

## July 2022

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### Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

We have finally reached the end of the academic year.

Since the last newsletter, the sun has at last been shining.

As the Summer Term has gained momentum, the children became increasingly excited about the prospect of performing properly in front of their parents for the first time in over 2 years in their assemblies (LK and UK), plays (Year 1) and at the Celebration of the Year or Prize Giving. The confidence, speaking and singing ability of the children as they practice and perform never ceases to amaze and delight me.

The children have 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 and Year 6, in this newsletter.

We enjoyed Sports Day on Thursday 16 June and the Year 6 Leavers' Assembly on Monday 4 July.

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.

The Autumn Term starts on Monday 5 September.

Kind regards

Sue Belej

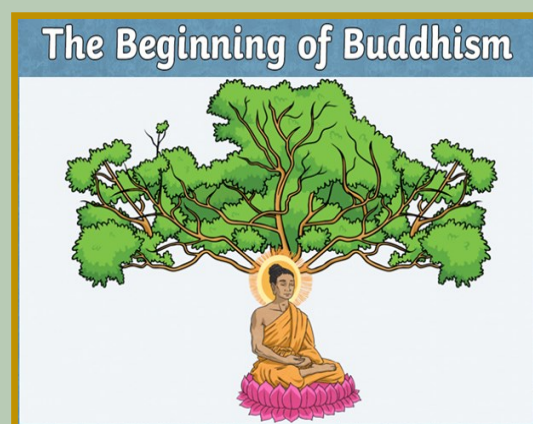
## KS1 and KS2 Certificates and Awards

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

Class	Merit Certificate	Good Behaviour	Friendship
1C	Melody, Ethan, Naavya,	Amelia, Ethan, Lilly, Freya	Sofia, Lily
1F	Idrees, Harvey, Harry, Sofia, Sihame, Isabella	Aaron, Harvey, Sofia, Sihame	Ezra, Harvey
2S	Theo, Alyssia, Isla, Eddie, Delia, Amelia	Zikr, Victoria, David	Aizah, Gisele
2Z	Jemima, Sam, Jessica, Leo, Aria, Raffy	Bryony, Emily, Mila, Lilah	Jessica, Evie
3C	Rufus, Kais, Kaisie, Jude, Zachariah, Evie	Rufus, Denzel, Winnie, Nhi	Kais, Archie
4C	Prabhlok, Lucy, Teddy, Lina, Hannah, Max	Class at YMB, Sammy, Abigail, Alicia	Class at YMB, Lina
5Z	Henry, Georgia, Darcey, George, Anaastsia, Betsy	Class at YMB, Henry C, Sienna, Arjun	Class at YMB, Rafella
6C	Holly, Annabel, Sienna, Lilly	Zayan, Ethan	India, Holly
6G	Saffiyah, Kristina, Sophia, Olivia	Libby, Saffiyah	Olivia, Cleo

## Buddhism Assembly

During the fourth week of the half term, Mr Crane produced a class assembly about the origins of Buddhism. It explained how Siddhartha Guatama began his journey to enlightenment through meditation and avoiding distractions. The pupils talked about what distractions they are surrounded by in today's world and how challenging it is to overcome them. Finally, they learnt about the four noble truths; *Dukkha*, *Samudaya*, *Nirodha* and *Magga* and the special day called *Asala-Dharma* when Buddhists reflect and give thanks for the teachings of Buddha.



## Year 1C Play

On Wednesday 25 May, Y1C performed their play to their parents in the hall. The story followed the adventure of two curious children who accidentally blasted themselves into space on a real rocket! The children were amazing; remembering their lines and all speaking clearly, with confidence. The children thoroughly enjoyed performing the songs in particular, and sang with great enthusiasm. This was their first experience of performing a play in front of an audience at school and the children exceeded all our expectations in their performance. Well done Y1C!



## Year 1F Play

1F's thoughts on the play:

Our play was a huge success and we worked so hard to put on a great show for all our families and friends! We loved using everything we had learnt about the planets, space and Mae Jemison to create a show.

We were feeling a little nervous to stand up in front of everyone, but when the time came we believed in ourselves and had so much fun. The songs are still some of our favourites and we love to remember some of the lines we said too.

Thank you for coming to watch us; we hope you loved it as much as we did!



## Year 1F Tinga Tinga

Y1F have been loving learning all about the world of Tinga Tinga! They started by reading all about how the elephant got his nose, then they made a story map to learn all about how stories progress. Next, they acted out the story which was really funny as they all had to team up to pull the elephant's nose! Finally, they went about planning and writing their own version of a Tinga Tinga tale. This was very tricky but they worked so hard and were really proud of the end result! They are now authors of our own stories!





