Oaklands School NEWSLETTER

July 2021

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Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

Since the last newsletter, the sun has continued to try to shine as much as possible, in between the inevitable summer rain showers. As the Summer Term gained momentum, the children became increasingly excited about the prospect of performing in front of their parents for the first time in over a year in their Celebratory End of Year Assembly. The confidence, speaking and singing ability of the children as they practiced and performed never ceases to amaze and delight me.

The children have also been busy in all areas of the school and have produced some fantastic work. You can read more details about this work and events, such as the creative Maths Fair organised by Year 5, the Year 6 Leaver's Assembly and of course, Sports Day in this newsletter.

Finally, may I wish you all a very happy summer holiday and a very restful and relaxing break. To all our leavers, good luck in your new schools and indeed for the future. Do come back and see us!

The Autumn Term starts on Monday 6 September.

Sue Belej

Headmistress

PLURIBUS UNUM

Lower Kindergarten Butterflies

The children in Lower Kindergarten have learnt all about the lifecycle of a butterfly and to reinforce this concept, they watched our real caterpillars get bigger each day. They were amazed to see the cocoons in the cup and after the half term break, came back to see five beautiful butterflies flying around the nest. We then had to say goodbye to the butterflies, it was lovely to see the children's faces as the butterflies flew off into the sky!





LK Transport

Lower Kindergarten have also been learning about 'Transport'. Andy, one of the maintenance team, very kindly showed the children the different parts of the bus including the engine, oil, water, window wipers and headlights. Each child was then allowed to sit in the driver's seat and pretend to drive the bus by turning the steering wheel and move the gear stick. It was a great opportunity for the children to learn new vocabulary and how parts of a vehicle work.





WOW Certificates

Since the last newsletter, the following pupils have been presented with a **WOW** Certificate.

Well done everyone!

Class	WOW Certificate
1F	Eashan, Anami
1Z	Isaac, Theo
2C	Rufus, Arabella
25	Siana, Scarlett
3C	Max, Teddy
4C	Ava, Rafaella
5G	Cleo, Joah
5Z	Sienna, Alanna,
6C	Zaid, Millie

LK Toy Cars

The children were provided with sponges, cloths and a bucket of soapy water to clean our big toy cars. The children were excited to put on their waterproof onesies and used big movements to wash and wipe the vehicles.





Upper Kindergarten

Upper Kindergarten have been learning all about growing. They all had lots of fun making their 'Grass Heads'. The children were very excited watching them grow.





Upper Kindergarten made some lovely cards and pictures for all the residents of Mellows Care Home to remind them we are thinking of them.

The children explored which foods have seeds. Using a variety of different fruit and vegetables the children investigated to see which ones have seeds in. They worked together to predict where the seeds are and which fruit or vegetable has the most seeds.



Cookery Club

In KS2 Cookery Club we had fun baking, icing and decorating cupcakes. Delicious!



Good Behaviour Certificates

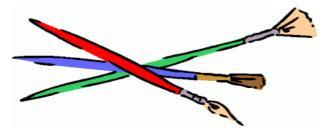
Since the last newsletter, the following pupils have been presented with a **Good Behaviour** certificate.

Well done everyone!

Class	Good Behaviour Certificate
1F	Aria, Emily, Eashan
1Z	David, Arabella, Amelia
2C	Winnie, Archie, Kaitlyn
25	Isabella, Aaryan, Siana
3C	Gisele, Ethan, Alicia
4C	Gabriella, Henry, George
5G	Libby, Maja, Samrit
5Z	Annabel, Sienna, Ethan
6C	Aanya, Oliver, Natalia

KS2 Art Club

We studied the work of Piet Mondrian and the children designed their own abstract art using the primary colours.





Reception Woodpeckers

Woodpeckers have been learning about keeping their bodies healthy in our PSE Jigsaw lessons. The children sorted and discussed why some foods were healthy/unhealthy and the importance of a balanced diet. Some of the children chose to create a healthy meal using playdoh; they used techniques such as rolling, squashing and nipping to represent the foods.



Friendship Certificates

Since the last newsletter, the following pupils have been presented with a Friendship certificate.

Well done everyone!

Class	Friendship Certificate
1F	Summer, Rufus, Zara
1Z	Aizah, Thiaan, Louis
2C	Denzel, James
25	Evie, Jude, Scarlet
3C	Zara, Richard, Ozlem
4C	George, Anastasia, Enzo
5G	Sophia, Olivia, Saffiyah
5Z	Tyran, Ethan, Lilly
6C	Konstantin, Aanya

Strategy Board Games Club

Children continue to enjoy Strategy Board Games. They are particularly focussed on chess and the latest editions of Shut the Box, Battleships and Speed Monopoly. Good sportsmanship abounds while games such as Battleships help to support the children's understanding of coordinates. A win-win!



Wild Woods

In Wild Woods we have been learning about positional language in the woods by playing hide and seek! They also explored how they could move their shadows and used words such as 'next to, beside, in front and behind'.





