



# Oaklands School

6-8 Albion Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4RA

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## HEADMISTRESS

Mrs Sue Belej B.A. (JNT HONS), CERT.ED.

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4 July 2022

Dear Parents

### Re: **Headmistress's Letter**

We have come to the end of another successful year at Oaklands. It was lovely to be able to hold, after a three year break, our annual EYFS Celebration of the Year and Year 1-Year 6 Prize Giving and Review of the Year events; I hope you enjoyed them as much as I did.

The children never cease to amaze me with their ability to perform so confidently and enthusiastically, irrespective of their age. I hope you have managed to access the photographs taken by our marketing department on the school's website.

### Reports

Reports have been published and all parents can download them from the Portal. I hope you find them informative and helpful. All Year 1 to Year 5 pupils have progress targets on which to build next year. Should you have any queries or questions about your child's report, please contact your child's class teacher or myself.

If your child is leaving Oaklands this summer, please ensure you have downloaded their reports and any other information from the portal you would like to keep by Thursday 7 July.

### 'Meet the Teacher' meetings

'Meet the Teacher' afternoon took place last Thursday, 30 June. All our current Reception to Year 5 pupils spent a 'getting to know each other' session with their new teacher for next year in their new classroom. Parents had the opportunity to chat with their child's new teacher near the end of the afternoon, which I hope you all found informative and reassuring.

### Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

The Year 6 Leavers' assembly took place on Monday 4 July in the school hall. It was a very special event to mark the end of the Year 6 pupils' time at Oaklands.

### Staffing

At the end of a school year we sometimes have to say goodbye to a few members of staff. This July, Miss Sarah Flanagan, who has been teaching Year 1, is leaving to join a school in Dubai with her husband, following her wedding in August. We wish her every success and happiness in the next stage of her career.

Mrs Melanie Arnold, the Office Manager, is also leaving to take up an administrative role which will enable her to work from home and spend more time with her family. She has been the most efficient manager I have had the pleasure to work with and we wish her all the best for the future.

### Resources

Although most equipment is provided by the school, we ask parents of pupils in Year 3 to Year 6 to provide a small plain pencil case for their children to bring into school with the following:

Pencil case

Lead pencils, rubber and sharpener

Coloured pencils

Pair of compasses (Year 5 and Year 6 only)

Protractor/angle measurer (Year 5 and Year 6 only)

Blue Frixion writing pen (following the Pen Licence award)

The blue Frixion writing pens can be purchased from WH Smith, Ryman or Amazon. Please do not send anything other than the above, particularly felt tip pens, ink erasers or correction fluids. Please ensure that all equipment is named. Thank you.

### Start of the School Day in September

Please note that the school doors will continue to open at **8.25am** from the beginning of the Autumn Term. This provides a time frame of twenty minutes for all the children to arrive. Registration will take place at 8.45am. If you arrive after 8.45am, please go to the school office to sign in your child. A member of the office team will then take your child to their classroom.

Many of the children will be using a different entrance to the school building to access their new classroom. There will be clear signage and additional members of staff available to help you to locate the correct door. Further details will be included in the September Head's letter.

We will be continuing with our current practice of requesting parents to say goodbye to their child outside the school building. Only the children should enter the buildings to go to their classrooms. We will be inviting parents into the classrooms for our usual programme of Drop-in sessions during the first half of the Autumn Term.

### PE Kit

After the success of having the children come to school in their PE kits on days when PE is on the timetable, we have decided to continue this arrangement in September. When we start the new academic year, children should come to school in their PE kits and stay in their PE kits on the days they have PE, unless there is a special event taking place during the day such as open mornings or school photographs, when parents will be advised in advance.

This is not the case for extra-curricular clubs. Children need to wear their full school uniform and change into PE kits after school on the days when they have a sports club.

### End of Term

Just a reminder that the last day of term is Wednesday 6 July. Pick-up times for the final day are as follows:

- 12.00pm finish for Lower Kindergarten, Upper Kindergarten and Reception
- 12.15pm finish time for Year 1 and Year 2
- 12.30pm finish time for Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

### First Day of Term

Staff will return to school on Thursday 1 September for two training days. **The children return to school on Monday 5 September.** The doors will open as usual at 8:25 am for the children to go to their classrooms and begin their morning activities.

### Oak-Tree Fireworks

The Oak-Tree Firework Display is booked for Sunday 13 November 2022. Please put the date in your diaries and join us for this enjoyable family event. Mr Hagger will be writing to parents in September with further details.

### Oak-Tree Ball 2023

The Oak-Tree Ball will now take place on Saturday 17 June 2023. The Ball is a very special evening with many highlights; do save the date so that you are able to join us. Mr Hagger will write with further information next term.

### Final thoughts

I would like to thank you for the support that you have shown the school and for the commitment you have made towards the education of your children.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the hard working staff, which includes not only the teaching staff, teaching assistants, specialist teachers and SEND staff, but also the finance and administrative staff in Oak House, office ladies, IT staff, lunchtime assistants, maintenance team, catering staff and cleaners for playing their roles at Oaklands.

As I finish my last Head's Letter to you all, I cannot thank you enough for the gratitude and generosity you have shown me during my six years as Headmistress. In particular, the gifts I received at Prize Giving from you overwhelmed me and I will treasure them, together with my wonderful memories of Oaklands, for a very long time.

It has been an absolute pleasure to know you and your children and to work within such a thriving and inclusive school community.

May I wish you all a lovely summer holiday and every success and happiness in the future.

With my very best wishes

Yours sincerely

*Sue Belej*

Sue Belej  
Headmistress



**OAK-TREE SCHOOLS** is the group name of:

BRAESIDE SCHOOL, BUCKHURST HILL • COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL, EPPING • NORMANHURST SCHOOL, NORTH CHINGFORD • OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LOUGHTON

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