## ISA London North Athletics

On Monday 23 May, Oaklands School took 24 pupils from years 3-6 to the ISA London North Athletics Competition at Bedford Athletics Stadium. The conditions were perfect for the day of events, as it was not too hot and there was a bit of a breeze to help the children cool down after their exertions. Every single pupil took part in a relay and another track/field event. They should all be extremely proud of their efforts considering there were roughly 30 schools in attendance.

Notable achievements were:

- Abigail achieving 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Year 4 60M sprint finishing 9<sup>th</sup> overall and just missing out in a place in the final.
- Year 4 Girls Relay team consisting of Abigail, Lucy, Zara and Lina finishing 1<sup>st</sup> in their heat. They managed an unbelievable 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the final, narrowly missing out on a place in the National finals.
- Year 6 Girls Relay team consisting of Cleo, Alanna, Maja and Annabel finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in their heat. They managed a fantastic 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the final.
- Year 4 Boys Relay team consisting of Teddy, Kais, Denzel and Alex finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in their heat. They managed to qualify for the final which was an amazing achievement.
- Gabriella achieving 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Year 5 70M sprint, narrowly missing out on a place in the final.
- Zara securing a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in the Year 4 600M race, finishing in the top 10 overall.
- Annabel Connolly earning a 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Year 6 150M race and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the final. Again, narrowly missing out on a place at the National finals.

Well done to our budding athletes!

A massive congratulations to all our wonderful pupils – Cleo, Annabel, Alanna, Maja, Ethan, Zayan, Joah, Tyran, George, Arjun, Henry Caruso, Anastasia, Chanel, Gabriella, Sienna, Teddy, Sammy, Lina, Lucy, Zara, Abigail, Alex, Denzel and Kais!





## Lower Kindergarten Holiday News

The children in Lower Kindergarten have loved sharing their holiday news with their keyworker and friends. This is a fantastic opportunity to encourage the children to retell a past event and to answer 'who', 'what' and 'where' questions.



## Lower Kindergarten Harlow Farm visit

Lower Kindergarten children had a wonderful time at Harlow Farm. They got to see a large selection of traditional farm animals, such as ducks, pigs and goats. They also saw some more exotic animals such as reindeers, llamas and alpaca and had a play in the exciting playground near the farm.



## Lower Kindergarten Jubilee

Lower Kindergarten had a special visitor arrive: Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth came to see the children and helped to celebrate her Jubilee! All the children looked wonderful in their red, white and blue clothes and enjoyed a variety of fun activities throughout the week.



## Upper Kindergarten

A few weeks ago, the children in Upper Kindergarten were visited by a work experience student from Normanhurst school. The children were so excited to have a new face within the classroom and played a variety of games with the student, from hairdressing to building towers and finally, listening to stories.

The Normanhurst pupil showed great patience and happily engaged with all the children. They were very sad to see her leave at the end of the day.



## Upper Kindergarten Father's Day Assembly

Upper Kindergarten put on an amazing assembly for their parents. The children were extremely brave standing on stage and telling everyone what they loved about their daddies. They also performed some wonderful songs including 'It's Father's Day' and 'Please Don't Squish Me'. Finally, each Daddy was called up to the front of the stage to collect his special card and surprise gift from their child. Well done to all the children for their fantastic performance!



## Upper Kindergarten visit to Paradise Wildlife Park

The children had the most wonderful day at Paradise Wildlife Park. They saw lots of animals including lions, tigers, zebras, meerkats and a crocodile. After a quick snack, pupils watched the 'Birds of Prey' show, where they found out lots of facts about different birds. It was lovely to see the birds flying around and then swooping down to catch their food! After lunch, it was time to visit the dinosaur world. The children could not believe how big the dinosaurs were and we even had our own dinosaur expert, a little boy from the Rabbit group, who knew all of their names! The last dinosaur gave everyone a shock when it squirted water at them as they walked past. Finally, the children all enjoyed a play in the sand pit, digging and looking for dinosaur bones. We were all so proud of how the children behaved during the trip, they listened to their teachers and followed our instructions. Well done Upper Kindergarten!





## Reception Owls PE lesson

At the end of their last PE lesson, Reception Owls had great fun showcasing their climbing and balancing skills. It is always lovely to reach this stage in the year as the children now have the confidence to use this more challenging equipment independently.



