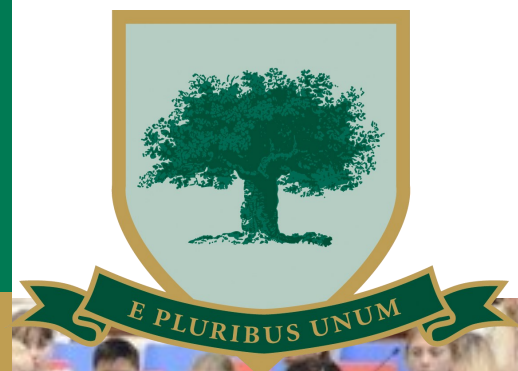


NEWSLETTER



December 2021



| Item | Page |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Headmistress's Message | 1 |
| Certificate Awards | 2 |
| Anti-Bully Assembly | 2 |
| Readathan | 3 |
| Lower Kindergarten P.E..... | 4 |
| Upper Kindergarten Reindeer Food..... | 4 |
| Lower Kindergarten Assembly..... | 5 |
| Festive Feet | 5 |
| Lower Kindergarten Physical Development | 6 |
| Lower Kindergarten catching skills..... | 6 |
| Reception Woodpeckers..... | 6 |
| Upper Kindergarten Christmas Production | 7 |
| KS1 Art Club..... | 7 |
| Reception Robins..... | 8 |
| Reception Owls..... | 8 |
| Reception Cookery | 8 |
| Reception play to parents | 9 |
| Y1F P.E..... | 10 |
| Y1C Gift Wrapping Skills | 10 |
| Eco Council | 10 |
| Y1-Y6 Oaklands Carol Service | 11 |
| Festive Football | 11 |
| Y2Z Maths..... | 12 |
| Y2S Crackers | 12 |
| Y2 Messages to Father Christmas..... | 12 |
| ISA Swimming Gala..... | 13 |
| Indoor Football Bonanza | 13 |
| Year 3C Chocolate Production..... | 14 |
| Year 4C Poetry..... | 14 |
| Year 5 Victorian Workshop..... | 15 |
| Year 6 English Drama..... | 15 |
| Year 6 Pen Pals in France..... | 15 |
| Year 5 Indoor Athletics | 16 |
| Year 6 English SPaG Lesson | 16 |
| Year 6 Maths Murals | 17 |
| West Essex U11's Tag-Rugby | 17 |
| Year 6 ISA North Indoor Athletics..... | 18 |
| Christmas Jumper Morning | 18 |
| Year 6 Post Boxes | 19 |

Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

We have had an extremely busy and enjoyable end to a very successful Autumn Term. During the last few weeks all the children have performed in front of an audience and I have once again been amazed by their confidence, enthusiasm and ability to learn and remember dance movements, stage directions, dramatic interpretation, songs and their lines. Well done!

My thanks go to the wonderful staff at Oaklands, without whom none of this would be possible, and you, the parents, for your support and encouragement. It was lovely to have so many parents and friends join us at each of the events.

My thanks also go to the generosity of the OPA, who continue to work tirelessly to ensure that all the children have a super Christmas; Christmas parties, pantos, and of course, presents from Father Christmas. Members of the committee and class representatives also volunteered their time to help with the OPA disco for Y3 –Y5 children on Friday 10 December. Thank you very much for the support you give the school.

As we break for the holidays, I wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas and my best wishes for the New Year. I look forward to welcoming you back to School on Thursday 6 January 2022.

Sue Belej

KS1 and KS2 Merit Certificates, Good Behaviour and Friendship

Congratulations to all the children who have been presented with either a Merit, Good Behaviour, Friendship or Wow award since the last newsletter.

| Class | Merit Certificate | Good Behaviour | Friendship |
|-------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1C | Sienna, Lennox | Lily, Lennox | Ethan, Naavya |
| 1F | Harry, Aameena | Rabani, Isla | Siame, Sartaj |
| 2S | Louis, Alyssia | Amelia, Isla | Eddie, Victoria |
| 2Z | Emily, Eashan | Lilah, Evie | Mila, Zara |
| 3C | Winnie, Jude | Kasie, Arabella | Alicia, Ni'al |
| 4C | Lucy, Lina | Millie, Zara | Isabella, Abigail |
| 5Z | George, Anastasia | Rafaella, Reggie | Arjun, Henry |
| 6C | Annabel, India | Holly, Tyran | Lilly, Sienna |
| 6G | Kristina, Cleo | Olivia, Libby | Maja, Savier |

