

January 2022

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Headmistress's Message

We have had an extremely busy start to the Spring Term. The children settled back into the school routines and their work quickly and our Year 6 pupils in particular have been engrossed in their 11+ entrance exams.

Pupils in Year 1 and Year 2 extended an 'Oaklands welcome' to visitors from the Lego Construction Planning company for their workshop experience, a number of Year 3 and Year 4 pupils have been competing in the athletics arena and everyone has been enthralled by the variety of topics covered in our assembly programme.

Before the end of this half-term, our netball team will be participating in the ISA London North Netball Tournament, a selection of Y5/6 pupils will be attending the Oak-Tree Tag rugby competition and all the pupils will be using their mathematical skills to support the NSPCC 'Number Day'.

Good luck to everyone!

Mrs 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 or Friendship award since the last newsletter.

Class	Merit Certificate	Good Behaviour	Friendship
1C	Arthur, Amelia	Eashar	Radhe
1F	Aaron, Sartaj	Olivia W	Idrees
2S	Amelia, Isaac	Alyssia	Louis
2Z	Edeline, Ella	Jemima	Raphael
3C	Annabelle, Alex	Ni'al	Kasie
4C	Prabhlok, Samuel	Ethan	Prabhlok
5Z	Anastasia, Rafaella	Gabriella	George
6C	Dylan, Tyran	Jusleen	Annabel
6G	Olivia, Saffiyah	Cleo	Kristina

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

World Religion Day Assembly

It was World Religion Day on Sunday 16 January. On the following Wednesday, the children learnt that the day is an opportunity to celebrate the many different religions that exist in the world, but at the same time appreciate the values which unite us.

The children discovered that most religions have a book of worship, a place of worship and love for a God or higher being.

The message that the children took away with them was that all religions encourage us to treat others how we would wish to be treated ourselves.



Values Badges

On Wednesday 15 December, to mark the last day of the Autumn Term, a pupil from each Year 1 to Year 6 class was presented with the 'Values' badge for their class. Each 'winner' has to have consistently tried hard to demonstrate the school values of Respect, Excellence, Courage, Friendship and Determination for the whole term. Well done to all these pupils!



House Points

Congratulations to Sycamore House who won the House Points Cup for Autumn Term 2 with the grand total of 419 points; Beech came second with 311 points; Willow came a close third with 310 points and Holly gained 251 points. Well done to all the Year 1 to Year 6 pupils for working so hard to achieve such grand totals in just six weeks!

There are only a few weeks left for everyone to try to be the first winners of the House Points Cup for 2022!

Y4 Ukulele

Well done to the Year 4 children who received their Certificates for their Yellow Belt in Ukulele. Mrs Rathbone handed these certificates to them during the Year 3—Year 6 assembly on Monday 24 January.

Keep on working hard Year 4!



Reception Owls

In Maths, Owls have been working on their understanding of the composition of 5. This time they used coloured beads to identify parts of the whole number. Some of their comments included "I've done 1,1,1,1,1 – it makes 5" and "2 + 3 makes 5".



Lower Kindergarten

Ms Aston led the Early Years assembly on International Cheetah Day. All the children listened carefully and watched a presentation all about interesting facts about cheetahs. They learnt there are not very many left in the wild, which means they are now 'endangered'. The children shared their knowledge about other 'big cats' and particularly enjoyed seeing Ms Aston's costume, complete with face painted spots!



Lower Kindergarten

Lower Kindergarten made snowballs or rice krispies coated in white chocolate.

The children listened carefully to the instructions. They talked about what happens to chocolate when it gets hot ... it changes from hard to runny as it melts!

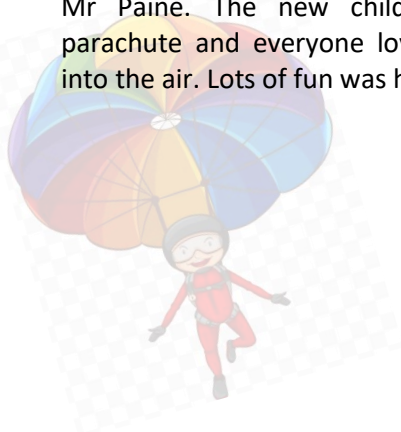
They spooned their mixture into a paper cases and waited patiently for them to cool.

They look delicious!



