



Oaklands School

6-8 Albion Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4RA

Tel: 020 8508 3517

HEADMISTRESS

Mrs Sue Belej B.A. (JNT HONS), CERT.ED.

E-mail: info@oaklandsschool.co.uk

Website: www.oaklandsschool.co.uk

Friday 28 May 2021

Dear Parents

Re: May 2021 Headmistress's Letter

It is such a pleasure to be able to write a Head's letter that will include invitations to parents to attend some forthcoming events on the school site for the first time in over a year. The most recent Government relaxing of Covid-19 restrictions, effective from Monday 17 May, has enabled us to start planning an End of Year Celebration Assembly for each age group or class and a Sports Day for each Key Stage. Please find details of dates and times for these events for your child or children later in this letter.

Class Photographs

On Friday 14 May, class photographs were taken of the children with their class teacher and teaching assistant by Gem Photography. The children all looked very smart in their summer school uniform. Please place your order online by Wednesday 8 June.

OPA

The OPA are currently organising the 'Summer Raffle'. Thank you to those parents who have already donated an unwanted birthday or Christmas gift, a bottle of wine or champagne, or a voucher of some kind. The OPA would still be very grateful to receive other donations; these should be delivered to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

'Sharing Experience'

During this half-term, we normally timetable a series of 'Drop-in' sessions for each of the KS1 and KS2 classes which take place first thing in the morning, 8.30-8.50am.

The main aim of the 'Drop-in' session is to give your child the opportunity to show you some of their work books and to explain what they have been doing and achieving. As you will appreciate, we have been unable to facilitate these sessions.

Instead, children in Y1 to Y6 have, at regular intervals, been bringing home one of their workbooks to share their classwork with you. Thank you for writing such positive comments on the stickers for your child to read and treasure.

Upper Kindergarten and Reception have also enjoyed joining in with this new venture by taking home their Topic workbooks to share with their parents over a weekend.

InCas Assessments

From Monday 17 May to Wednesday 26 May, pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 will be taking their annual InCas assessment tests. These are online tests so the pupils will go to the Computing suite. The children will be tested in mental maths, general maths, reading and spelling. The results of these InCas assessments will appear on your child's end of summer term report.

'Pupil Spotlight Feature'

The Oak-Tree Marketing department has initiated a new 'pupil spotlight feature' that will appear on our website and social channels.

Each month, a pupil from each Oak-Tree school will be picked to have a small article written about them. It might be about a pupil who does something interesting out of school or in school, is particularly passionate about something, or who the Headmistress feels deserves to be 'in the spotlight'.

The first pupils in the Oaklands School 'spotlight feature' are the three sisters, who all did something very special and heart-warming for charity. Do access the link below to read all about it:

<http://www.oaklandsschool.co.uk/2021/05/13/sisters-donate-hair-for-the-little-princess-trust/>

Parking Reminder

As you are aware, we regularly send out letters about parking in the vicinity of the school. Over the last few months, I have received an increasing number of emails and calls from residents in Albion Hill.

I would like to take this opportunity to repeat my main requests made in my last parking letter on 11 May 2021:

- Do not park across, or obstruct in any way, the driveways of our neighbours when dropping or collecting your children.
- Consider the safety of all of our children when parking.
- Refrain from using abusive language towards residents and other drivers.
- Use our internal car park in Warren Hill as much as possible.

It has been useful to receive feedback from some parents in response to my letter. One of the main observations shared with me is the lack of spaces available for cars at the 3.15pm and 3.30pm collection times. Could I please ask parents of children in the Lower/Upper Kindergartens and Reception who use the car park for their 3pm pick up time to leave the school site as quickly as possible to free up more spaces in the car park.

Please note that the grass areas in the car park should not be used as 'play areas' for the children at the end of the school day, especially as parents of older children are currently using the grass to park on at peak times.

Year 6 Activity Week

In their final year at Oaklands, Year 6 pupils have historically enjoyed a 5-day residential activity week at a PGL Centre, usually during the first half of the summer term. Unfortunately, we have been unable to facilitate this trip due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

We are, however, determined to provide the children with a memorable outdoor-based activity experience before they leave Oaklands. To fulfil this aim, from Monday 28 June to Friday 2 July, Year 6 pupils will be participating in a fun-filled Activity Week based on our second field, with visits to local venues during the week.

Each day will run from 8.30am to approximately 4.30pm. Tents will be erected on the second field so the children can sit and chat with their friends as they would if they were in their rooms at PGL. Visits to the Wild Forest Obstacle Course at Brentwood, Loughton Cricket Club, The Avenue Tennis Club, Loughton and the Lee Valley Centre have been organised.