## Reception Robins

The children have been enjoying their topic of Traditional Tales this half term in Reception. Robins had great fun acting out The Three Billy Goats Gruff on the outdoor stage using the masks they had made. Of course, one person had to be the bridge the troll lived under and the goats trip-trapped across! Afterwards, everyone took a bow to great applause.



## Reception Woodpeckers

It has been a super term and the Woodpeckers have worked incredibly hard. They enjoyed their trip to South Weald and were excited to follow the stick man trail and make their own Stick Man! Well done Woodpeckers for another amazing term.





## Reception South Weald Country Park Visit

Reception had a wonderful time at South Weald Country Park – home of the Stickman! They made their own stickmen and stencilled clothes for them using flowers they had picked. They then put them to bed in their own stick beds. The highlight of the trip was feeding the fallow deer with apple cores from their snack. They posted them down chutes and the deer ate every single one!



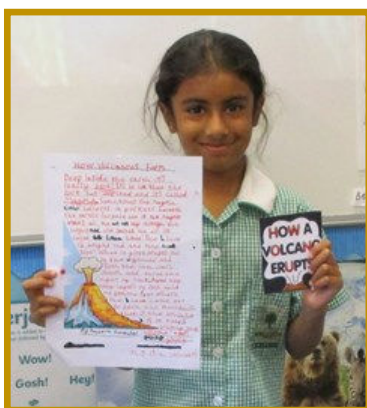
## Year 3C Volcanoes

The pupils in Year 3 worked extremely hard to learn as much as they possibly could about volcanoes. They were able to hone their presentation skills by sharing their topic homework with their peers. Some of the children chose to create an advice leaflet showing exactly what you should do in the event of a volcanic eruption, whilst others made Top Trump cards highlighting volcanoes around the world or researched how volcanoes form and why it is they sometimes erupt.

The children learnt that a volcano is an opening in the Earth's crust where hot liquid rock, magma, from deep within the Earth, erupts at the surface. Once the magma emerges at the surface, it is known as lava. At this point it can have a temperature of 1000°C.

Eventually, lava on the surface will stop flowing, and cool and harden into rocks. Rocks formed from lava cooling are called igneous rocks. Some examples of igneous rocks include basalt and granite.

A volcano can be active, dormant, or extinct. An active volcano is one that has recently erupted or is currently erupting. A dormant volcano is one that has not erupted for a long time, but has the potential to still erupt. An extinct volcano is one that scientists think will never erupt again. Time will tell...



## Year 2Z and 2S Puppets in Design Technology

Year 2 have been learning about puppets in their DT lessons. They have learnt about many different types of puppets and how people make them. The children have made their own hand puppets by learning how to sew the pieces of material together. It was quite a challenge but the children were really pleased with the finished product. The children then directed their own puppet shows and performed them to the class. Well done everyone!



## French Y2S

The pupils in the Year 2S class have been playing a French game from their CGP French books. The game consists of answering correct questions using vocabulary they have learnt throughout the year. The first one who gets to the top of the Eiffel tower will win! Bravo Year 2S!



## Instrumental Showcase Concert

At 3.45pm on Tuesday 7 June, Year 2 treated friends and family to an Instrumental Showcase held in the School Hall. All pupils who learn an instrument at School were invited to perform and we heard recorder, piano, guitar and drum kit. Everyone played extremely well, conquering the nerves of their first public performance, and delighting proud mums, dads, grandparents and friends. Thank you to all who listen and encourage these young musicians each week. A big thank you, also, to our strong team of peripatetic music teachers who visit the school each week giving tuition to the children.





## Oak-Tree Tennis

The Oak-Tree Tennis Tournament at Chingford Tennis Club was a massive success with everyone from all 4 schools competing and having fun in the sun.

A point was awarded to the winning school in every single singles and doubles match and the grand total was:

1<sup>st</sup> – Coopersale Hall– 17 points

2<sup>nd</sup> – Oaklands – 16 points

3<sup>rd</sup> – Braeside – 14 points

4<sup>th</sup> - Normanhurst – 12 points.



## Oak-Tree Spelling Bee

The Spelling Bee was held on Monday 23 May, hosted by Coopersale Hall School. Oaklands were fortunate to have 8 children representing us in this year's Oak-Tree Spelling Bee Competition. The KS2 children were divided into their year groups and were given challenging spellings linked to their age and curriculum. The four heats were rotated and each year group had a set of twenty words to spell. The children were challenged and they did us all proud.

This was a wonderful opportunity to link with all the Oak-Tree schools and compete against each other.