Lower Kindergarten

Lower Kindergarten thoroughly enjoyed their P.E lesson with Mr Paine. The new children were introduced to the parachute and everyone loved tossing the popcorn (balls) into the air. Lots of fun was had by everyone!



Upper Kindergarten

The children in Upper Kindergarten have been making some delicious flapjacks! They looked at the ingredients and equipment they would need to use and begun to follow the recipe. This activity was a great introduction into how ingredients change when they are melted. The children all took a turn in mixing the mixture and helped to flatten the mixture into the tin.



Music

This term, the Reception children have started their first steps towards music literacy, using the Tobin Music System. Using a child centred multi-sensory approach, they will learn to read standard musical notation.



The children had great fun whilst participating in some 'Rock Art'. The children either worked by themselves or in pairs to decorate the rocks using special acrylic pens.

The children showed some fantastic mark making skills and we shall be displaying the stones outside Upper Kindergarten very soon.



Amazing Displays

It is always such a pleasure to walk around the school and see the wonderful displays showcasing the children's fantastic work. The pupils should be proud of all the different work, showcasing the whole curriculum, that is displayed inside the classrooms and along the corridors. Thank you to all our staff who are always able to display the children's work in such a creative and captivating way.



Reception Woodpeckers

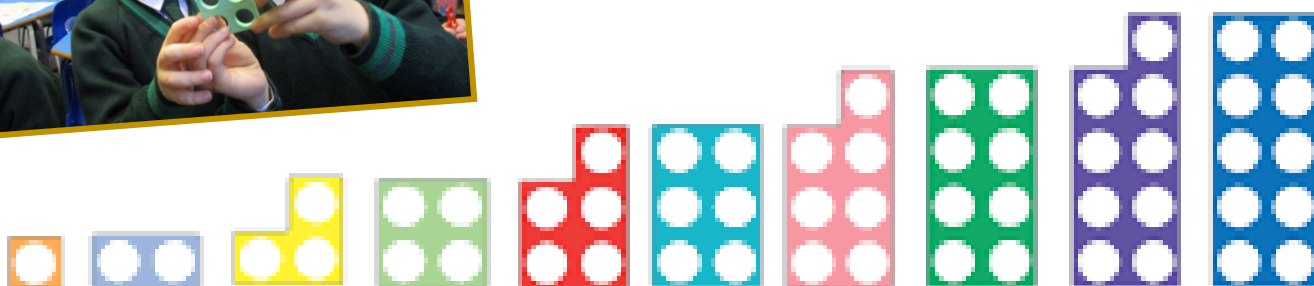
In Reception Woodpeckers the children were given a selection of different dinosaur pictures with the task to sort them into groups.

They could choose how they grouped them, as long as they could explain the difference between the groups. A brilliant problem solving task!



Reception Robins

Reception Robins have been working hard at learning numbers bonds to 5. They have also been thinking of the number composition of 5 and how 5 also contains parts which are other numbers. They had to find a partner with a numicon piece that matches to make 5. They also thought about why people with a 5 numicon piece could not find a partner!



Year 2 RE

In RE, Year 2 have been learning all about the Jewish festival Passover. They learnt all about the special Passover meal and made their own Seder plates. The special foods represent different parts of the Jewish people's experiences when they were enslaved in Ancient Egypt 3000 years ago and help the Jewish people to remember what their ancestors went through.



KS1 Art Club

In KS1 Art Club we have been learning about the Austrian born artist and architect Friedrich Hundertwasser. They looked at his work and learnt how he disliked straight lines but loved vibrant colours and irregular shapes. The children drew still life pictures of fruit in the style of Hundertwasser.

Can you guess what fruits they drew?



School Orchestra



This term, the pupils in the orchestra were very pleased to be awarded their orchestra badges in assembly. Pupils are invited to join the orchestra when they have reached a certain level on their instrument. Playing in the orchestra, or in any musical group encourages many skills that are needed throughout the children's learning journey. An orchestra is basically a musical team and so like any team, they have to work together. Listening skills are vital; they need to listen, not only to their own playing, but to every other instrument, to stay in time.

And when it all comes together, this group of individual musicians are able to create something bigger than any of them could create on their own.

Well done orchestra!

Art Expo

This half term, Oaklands entered an Art Exhibition held at Chigwell School. Here are some of the excellent entries (from all across the school) that are being considered. Well done to all of the amazing artists for producing such outstanding work!