The children will also be involved in numerous team building activities such as Robot Wars, Splash, Overflow, Photo Booth Challenge and volleyball and basketball championships. On the last day, we are planning a camp fire with an outdoor disco and pizza takeaway!

I am sure that the children will have a fantastic week with their teachers; let's hope the sun shines for them too!

Swimming

Since our return to school after the Easter holidays, pupils in Year 3 and Year 6 have really enjoyed their weekly swimming lessons with Mrs Stringer, our swimming coach, and Mr Paine.

After half term, Year 4 and Year 6 will be going swimming on Wednesdays until the end of the Summer Term.

End-of-Year Events

Celebratory Class Assemblies

Although our traditional Speech Day in the marquee on the field is unable to go ahead this year, from Monday 21 June to Wednesday 30 June there will be a series of smaller Celebratory Class Assemblies to give the children the opportunity to perform and celebrate their achievements over the course of the year.

We are aiming for parents to attend these Celebrations of the Year, but of course this will depend on the Department for Education's clearance in conjunction with the government's final exit from lockdown planned on 21 June 2021.

The events will be held in our school hall at the following times:

DAY	CLASS/YEAR GROUP	TIME
Mon 21 June	Year 2S	9.00am
	Upper Kindergarten 1	10.30am
	Year 3C	2.00pm
Tues 22 June	Year 2C	9.00am
	Upper Kindergarten 2	10.30am
	Year 1F	2.00pm
Wed 23 June	Upper Kindergarten 3	10.30am
Thurs 24 June	Year 5G/Z	9.00am
	Lower Kindergarten 1	10.30am
	Reception Owls	2.00pm
Mon 28 June	Year 4C	9.00am
	Lower Kindergarten 2	10.30am
	Reception Robins	2.00pm
Tues 29 June	Reception Woodpeckers	2.00pm
Wed 30 June	Year 1Z	10.30am

As there are two assemblies timetabled for Lower Kindergarten and three for Upper Kindergarten, parents will be informed before the half term break which performance they are invited to attend.

Please make a note of the day and time of your child/ren's Celebration of the Year. I will write again with further details after half term once we know that parents are allowed to attend. The Oak-Tree marketing team will be present at each of the events and they will share photographs and video footage with you afterwards.

Sports Day

Sports Day 2021 is planned for **Tuesday 6 July**. Again, we are aiming for parents to attend so we are hoping that the weather will be kind to us as I appreciate that many of you will take time off from work to come to watch and support your child/ren.

I will write again with full details in due course, but in the meantime as we are planning to keep bubbling the children please note the following times:

- Year 1 and Year 2: 9am to 10.20am
- LK, UK, Reception: 10.40am to 12.15pm
- Years 3-6: 1.40pm to 3.20pm

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Although we are unable to hold our usual Year 5 and 6 musical production at Lopping Hall, or our Prize Giving event at the end of the Summer Term, we feel that it would be shame not to celebrate our class of Year 6 children who will be leaving Oaklands after many years with us.

For the second consecutive year, we have therefore decided to hold a special event under the Oak-Tree on the main school field so that we can hopefully invite parents and ensure we are following any Covid-19 Government guidelines that may still be in place in early July.

We plan to hold the Year 6 Leavers Assembly on Thursday 8 July at 6.15pm on the school field. A more formal invitation with details of the evening will be sent out to Year 6 parents nearer the time.

Forthcoming Summer Term Events

The following list provides an update of events planned for this term:

Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June **Half Term holiday**

Monday 14 June	Y5 Parent Consultation Meetings 3.45-6.00pm
Thursday 17 June	Y5 Parent Consultation Meetings 3.45-6.00pm
Friday 18 June	Y5 Virtual Taster Morning with Brentwood School
Monday 5 July	Y3 Camp Meeting 3.30pm
Tuesday 6 July	Whole School Sports Day (LK -Y6)
Thursday 8 July	Y6 Leavers Assembly 6.15pm
Friday 9 July	Last day of term for pupils (half day)

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

Sue Belej

Sue Belej
Headmistress



OAK-TREE SCHOOLS is the group name of:

BRAESIDE SCHOOL, BUCKHURST HILL • COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL, EPPING • NORMANHURST SCHOOL, NORTH CHINGFORD • OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LOUGHTON

HEAD OFFICE ADDRESS: 6 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

GROUP MANAGING PRINCIPAL & DIRECTOR: MR MATTHEW HAGGER B.A. (HONS), M.ED., PGCE CO-DIRECTORS: MR NICHOLAS HAGGER M.A. (OXON), MRS ANN HAGGER CERT. ED.

Oaklands School is the trading name of Oaklands School Ltd; registered in England at 6 Albion Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4RA; company number 3654053