Anti-Bullying Assembly

The theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2021 was 'One Kind Word' and was closely linked to our Jigsaw Scheme this half term. 5Z worked hard on drama sketches which were performed in our school assembly. They showed pupils how they could all set a positive example by respecting each other at school, in their homes and communities. Children were encouraged to celebrate differences and take the opportunity to think and reflect more often. Working together as a team, we hope to create a happy environment for everyone



Readathon

The children in Key Stages 1 and 2 have been exploring a wide range of reading material as part of the Oaklands School Readathon. Pupils took pleasure in sharing books, visiting the library and developing their reading skills. The older pupils particularly enjoyed reading to small groups of younger children within class time as well as during break time.



Work hard, play hard for Y6 Indoor Athletics!

Year 6 pupils have worked so hard over the last twelve weeks on indoor athletics activities. Mr Paine organised the pupils to take part in a Beep test to measure their speed endurance. They were fantastic and put every ounce of effort into it. Once they had all recovered, they played an exciting game of dodgeball to finish the year off with a big smile.



We would like to thank everyone who participated in the Readathon and are delighted to announce that we raised £561.00 for Crisis, the national charity for the homeless.

Lower Kindergarten P.E

Lower Kindergarten had great fun during P.E. They all listened and followed the directions given by Mr Paine. They demonstrated good control and body tension and enjoyed travelling and balancing on the different apparatus.



Upper Kindergarten Make Magical Reindeer Food

During a Wild Woods session, the children were amazed to hear that Miss Collins had received a phone call from Santa! He was wondering if the children in Upper Kindergarten could help to make the reindeer's magical food to help them fly on Christmas Eve. Santa had given the teachers all the ingredients they would need and told them that they must work together to create the food. The children loved exploring and mixing the different ingredients, which included shaving foam, oats, feathers, glitter and flour. When they had finished creating the magical food, the children had to leave it in the Wild Woods for the elves to collect. It was lovely to see all the children work together as a team and use their imagination to create their reindeer food.



Lower Kindergarten Assembly to parents

The children in Lower Kindergarten learnt the words to new songs and sang them during their first assembly. The children all sang beautifully and should be very proud of themselves. Well done children!



Festive Feet

Lower Kindergarten, Upper Kindergarten and Reception had lots of fun when they took part in our sponsored 'Festive Feet Funday' to raise funds for Haven House.

The children and staff had fun walking the 'cat walk' showing off their jazzy feet. They then participated in a 15/20 minute Danceathon where the children impressed us with their amazing dance moves!

A HUGE thank you in advance for your generous sponsor monies.



Lower Kindergarten Physical Development

For physical development, the children coloured in a gingerbread man and then used their finger muscles to thread the wool through the holes in their gingerbread man. The children did very well during this activity.



Lower Kindergarten catching skills

Lower Kindergarten have been practicing their throwing and catching skills during their P.E lessons. To reinforce this the children had to get the snowballs into the snow man's mouth and tummy. They had lots of fun!



Reception Woodpeckers

Woodpeckers have enjoyed the festive time at school. On Monday 10 December, they danced all afternoon during their party and then enjoyed showing their fancy Christmas jumpers to their friends on the last day of term.



Upper Kindergarten Christmas Production

The children in Upper Kindergarten performed their Christmas Production to parents at the end of term. They showed great confidence, sang beautifully and remembered their individual lines. The show explored the true meaning of Christmas as well as singing familiar songs such as 'Santa Got Stuck up the Chimney' and 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas'. Everyone was so proud of their wonderful performance! Well done Upper Kindergarten!



KS1 Art Club

Art Club had great fun with Christmas Party Games in the last session of the year. Two teams competed to create the best dressed snowman and had a race against time to see which team member could shake the most 'snowballs' out of the box on their back without using their hands! As you can imagine, things got extremely exciting but Theo's team just pipped Emily's team to the post!



Reception Robins

Robin class have been learning all about 'o'clock' times, they had fun making 'o'clock' times together in class and playing 'What's the Time Mr Wolf?'.



Reception Owls

Owls had a fantastic time at the Reception Christmas Party with Crazy Legs, the party entertainer.

