



# Oaklands School

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## HEADMISTRESS

MRS SUE BELEJ B.A. (JNT HONS), CERT.ED.

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20 April 2022

Dear Parents

### Re: April Headmistress's Letter

I hope you had a lovely Easter break, enjoying the sunshine and longer days. As you know, term begins tomorrow, Thursday 21 April, and I am looking forward to a busy and productive summer term.

### Summer Uniform

All the children should return to school at the start of the Summer Term wearing their correct summer uniform. The girls, as usual, need to have their hair tied back neatly with the school coloured hair accessories.

There always seems to be some confusion regarding the colour and length of socks that should be worn with the summer uniform so for ease of reference I have included them below:

LK-Y6 Girls: plain white ankle socks with no frills or colours

LK-Y6 Boys: short grey socks with bottle green hoops (no grey plain socks)

PE (boys & girls): short white ankle socks (not trainer socks)

Please continue to adhere to the rule regarding the non-wearing of earrings for all pupils in Lower Kindergarten to Year 4. Year 5 and Year 6 pupils may only wear studded earrings to school on the days when they do not have PE or Games lessons or extracurricular sporting activities.

Details of the uniform for each Key Stage is available on this link: <https://www.oaklandsschool.co.uk/parents-pupils/uniform-list/>

### Extracurricular Clubs

Our extracurricular club programme for the Summer Term begins on **Monday 25 April**. If you have any queries regarding which club/s your child is attending, please contact Mrs Arnold in the school office.

### Charity Events Last Term

The whole school celebrated World Book Day on Friday 4 March, with the children and staff arriving dressed as their favourite book character. This was a super, fun-filled day as usual, with special assemblies and children of various ages enthusiastically sharing their favourite book with their peers.

More fun occurred on Friday 18 March when the school supported Red Nose Day. Yet again, the school was overrun by pupils and staff dressed in various shades of red. Jokes were shared and lots of photographs were taken which were published on our website and included in the school's Newsletter.

We finished the Spring Term by dressing in blue for the last morning of school to raise money for Water Aid following an inspiring assembly presented by Ms Zaidi earlier in March.

We raised £159.06 on World Book Day, £210.40 on Red Nose Day and £205.15 for Water Aid: well done everyone and thank you for your continued generosity.

## **Year 1 to Year 6 Curriculum Overviews and Timetables**

The Curriculum overviews for each age group are published on your parent portals every half term. They provide you with detailed information about the teaching content in each subject. These are supplemented by the weekly Maths and English information that is sent to you every Friday providing you with further details of the areas your child will be studying in these subjects during the following week.

Year 1 to Year 6 Homework timetables have been updated for this term so please access the relevant document for your child or children as they also contain details of when homework will be set via our online learning platform, Seesaw, each week.

You will also find Summer Term 1 timetables for each age group on the portal to help ensure that your child wears their PE kit to school on the correct days of the school week.

I hope you will find these documents useful and informative.

## **Resources**

As you are aware, pupils in Year 3 to Year 6 should bring a small plain pencil case into school containing the following equipment:

Lead pencils, rubber and sharpener	Coloured pencils
Protractor/angle measurer (Y5 & Y6 only)	Pair of compasses (Y5 & Y6 only)
Blue Frixion writing pen (after Pen Licence is awarded)	

The blue Frixion writing pens can be purchased from WH Smith, Ryman or Amazon.

During last term in particular, there were a number of pupils bringing additional items in a second pencil case into school. Please ensure that your child does not bring anything not listed above, particularly felt tip pens, ink erasers or correction fluids. Thank you.

## **OPA**

Our OPA members were very busy near the end of the Spring Term. On Monday 28 March, a long awaited Nearly New School Uniform sale was held in the Science Room which was very well attended and very helpful to those parents stocking up on summer uniform.

The OPA also organised a visit from the Easter Bunny to Oaklands on Tuesday 29 March, just before the end of the Spring Term. All the children were excited to visit the decorated Easter themed studio to receive their Easter gift.

The OPA are now in their busiest term of the school year as the summer term includes the Oaklands Summer Fete on Saturday 11 June and the Oak-Tree Group of Schools Summer Ball on Saturday 18 June. The Committee would welcome any parental support available, particularly on the day of the Fete, so please do let your class representative know if you can help on a stall or activity as soon as possible. Thank you.