Year 1F New Goals

Happy New Year from 1F! They have been talking about how a new year can often be seen as a fresh start and a chance to make a resolution for the year to come. They thought long and hard to make their goals achievable and something they would enjoy doing too. 'I will help my mum do the dishes because it will make her happy' was Sartaj's thoughtful resolution and Olivia wants to learn to 'play a tune on the piano' to make her mum proud.

To celebrate new year for as long as possible, they watched some amazing videos of firework displays around the world and discussed how some countries may celebrate slightly differently to us. Olivia who was in another country for New Year even celebrated at a different time!

They are going to try to make this year the best yet and wish everyone a Happy New Year!



Year 1C Houses and Homes



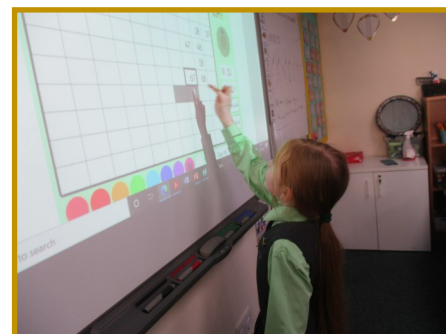
1C have had lots of fun exploring their topic of 'Houses and Homes' this term. The children began by building a house using the various construction kits in the class. Then learnt all the important features houses need to be good homes, such as roofs, walls, floors, windows and doors. Finally, they evaluated their houses and discussed how they could improve them, then adapted their original models.

"I changed my house into a tree house!" – Presley.

"My detached bungalow has a door, a roof and a chimney". – Sienna.

Year 2Z Maths

In Maths lessons, 2Z have been solving missing number problems using a 100 square. The children played a game on the interactive whiteboard where some of the numbers were missing. They had to use their knowledge of the 100 square to help them work out the missing numbers, for example, adding or taking away ten and then moving forwards or backwards by adding or taking away one. 2Z were able to solve every missing number problem.



Year 2S 3D Shapes

Class 2S have been learning about 3D shapes and their properties. The children had to sort out the shapes using a Venn diagram. Victoria said 'She has found learning about 3D shapes really interesting.'

Y3C Problem Solving

Year 3 really enjoy problem solving. The children challenge each other with their maths knowledge, and not only that, they are able to overcome obstacles by playing to their strengths, using strategies such as 'Three Before Me,' and taking time out to reflect. Who knew that building resilience and making links in learning could be so exciting?



Gymnastics Club

Super skills in gymnastics club!

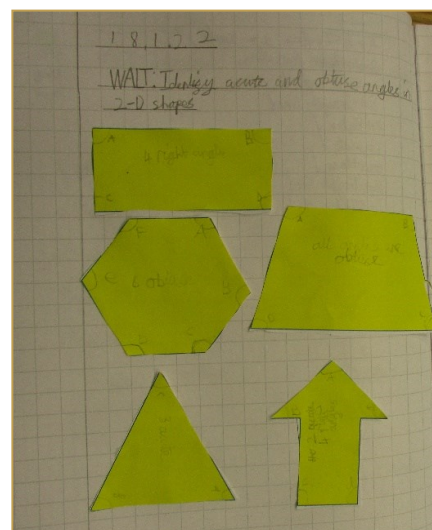
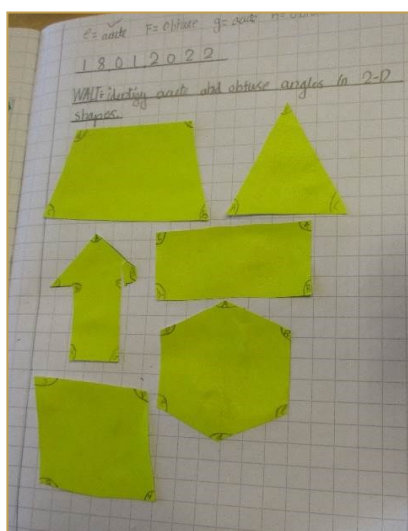
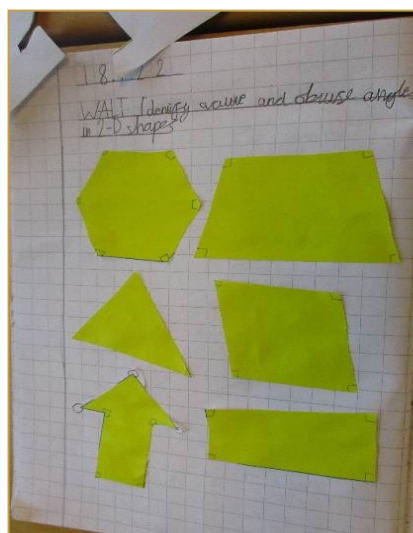
The Year 5 and 6 girls have been showing off their impressive array of gymnastics moves and are starting to sequence their own routines. They are also learning how to safely vault, demonstrating run-up, take off, flight, shape in air and landing.