There was lots of dancing, giggles, bubbles and fun had by all. Even Miss Francis and Mrs Potts became part of the show!

A big THANK YOU to the OPA from the Early Years children for our special Christmas treats.



Reception Cookery

Reception mashed chickpeas, chopped cucumber and did a lot of mixing to make hummus and tzatziki which they ate with pitta bread. Delicious!



Reception Christmas Show 2021

Reception rehearsed hard to learn their lines, songs and dances for their Christmas show. Performing on the stage was new for most children but they all rose to the challenge and looked so confident.

Acts ranged from The 12 Days of Christmas according to Woodpeckers, a Robin rap and dancing to 'Magic Happens from a Disney Parade'. The children looked fantastic in their simplistic costume of black bottoms and a Christmas jumper.

Each child performed brilliantly and, from the wonderful comments from parents, we know parents thoroughly enjoyed seeing the children up on the stage.



Y1F P.E

1F had so much fun in PE this month! They played the 'popcorn' game in which half the class were the popcorn 'poppers' and the other half were the popcorn catchers. The children love being active in Year 1F and getting their hearts racing. They are learning about how to stay healthy through exercise and then how to use 'calm me' time after busy activities to relax again.



Y1C Gift Wrapping Skills

1C have been getting in the festive spirit practicing their gift wrapping skills! Not only was it a great team-building activity, but also good fine-motor skills practice, plus they had to work everything out independently. It kept them very busy and some of the children even started designing their own gift tags using scrap paper!



Eco-Council

As part of The Action Pack Recycling Challenge, the Eco-Council successfully completed tasks to raise awareness of recycling at school and at home. This included eye-catching posters and a short film using recycled materials.

Key Stages 1 and 2 were impressed by the movie premiere of *A Tale of Two Bottles* in our school assembly. The children worked collaboratively to create a fantastic eco-movie which the whole school thoroughly enjoyed watching. You can watch this on the school website.

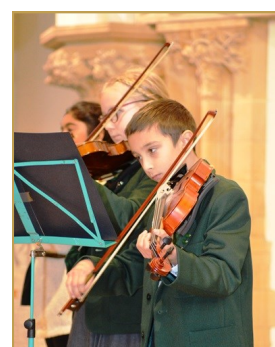


Y1-Y6 Oaklands Carol Service

On Wednesday 8 December, for the first time in two years, the children from Years 1-6 were able to take part in their annual Carol Service at St Mary's Church, Loughton.

The ancient story was told through traditional bible readings and acted out by the Year 6 pupils. Parents and family were treated to a wide selection of Christmas carols and songs, from the bold 'Torches, Torches' by Jean Joubert to the ever popular 'Feliz Navidad' and a cheeky song by KS1 about the noisy animals in the stable.

The orchestra was also able to perform for the first time in two years and gave an atmospheric performance of 'We Three Kings'. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to gather together at last and sing their hearts out! Well done to all.



**A collection of £383.82 for Mill Grove Family Centre was taken at the end of the service.
Thank you very much!**

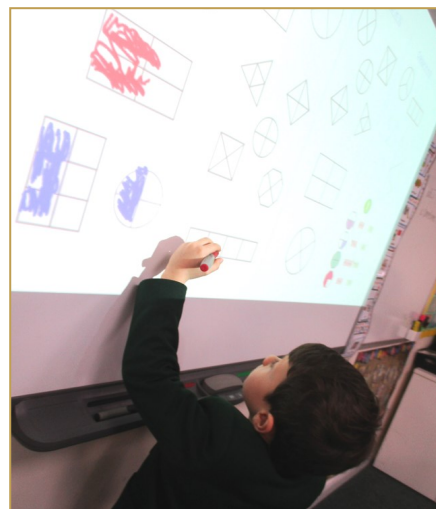
Festive fun at Girls Football!

Year 3 & 4 girls had lots of festive fun in their last session before the Christmas holidays. They played wall-ball, football 'Stuck in the mud' and finished with a match and a penalty shoot-out! Well done girls!



Y2Z Maths

In Maths Y2Z have been learning all about fractions. The children independently used the interactive whiteboard in the classroom to identify and colour in $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$. Well done, 2Z!