Reception Owls

The Owls are often fascinated by the strange colours of the drinks that Ms Refalo brings to school. She explained that they were fruit smoothies. The children were all keen to try them so Ms Refalo kindly brought in a selection of fruits and a blender. The children tasted a number of combinations and everyone found at least one smoothie that they really liked.

THANK YOU Ms Refalo for this lovely experience.



Merit Certificates

Since the last newsletter, the following pupils have been presented with a **Merit Certificate. Well done everyone!**

Class	Merit
1F	Ella, Edeline, Raphael, Evie, Louis, Safaa
1Z	Jimmy, Gisele, Alyssia, Libby, Kayla, Victoria
2C	Archie, Zachariah, Annabelle, Archie, Winnie, James
25	Alex, Kasie, Isabella, Ariana, Emilia, Ashika
3C	Prabhlok, Ozlem, Lucy, Alicia, Teddy, Max
4C	Betsy, Arjun, Enzo, Henry, Darcey, Ava
5G	Saffiyah, Zavier, Santi, Libby, Tyran, India
5Z	Ethan, Jusleen, Zayan, Melveen, Kristina, Olivia
6C	Kaylan, Belle, Zaid, Natalia Whole class merit



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Year 1Z

"In our science lessons, we have been learning all about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. We had lots of fun investigating some animal dung in order to identify which kind of animal it would have belonged to!"



Year 1F

1F have been learning all about stories from other cultures! We love the 'Tinga Tinga Tales' and have been creating a story map of one of our favourites; 'Why Elephant Has a Trunk!' This will help us to create our own tale based on an animal of our choice, all ready for our final piece of writing in Year 1. We are so proud of our work!



Year 2C Humanities Lesson

2C were lucky enough to have Miss Dee come and visit them during their Humanities lesson. We have been learning about the seven continents and its countries as part of our Topic and this week it was Africa week! Miss Dee was able to give us an insight into what it was like to live in South Africa, what food they eat, what clothes they wear and what wildlife lives there. We learnt how to say some words in Afrikaans and what all the different colours on the flag represent. The children were fascinated and all had interesting questions to ask Miss Dee.





Year 2S

2S have really enjoyed writing their own poems in the shape of an animal. We had lots of interesting animals including rabbits and elephants and the children were even able to make some of their poems rhyme.

Great work 2S!



Weekly Assemblies

The children have been captivated by the recent topics presented in our assembly programme. They were taken on a journey through the solar system by Mrs Georgiou on National Space Day, were able to increase their knowledge about the 5 Pillars of Islam in the assembly taken by Ms Zaidi and Mrs Ahmed, and celebrated World Baking Day with Miss Dee by sending photographs of their cooking delights for publishing on the website.

Near the end of May, Mrs Belej raised the children's awareness of how endangered bees and turtles are on World Bee Day and World Turtle Day. The children were very interested to find out that bees are the biggest pollinators on the planet!

On our return after half term, Miss Dee presented an assembly about National Fish and Chip Day, one of our truly British meals, together with World Milk Day. All the children understand the importance of drinking some milk as part of their balanced diet.

Our 'Special Person' assembly this term was about our current Queen Elizabeth. We think some of the children were a little jealous to discover that she has two birthdays, but were spellbound by the videos of 'Trooping the Colour', which marks the official celebration of the Queen's birthday on the second Saturday in June every year. Father's Day was celebrated and discussed on 21 June, closely followed by the children being enthralled by the life and work of Helen Keller to complete the assembly programme.

Year 3C Certificates and Pen Licences

On Monday 14 June, Year 3C enjoyed their morning assembly as certificates and pen license's were awarded. The pen license's were granted because handwriting had reached a high standard; exemplifying the joined, cursive form we teach. Other children had earned Good Behavior and Friendship certificates. Well done!



Year 5 Maths Fayre

'On 11 June, Year 5's held a Maths Fayre for all of KS2. They prepared differentiated questions and challenges for the different year groups. The children were treated to a spectacular selection of stalls from mass and capacity challenges to a treasure hunt with co -ordinates, from algebraic maths magic to a sweet shop with money problems, an escape the room and even DJ maths! Lots of fun was had by all!'



Y6 Leavers Assembly Preparation

Year 6 have been preparing for their Leavers Assembly and mini production. We are super excited.

Watch this space!









Y6 Outdoor Maths

For some of this term we took Maths outdoors. Pupils were given the task to discover different angles in all shapes and forms hidden around our school. They had to find obtuse, reflex, acute and right angles.

The children could not believe their eyes when they discovered all the concealed angles around them. They took pictures of the different angles

and were challenged to estimate the size of the angle before accurately measuring it by applying their ICT skills.

Well done Year 6. You have worked well as a team. What a wonderful way to learn and explore.