Y4C Maths

Year 4 have been looking carefully at different types of angles. The children have been discovering all the different types of angles using the ROARS acronym.

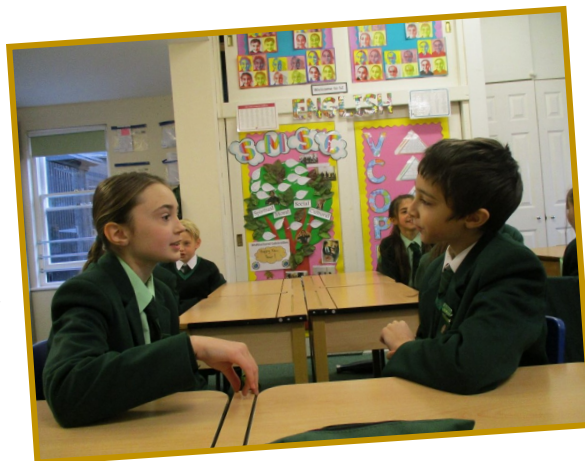
They have persevered to order and compare various angles, using protractors to check. The children were also able to identify the different types of interior angles using an angle tester.



Year 5Z PSHE

As part of our PSHE topic, 'Dreams and Goals', Year 5 explored different job opportunities available to people. They shared their future aspirations with their peers and considered the skills and experience they might need.

The children explained why they valued and appreciated the contributions made by people in different jobs. They particularly enjoyed taking part in mock job interviews in class. The pupils will also be considering how their dreams and goals may be different to children in other parts of the world.



Busy Bees Club

Children in Busy Bees had great fun creating their own monster with huge googly eyes. They were all shocked at how big the eyes were. Some children mastered the tricky art of concertina paper folding for the legs whereas others chose to have long straight legs. Everyone gave their monster a name which ranged from Bob to Princess.

I hope you agree that the eyes really make these monsters stand out!



Year 1 and Year 2 Lego Workshop

Year 1 & 2 had a fantastic time at their Lego workshop. They were given lots of freedom to choose which building they wanted to create, such as bungalows, flats and even hotels.

They learned how to place the bricks to make the strongest structure, add doors and windows, create balconies and rooftop gardens and finally how to create a community by putting all of the creations together!

The children couldn't wait to go home and carry on creating, they were so inspired.



KS2 Art Club Christmas Card Competition

In November 2021, the members of the school's KS2 Art Club were invited to participate in a Christmas card competition run by Eleanor Laing, who is the local MP. The theme of the competition was 'Big Ben at Christmas'.

Mrs Laing proposed to use the winning design/s for the front of her personal Christmas cards. The competition was sponsored by a local firm and it hoped to raise money for local charities.

Alicia in Year 4 had to ensure that her A5 sized design was colourful, bright and simple. The organisers stressed that their past experience indicated that the designs most likely to win are those that use bright, bold Christmas colours like red, green and gold.

Alicia's Christmas card design was chosen from hundreds of entries to win the runner-up position and Mrs Laing sent her an autographed copy of 'The Christmas Pig' by J K Rowling.



