first set of mock examinations for the 11+ entrance examinations. It was very strange to be sat at individual desks in the hall, but the children soon got used to the new environment and settled down to the task at hand.

Year 6 are working hard to prepare for the real examinations in January and February. The children are entering exams at a wide range of schools including Bancrofts, Forest, Chigwell, Brentwood, St Edmunds, Braeside and Normanhurst. Year 6 will sit a further set of mocks in December as a final practice. We wish them lots of luck and success as they finish their 11+ journey.





Cookery Club



During Cookery Club, pupils worked hard to mix and stir ingredients to make some delicious chocolate chip cookies. Pupils had lots of fun but said tasting the cookies was the best bit!



Wild Woods Club

KS1 pupils who attend the Wild Woods Club have created their own fairy gardens complete with fairies, goblins, trolls and mandrakes (from Harry Potter)! The children planted the flowers and added the woodchip to the garden too.



Fantastic creations!



Lower Kindergarten Art and Music

Lower Kindergarten have been enjoying their music lessons with Mrs Rathbone. They had lots of fun learning new songs and playing their shakers in time to the music! They have also enjoyed their messy play activities in class.





NEWSLETTER

2C PE

2C have been experimenting with different ways to move during gymnastics. The lesson was made even more fun with the colourful, spotty outfits for Children in Need!



Year 5 PE

Pupils from Year 5 took part in a mini Oak-Tree football and netball challenge. They had to skilfully complete a number of difficult activities.



Getting Social





3C PE



Pupils from 3C have been learning plenty of new skills during football lessons and have been so impressive when practicing keepy-uppies with the ball!



Oak-Tree Challenge

A number of highly delighted and proud pupils were presented by Mrs Belej with their Bronze or Silver award for completing their Oak-Tree Challenges for 2019-2020. Due to our enforced Covid-19 lockdown in the summer term, we extended the time available for the 'challenges' to be completed until October half term.

Congratulations everyone!

Bronze:



5G

Santiago, Kristina, Zavier, Cleo, Libby, Olivia, Sophia, Maja



5Z

Jusleen, Annabel, Sienna, Holly, Tyran, Dylan, Ethan, Melveen, India

Silver:

6C

Riana, Millie, Keira, Jamie, Maya, Ava, Oliver





NEWSLETTER

Children in Need

On Friday 13 November, Oaklands supported 'Children in Need', a charity that helps to ensure that every child in the UK is safe, happy, secure and has the opportunities they need to reach their potential. Pupils had the opportunity to dress up and each donated £1. Together, we made it possible to change the lives of children and young people all over the UK. Thank you to all the parents for their generous donations!



Learning Platforms

We have recently introduced two new learning platform to students, which they can use both at home and at school. Year 1 worked hard to learn how to use and then complete tasks on an online homework platform called Seesaw, whilst Year 4 explored EducationCity during their computing lessons.