Y2S Crackers

Y2S loved pulling their crackers and then they wore their hats to Christmas lunch. They enjoyed telling each other the jokes and receiving a small toy.



Y2 Messages to Father Christmas

The children in Year 2 got to learn about emails by sending a very special man an email. The children were able to create their own message to Father Christmas and include their present wishes. The children then watched the letter disappear and shortly after a magical reply returned to their screen.. a reply from Santa!



ISA London North Swimming Gala

It was fantastic to finally enter a team into a swimming event for the first time in nearly two years! Pupils from Years 4-6 took part in the annual ISA London North Swimming Championships at Southbury Leisure Centre on Wednesday 17 November. The children were so excited and needed to get into the water to burn their huge amounts of energy! The competition went swimmingly (excuse the pun) and every single one of the Oaklands team put their all into each race. There were some exciting close finishes and Olivia and Ethan deserve special mention for swimming the 50m butterfly which is a gruelling energy-sapping stroke. Amongst our amazing 12 pupils, special mention goes to our medallists: Ethan with a bronze medal in the 50m backstroke, Lucy with a silver medal in the 50m breaststroke and the Year 4 Freestyle Relay team made up of Lucy, Ethan, Samuel and Erin who got a silver medal too!

Well done Oaklands Swim team!!



Indoor Football Bonanza!

The last Year 3&4 Boys Football session was so exciting; the pupils loved being indoors playing a new range of games to help their skills. They did plenty of ball mastery skills including turns, tricks and flicks to help them warm-up and prepare them for the games. The boys played bench-ball aiming to hit the bench with a strike with the opponent aiming to block them or save the shot. We then went into a match with the final score 23-22! Some excellent football played by all and they had a great time too!



Year 3C and The Chocolate Factory

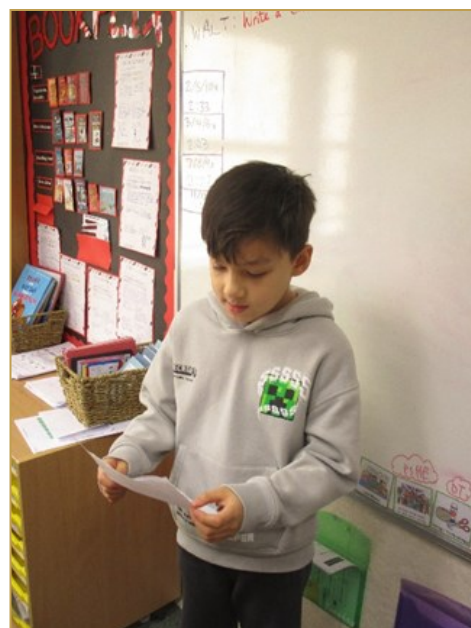
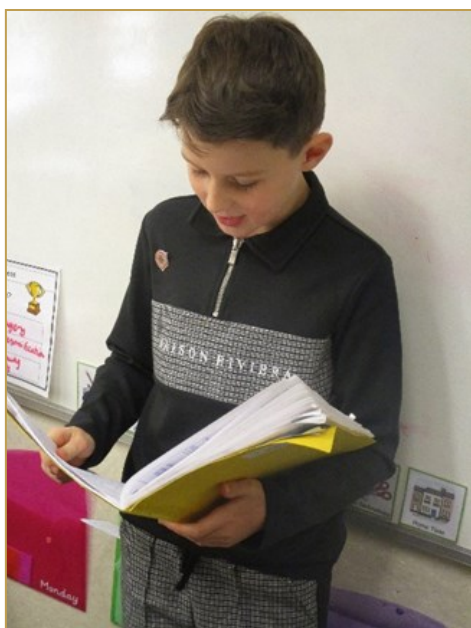
Year 3 have very much enjoyed designing packaging for chocolates, starting with 'original packaging' as inspiration and using knowledge gained in Maths lessons to turn 2D nets into 3D boxes. The children thought carefully about the colour combinations that would appeal to the senses and attract the eye.

The children were able to make their own version of their favourite chocolate using free-from ingredients, decorating the finished article with festive gold sprinkles. It is not everyday we get to design and create a sweet treat but we hope you enjoy the finished article!



Year 4C Poetry

In Year 4, pupils have been looking at Christmas poetry. The children looked at a poem called 'Winter Wonderland'. From this, they thought about how the poem was structured and tried to identify as many features as possible including, similes, personification and onomatopoeia. The children then planned and wrote their own Christmas themed poems and once written, performed them in front of the whole class.