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Year 4C Design Technology

In DT, Year 4 have been looking at healthy foods and drinks. In this lesson, pupils were looking at how much sugar is in a healthy smoothie drink in comparison to a fizzy drink and an energy drink. They also watched a video comparing the amount of sugar that is in a bottle of Coca Cola and Coca Cola Zero; the children were astonished at the results!







Y5 Brentwood Taster Morning

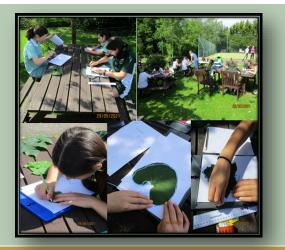
Year 5 had a brilliant morning attending the virtual Brentwood Taster morning.

Year 5 started looking at the nature of existence and knowledge within an RE & Philosophy session and gave wonderful responses. They found the Physics experiments on magnetic fields fascinating and made some great predictions too. The children enjoyed a computer science session programming a microbit. Following this, they learnt about the origins of the Latin language and were enthralled that they could translate the Latin spells from the Harry Potter books!

Y5Z Design Technology

5Z have been busy making cushions in Design Technology. The children have been developing their concentration and hand-eye coordination, which also helps with cognitive development and the development of motor skills. They have enjoyed practicing different sewing techniques and exploring a variety of fabrics and patterns. Their handmade cushions are original in design and come in all shapes and sizes. The pupils have been very creative and have produced amazing cushions which they can enjoy during the Summer holiday.





Y6 Area and Perimeter of Leaves

On Tuesday 8 June, pupils were given the task to work out the perimeter and area of different leaves around the school. After collecting a variety of leaves, they traced the leaves on to squared paper. To work out the area, they carefully counted the whole and half squares inside the drawn image and added them together. For the perimeter, they used string and traced the outline of the leaf from beginning to end.

Pupils finally measured the length of the string to calculate the perimeter. Well done Year 6 for your hard work.

Quadletics Athletics

On Wednesday 23 June, pupils from Year 6 took part in the Quadletics Athletics competition at Ashton Playing Fields. It was fantastic to allow the children to compete against other schools in an amazing environment. The boys and girls performed superbly on a hot, sunny day and can be proud of their efforts. They participated in the long jump, Vortex throw, 75M and 600M, displaying wonderful athletic ability. Special mention must go to Belle who came 1st in both the long jump and the 75M.

Well done team!!





Oak-Tree Netball and Football Tournament

On Tuesday 22 June, Coopersale Hall School hosted a Year 6 Oak-Tree Football and Netball tournament with all 4 Oak-Tree schools taking part. It was great to finally get out and play some sport and the children thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon's activities. Thank you to Mr Robinson and Miss Lane for putting on the event, and the boys and girls especially loved the rocket lollies at the end.





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Y3C Mosaics and Erupting volcanoes

Year 3 researched Roman Mosaics before using ceramic tesserae to produce their own coasters.

The intricate designs took a great deal of patience to create and the grout we used will hopefully ensure the mosaics stand the test of time.

Our recent topic also afforded an opportunity to explore the different types of volcanoes that exist around the world, why it is they form and how they function. Some members of Year 3 chose to construct their own 3D volcano models which they erupted in the school grounds. You will be pleased to hear that we took all necessary precautions and no children or animals were harmed by lava flows.





Year 1 Computing

In Year 1 the children have been working hard to learn all about coding. They first learnt to code using simple symbols to program each other around the playground.

The children then used these symbols and instructions to program a screen robot to deliver parcels. The children enjoyed completing all the levels to the program! Year 1 are Super coders!



OPA Summer Raffle

The OPA Summer Raffle was well supported by all the children and parents of the school. A huge number of raffle tickets were sold and there was great excitement in the school on the day of the draw.

The first prize, a Polaroid i-Type Instant camera was won by Aria in Year 1F.

Other prizes, such as a toy remote racing Porsche 911RSR car, a day in a beach hut in Walton-on-the-Naze, wine, boxes of chocolates, spa, yoga, birthday cake vouchers, baskets of children's goodies, jigsaws and children's toys were won by various children throughout the school.

Congratulations to all our raffle winners and thank you so much for your support!



Y6 Activity Week

On one of the afternoons in their Activity Week, Year 6 had to work in teams building their very own box robots.









Year 6 had a brilliant day at Wild Forest! They were covered in mud from head to toe! The staff joined in as well. This was a great start to a wonderful week!







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Y6 Activity Week

Shoe hurling, building a shoe tower and overflow! We enjoyed these team building activities!







Water Sports Day

What a brilliant day for water sports and capture the flag! Even the teachers joined in.











Celebratory End of Year Assemblies

The British weather decided to misbehave once again resulting in a few of the End of Year Assemblies having to be re-scheduled. The children and teachers coped admirably with the change of dates and everyone performed superbly. We were very proud of all the children, from our EYFS children who, in some cases, experienced a live audience for the first time, to our older pupils who were incredibly eager to say their lines and sing the songs with enthusiastic gusto. Well done to all our performers!

















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