## **Safety in the school car park**

As you are aware, our school car park is very well used by parents and visitors to the school. Very often there are a large number of different aged children walking with their parents in the car park to access their car. It is vital for the safety of everyone, both pedestrians and drivers, that cars are driven slowly entering, manoeuvring and exiting the car park. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **Parking**

During the Spring Term, I continued to receive communications from a number of residents about their driveways being blocked, parents sitting in cars, with their engines running, waiting on yellow lines or the zig zag lines whilst their 'partner' delivers their children into school, and parents performing 3-5 point turns which involve mounting the pavement in the vicinity of the school entrance on Albion Hill, potentially endangering the lives of children and parents walking to school.

I would again like to take this opportunity to repeat our request that parents do not park across, or obstruct in anyway, the driveways of our neighbours when dropping or collecting their children, to consider the safety of our children when parking and manoeuvring, particularly in Albion Hill and Spring Grove, and to use the car park as much as possible.

### Class and Sports Teams Photographs

Gem Photography will be taking class and sports teams photographs on **Friday 13 May**. Weather permitting, they will be taken outside, or alternatively, in the school hall. The photographs will be available for parents to order before the half-term break.

### Summer Term Assembly Programme

We always aim to make each term's assembly programme rich and varied to engage the children, stimulate discussion and develop their awareness of local, national and international issues as well as religious and cultural celebrations. The programme for our forthcoming summer term includes a number of 'special' days in the calendar such as Earth Day, World Day for Cultural Diversity, World Oceans Day and World Music Day. We will also be celebrating the Queen's Birthday and Fathers' Day, and covering two of the world religions, Buddhism and Islam.

### Jigsaw: 'Relationships'

During Summer Term 1, the children will be exploring, at an age appropriate level, the topic of 'Relationships'. For the younger children this will involve looking at family life, friendships and how to be a good friend. In the older year groups, areas such as developing positive relationships, building self-esteem, developing social skills, managing feelings of love and loss, using technology safely and how to reduce screen time will be included.

The children will be introduced to the topic during the first assembly of the term. They will be invited to suggest what ingredients are needed to make a particular cake and recommended to follow a recipe that will tell them what to include, how much to use and the order in which each one should be added to the mixture. The children will then be challenged to predict what might happen if some of the ingredients were left out or the recipe was not followed correctly. This will be linked to the suggestion that relationships are a little bit like a cake as we need to put in lots of different ingredients to make them they best they can be. Finally, the children will be invited to suggest different characteristics or attributes that make a good friend that could be put into a friendship cake.

I am sure the children will participate in a number of meaningful and reflective discussions with their peers and class teacher during this topic.

### Year 5 Secondary School Options Meeting

This is a meeting for parents of children who are currently in Year 5 to discuss the options for secondary schools and the various procedures for applications. It will be held on **Tuesday 17 May** at **6.00pm** in the school hall. Further details will follow in due course.

### Drop-in Sessions Summer Term 2022

Our popular Drop-in sessions will be held again during Summer Term 1. These informal sessions provide parents with the opportunity to view some of their child's work in their classroom prior to the start of the school day. I know that the children thoroughly enjoy discussing their work with you. Please refer to the table below to check when your child's Drop-in session is being held.

CLASS	DATE	TIME
Year 4C	Tues 17 May	8.25-8.50am
Year 3C	Wed 18 May	8.25-8.50am
Year 1C/Year 1F	Thurs 19 May	8.25-8.50am
Year 2S/Year 2Z	Fri 20 May	8.25-8.50am
Year 5Z	Tues 24 May	8.25-8.50am
Year 6C/ Year 6G	Fri 27 May	8.25-8.50am

## Oak-Tree Summer Ball

The Oak-Tree Summer Ball is fast approaching, and after a 3-year absence, it is looking to be bigger and better than ever. The deadline for ticket purchases is Wednesday 18 May, as we need to inform the venue about final numbers, so be sure not to leave it too late. Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#).

There is no need to wait until you have a full table to purchase tickets. Inform us when completing your booking form about seating preferences and our admin team will arrange tables for you. Alternatively, they will seat you with other parents from your child's school.