### The results were as follows:

Breaside School- 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Normanhurst School – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Coopersale Hall School - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Oaklands School – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

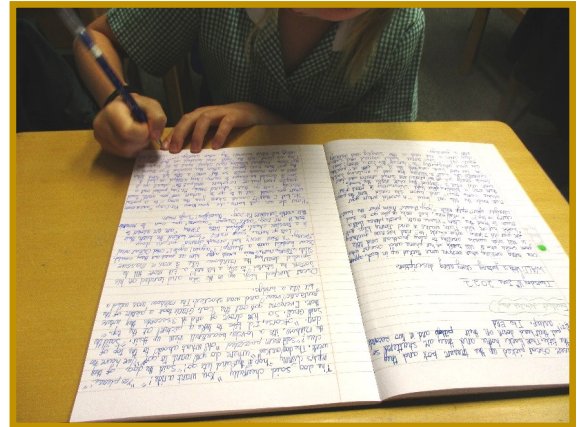
All the children across the group enjoyed participating in this competition and we will definitely enter the challenge again next year! We want to congratulate and thank each of the children who participated in this event. Well done Oaklands! We are very proud of you.





## Year 4C Fantasy stories

In English, over the last couple of weeks, Year 4 have been planning and writing their own fantasy stories. They have looked back on everything they have learned this year, and used this knowledge in their creative writing. This includes descriptive language, emotive language and interesting dialogue. Mr Caunt has been so proud of the children with all the effort and work produced in these tasks. Well done everyone!



## Year 5Z team work

Year 5 have completed a packed term full of Maths, English, Reasoning and plenty of assessment tests. The children have developed their problem-solving skills by working in groups to solve a wide range of challenges. Grasping the idea of different approaches to a problem has helped pupils appreciate their peers' point of view and has taught them to listen to other children who may have a better way of reaching a solution. The children also enjoyed working as part of a team in drama and music sessions in preparation for their performance of Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies which was a great success!



## Y5Z Jigsaw 'Changing Me'

Earlier this term, we introduced the final topic of our Jigsaw scheme in our school assembly to pupils in Key Stages 1 and 2. All pupils have now finished the final part of the scheme which completes the Jigsaw puzzle. The children are more confident individuals and have improved their understanding of Personal, Social, Health Education, emotional literacy as well as social skills and spiritual development.





## Y1 Paradise Wildlife Park visit

Year 1 had a wonderful day trip to paradise Wildlife Park. They saw some amazing animals and learnt lots of facts about them.

"I love the lions and tigers best of all" said Sofia.

"The red pandas were my favourite, they were so cute!" said Sienna and Margot.

"My Mum won't believe I've touched a goat!" said Shiv.

The sun shone all day and there was even time to have a quick go in the play area, although the picnic lunch is always a highlight on any KS1 trip!

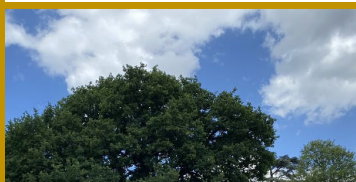


## Summer Fete

The Summer Fete lived up to all expectations on Saturday 11 June. The sun shone, so many parents and children arrived and stayed to enjoy the rides, inflatables, games, stalls, refreshments and atmosphere.

It was so lovely to see the school community together, and ex-pupils and parents, enjoying the event after a lapse of 3 years.

Congratulations to the OPA Committee for their wonderful organisation and thank you to all the parents who helped on the day.





## Year 5 and 6 performance of 'Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies'

Another successful production was performed by Year 5 and Year 6 pupils. This year, the children performed the musical comedy known as *'Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies'*. This contained characters such as the evil Sheriff of Nottingham and his gormless guards, King John, the lovely villagers and skunks of Sherwood forest, feisty Maid Marion, Robin and his Merry Men and a few funny comedians along the way. This production was splattered with shocks and surprises, crazy characters and comic capers. It was also filled with excitement, laughter, tension and it definitely had a few unexpected shocks. The children entertained their parents and friends with their beautiful voices and show-stopping songs. Well done to all the children who took part in this thrilling production. All your parents as well as the teachers are very proud of you!





## Year 6 Maths Fair

The Year 5 and 6 children were challenged to be mathematicians for half a day and manage their own maths stall at Friday's maths fair. They did a fantastic job in planning their own stall, designing posters, marketing the fair and on the day, challenging the children with differentiated maths problems that needed to be solved. We saw different kinds of stalls such as the flower boutique where the children had to add flower petals together, maths UNO, guess the shape, fast food stalls, tumbling numbers, lucky ducks, scrumptious maths, Ade Island filled with treasure to find, rounding up and down games, number quizzes and plenty more. Year 1 to Year 4 pupils were invited to support the Year 5 and 6 children and they all had a fun filled morning with lots of house points up for grabs. Thank you to everyone who supported the children and who made this event a spectacular morning filled with numbers. Well done to all the Year 5 and 6 children. You did an outstanding job!