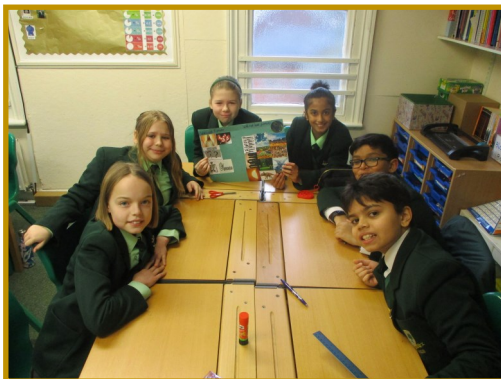
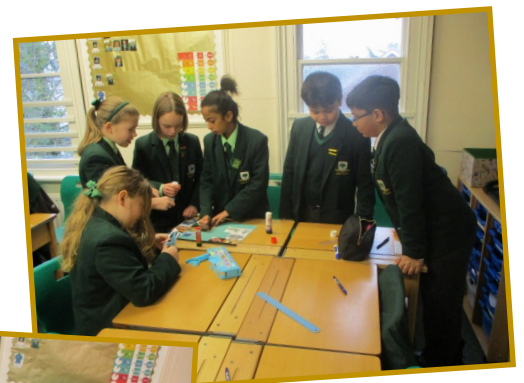
Year 6G Maths

Even when some of Year 6 are out doing their entrance exams, life still goes on for those at school. We have been collaboratively working together to tackle complex maths investigations such as a perimeter fence investigation; determining how many triangles there are in a pentagram and various number puzzles! Sophia says, "I enjoyed working with my friends and finding all the options on the 3x3 grid. It was quite bamboozling!"



Year 6C Religious Ethics

In RE, Year 6 have been looking at the topic 'What lasts forever?'. They had a fantastic morning, sharing ideas and opinions on what they think will be everlasting. They generated discussions and had to sort images reflecting concepts such as love, memories, water, celebrities and nature. It was a wonderful session.



Year 6 Circuit Training

Year 6 show their fitness prowess!

Year 6 are taking part in circuit training sessions in PE this half term along with netball/football for Games sessions.

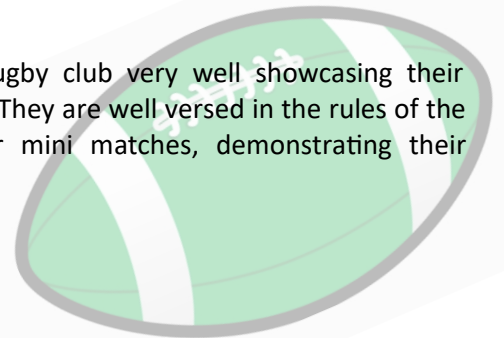
After showing impressive performances in dynamic stretches and pulse raisers, they were off on their circuit.....well not a race circuit! They took part in 10 exercises for 30-40 seconds each with a 20-30 second rest interval before taking part in the next exercise. Mr Paine was very impressed with their level of fitness, strength, coordination and technique in performing the gruelling workout.



Tag Rugby Club

Year 3 and 4 show their tag skills!!

Pupils from Year 3 and 4 started tag-rugby club very well showcasing their impressive attacking and defending drills. They are well versed in the rules of the game now so they are playing regular mini matches, demonstrating their increasing understanding!



Yoga Club

The children are having great fun at their weekly after school yoga club. They enjoy taking part in circle time, sun salutations, a full body focused flow, yoga games and other activities.

They also take time at the end of each class to practice relaxation and how to become mindful of how they feel.

The yoga classes help children's physical and emotional development, as well as developing their concentration and ability to focus.

The children love socialising with different age groups, whilst having fun!



Oak-Tree Year 3 & 4 Indoor Athletics Competition

The pupils from Year 3&4 took part in a fantastic morning of activities at the Oak-Tree Indoor Athletics Competition. Understandably, they were very excited and were eager for the event to begin. After a short warm up and briefing on what the day would entail, they were off and could not contain their smiley faces! The boys and girls participated in speed bounce, standing long jump, javelin, chest push and vertical jump in the field events, achieving some impressive scores.

It was time for the track events which featured an exciting obstacle course race, over/under relay and a 1+1 lap relay. There were some very close finishes between the 4 Oak-Tree schools and the results were unbelievably close.

A huge congratulations to each of our amazing pupils; Teddy, Sammy, Prabhlok, Lina, Lucy, Zara, Abi, Denzel, Rufus, Alex, Annabelle, Margot and Arriana!

Year 4:

1st Normanhurst = 60 points

2nd Oaklands = 56 points

3rd Coopersale = 52 points

4th Braeside = 30 points

Year 3:

1st Oaklands/Coopersale = 58 points

2nd Normanhurst = 46 points

3rd Braeside = 28 points

GRAND TOTAL (Year 3&4 combined)

1st Oaklands = 114 points

2nd Coopersale = 110 points

3rd Normanhurst = 106 points

4th Braeside = 58 points