Year 5 Victorian Workshop

Year 5 have been busy learning about the Victorians as part of their Humanities topic. They enjoyed travelling back in time to the nineteenth century in our recent workshop. The children learnt about different areas including Victorian transport, steam power, trains, tunnels and bridges. They were particularly interested in the mechanisms of a miniature steam train as it moved around the room.

The pupils imagined what life was like for a child working in the mines and worked in pairs to send messages in Morse Code. They examined artefacts and used their skills of analysis and evaluation to learn about the Victorian age. The children had a great time learning fascinating facts about this amazing period in history.



Year 6 English Drama

Year 6 pupils had the opportunity to perform their own play scripts that they wrote based on the class novel Skellig. Pupils had to identify all the areas and features in a written play script, use a checklist to evaluate their work and then finally act it out. Well done Year 6.

We have some amazing actors amongst you all!



Y6 Pen Pals in France

Year 6 children had the opportunity to write to their Pen Pals in France. Their letters were posted and we are now anxiously waiting for a response from our French friends!



Year 5 Indoor Athletics

On Monday 22 November, Year 5 pupils took part in a fun and friendly Indoor Athletics competition against Daiglen School at Redbridge Sports Centre. They had a fantastic time taking part in numerous track and field events including: obstacle relay, over/under relay, sprint relay, speed bounce, chest push, standing triple jump and standing long jump. Well done everyone!



Year 6 English SPaG Lesson

Year 6 enjoyed playing a matching game in one of their recent SPaG lessons today. This was a wonderful opportunity to see how much they could remember about contractions and how to use them wisely in their writing.



Y6 Math Murals

This term we had a House Maths competition to design a Maths mural for the decking area. The KS1 and KS2 children came up with some wonderful, creative ideas including rainbow bonds, a number snake, a times tables train and number aliens to name a few. We look forward to using their ideas to create a maths mural for the decking area next year.



West Essex School Sports Partnership U11's Tag-Rugby

On a cold and windy Friday, Oaklands Year 6 Tag-rugby team took part in the West Essex School Sports Partnership Tag-rugby tournament at Davenant foundation school. It was a fantastic event with over 18 schools taking part.

Considering they have only been practicing this year in PE for a few weeks, they played really well and showed great courage against some strong schools. We were close in all the matches but missed out on the top places. Mr Paine was very impressed with the attacking and defending skills on display by all the team! Well done Ethan, Tyran, Santi, Cleo, Maja, Olivia, Annabel, Alanna, Libby and Sienna.



Y6 ISA North Indoor Athletics

On Thursday 25 November, a selection of Year 6 pupils competed in the ISA London North Sports Hall Athletics Competition at Redbridge Sports Centre. It was the first time it had been included in the ISA calendar and it was a great success! All the children were very excited and Mrs Booth and Mr Paine had to contain their energy for the upcoming track and field events. Events included an obstacle relay, over/under relay, speed bounce and standing triple jump to name a few. All of the Oaklands team can be proud of their efforts; they finished 3rd in both the girls and boys competitions which is a fantastic achievement. Great effort team!



Christmas Jumper Morning

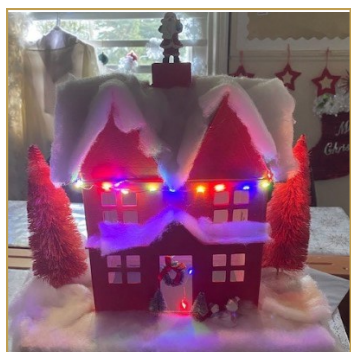
On the last morning of the Autumn Term, all the children and staff were invited to wear their favourite Christmas woolly jumper to school. Everyone looked very colourful and Mrs Belej said that she could feel the Christmas spirit as she walked around the school.

We raised £145.22 to send to 'Save the Children' charity. Thank you for your support.



Year 6 Post Boxes

Our Year 6 children were given the task of designing and decorating a post box for their Prefect class. Their designs were absolutely amazing and the standard were definitely raised this year. Thank you to all our parents who helped making this possible! Well done to all our Year 6 children, you did an outstanding job. All the classrooms looked truly wonderful.



MERRY



CHRISTMAS