## Year 6C Red Arrows

On Monday 13 June Red Arrow number 4, John Bond came to visit 6C at Oaklands. He told them all about his illustrious flying career in the Royal Airforce and now in the Red Arrows. He showed the class his jump suit and helmet. John had just taken part in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee flypast. He was flying the plane with the first red smoke canon after the 70 formation. The children were fascinated to hear about what life is like as a Red Arrow and had lots of questions to ask.





## Y6 Harry Potter Trip

On Tuesday 7 June, the Year 6 pupils visited Warner Bros Studio as part of their Harry Potter week. To get into the swing of things, the children came dressed up in their favourite character from the Harry Potter series. They were in awe of the wonderful sets such as the Great Hall, Diagon Alley, Gringott's Bank and Hagrid's hut among many others. The children were enthralled by the costumes and special effects and particularly enjoyed the Forbidden Forest with the giant spiders!

The rest of the week at school incorporated arithmancy, potions lesson in science and mythical beasts in English. Xavier said, "Warner Bros studios gave us a sense of adventure in every corner that we looked."



## Sports Day

The children had a fantastic time taking part in Sports Day this year. The day was filled with sunshine and team spirit as the children took part in a range of races, such as racket and ball races and hurdles to fun obstacle courses.

The parent races were very entertaining to watch, we definitely have some competitive parents at the school!

Well done to everyone who took part!







## Jubilee Celebrations

On Monday 6 June, the whole school celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Dressed in a mixture of red, white and blue. The pupils enjoyed a lunch of British traditional fish and chips with bread and butter and ketchup, followed by ice cream. What a feast!

In class, teachers and pupils discussed the significance of the Platinum Jubilee and the milestones in the Queen's life.





## Wild Woods Club

As you can see from the photographs, the children who have attended Wildwoods Club this term have enjoyed exploring our forest area on the second field!



## Year 6 Leavers Assembly

The Year 6 children celebrated the end of their journey at Oaklands by hosting a fantastic leavers assembly to their parents. There were many tears and lots of laughter but we are sure that all the Year 6 children will leave Oaklands school with tons of wonderful memories to take with them on their next journey. Good luck to the **Class of 2021!**





## Celebration of the year

It was lovely to hear Reception children recount their memories of the year. Lower Kindergarten and Upper Kindergarten sang songs linked to their topics with some making the most of being in front of the microphones.

Lower Kindergarten sang about being a superhero, Upper Kindergarten sang about spotty socks and Reception entertained the audience with three wonderful poems.

All of the children spoke clearly and sang beautifully. It is hard to believe that some of our youngest children have only been in school for ten weeks.

The celebration ended with Mrs Belej presenting each of the Reception children with a certificate congratulating them all for their achievements throughout their time in Early Years. It was a wonderful way to end the year.

Well done everyone!





## Prize Giving

The annual Speech Day and Prize Giving was held on Wednesday 29 June celebrating the many achievements and successes of the pupils throughout the year. The celebration took place in a marquee on the field which was packed with a large audience of family and friends. The guest speaker this year was Mrs Ginny Donnelly, who is a community fundraiser for Haven House. As well as presenting different awards, the afternoon was filled with performances from Year 1 to Year 6 pupils.

As this was Mrs Belej's last Prize Giving ceremony as Headmistress of the school, some of the songs sung by the pupils were linked to her memories of the school such as Year 3/4 performance of 'Tomorrow' from the musical Annie. Year 5/6 sang 'Saltwater' by Julian Lennon, followed by an energetic performance of 'Men in Tights' from their musical production 'Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies'. Year 1/2 entertained everyone with their 'Pirates' song followed by a catchy in the round version of 'I love the flowers'. The highlight was the final song, 'A Million Dreams', a particular favourite of Mrs Belej, sung by all of Y1-Y6 pupils, which was simply spectacular.

There were also reports about sports, our charity work and expressive arts read by Year 6 pupils. Each class reader read about some special highlights from their year which gave a fantastic overview of the entire year at Oaklands.

It was a lovely afternoon full of proud pupils, staff and parents and friends alike. Huge congratulations to all our prize winners and performers!