The venue has rooms available if you wish to stay the night, and we are pleased to announce we have secured a 10% discount for all those attending the Ball. Please email room requests to [specialevents@chigwellprinceregent.co.uk](mailto:specialevents@chigwellprinceregent.co.uk) and the team will be able to assist you.

It is set to be a wonderful evening with plenty of Great Gatsby themed entertainment, food and drink throughout the night. We hope to see you all there to support our Parents' Associations.

## Important Summer Term Dates

I would like to bring to your attention to five very important dates in our hectic summer term for you to add to your diaries:

<b>Saturday 11 June</b>	Oaklands School Summer Fete
<b>Thursday 16 June</b>	Sports Day for all year groups, LK-Y6, weather permitting (reserve date is Tuesday 5 July)
<b>Saturday 18 June</b>	Oak-Tree Group of Schools Summer Ball
<b>Wednesday 29 June</b>	Celebration of the Year for LK to Reception children at 2.00pm
<b>Wednesday 29 June</b>	Prize Giving ceremony for pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 at 4.00pm.

## Dates for the Diary

The following list provides a list events currently planned for the Summer Term.

Thursday 21 April	First day of term
Monday 25 April	All extracurricular clubs start
Monday 25 April -Friday 29 April	Y6 to PGL residential visit
Wednesday 4 May- Friday 6 May	Y4/5 to YMB residential visit
Friday 6 May	Y6 to Young Voices
Tuesday 10 May	Y3-Y6 Instrumental Showcase 1 6.00pm
Thursday 12 May	Y3-Y6 Instrumental Showcase 2 6.00pm
Thursday 12 May	ISA U7 Boys 5-a-side football
Friday 13 May	LK-Y6 Class Photographs and Sports Teams
Tuesday 17 May	Y4C Drop-in session 8.25-8.50am
Tuesday 17 May	ISA U9 & U11 Tennis Doubles Championships
Tuesday 17 May	Y5 Secondary Schools Meeting 6.00pm
Wednesday 18 May	Y3C Drop-in session 8.25-8.50am
Thursday 19 May	Y1C/Y1F Drop-in sessions 8.25-8.50am
Friday 20 May	Y2S/Y2Z Drop-in sessions 8.25-8.50am
Monday 23 May	ISA Athletics
Monday 23 May	Oak-Tree Spelling Bee at Coopersale Hall 4:00pm
Tuesday 24 May	Y5Z Drop-in sessions 8.25-8.50am
Wednesday 25 May	Y2 am; Y5/6 pm LAMDA speech exams
Wednesday 25 May	Y1C Play performance to parents 2.00pm
Thursday 26 May	Y5Z to Brentwood School Taster Day
Thursday 26 May	Y5 Parents Evening 1 (3:45-5:30pm)
Thursday 26 May	Y1 am; Y3/4 pm LAMDA speech exams
Thursday 26 May	Y1F Play performance to parents 2.00pm
Friday 27 May	Y6C/G Drop-in sessions 8.25-8.50am
Friday 27 May	Oak-Tree Tennis Tournament (tbc)

Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June Half Term Holiday

Monday 6 June	School restarts
Tuesday 7 June	Y6 to Harry Potter World
Tuesday 7 June	Y2 Instrumental Showcase 3.45pm
Thursday 9 June	Y5 Parents Evening 2 (3:45-5:30pm)
Saturday 11 June	School Summer Fete
Wednesday 15 June	WESSP Swimming Gala (tbc)
Thursday 16 June	LK-Y6 Sports Day
Friday 17 June	Upper Kindergarten Assembly to parents 9.00am
Saturday 18 June	Oak-Tree Group of Schools Summer Ball
Monday 20 June	Oak-Tree 3T Cricket (tbc)
Tuesday 21 June	UK Visit to Paradise Wildlife Park (tbc)
Thursday 23 June	Y5/6 Play performance at Lopping Hall 6.45pm
Friday 24 June	LK Big Toddle (tbc)
Wednesday 29 June	EYFS Celebration of the Year 2.00pm
Wednesday 29 June	Y1-Y6 Prize Giving Ceremony 4.00pm
Friday 1 July	Meet the Teacher (tbc)
Wednesday 6 July	Summer Term finishes

I look forward to greeting and chatting to you at some of these public events during our summer term calendar.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

*Sue Belej*

Sue Belej  
Headmistress

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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.

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