

June 2023



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Headmistress's Message

The children have been incredibly busy with a lot of outdoor learning in our beautiful grounds.

Many trips have taken place including a visit to Southend, the Houses of Parliament and all of our Early Years visits. I am delighted that the children have embraced these learning opportunities beyond our own school and their behaviour, as ambassadors of Oaklands, has been impeccable.

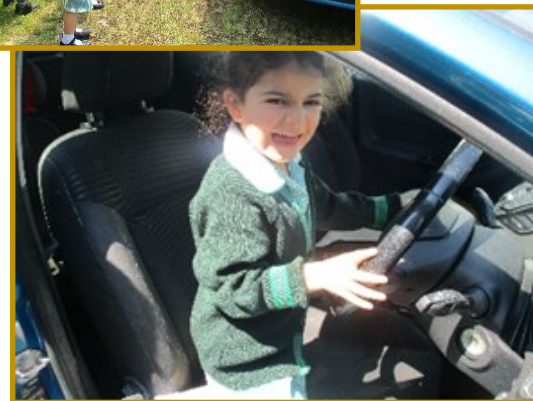
Our sporting prowess in the local area and beyond has continued throughout the Summer term and I would like to thank Mr Paine and all of the children who have taken part and on many occasions placed in the top three in so many events.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Sports Day and Prize Giving events.

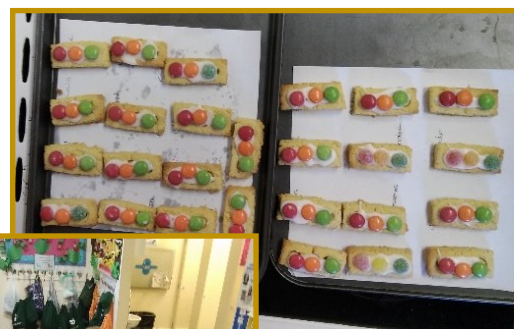
Mrs Copeman

Lower Kindergarten

The children in Lower Kindergarten have been learning all about different modes of transport. The children were invited down to the car park to see a real car. Miss Collins showed the children the different parts of the car including the engine, oil, water, windscreen wipers and headlights. Each child sat in the driver's seat and had a go at turning the steering wheel, all with the engine off, handbrake on and their key worker supervising! We would say the children's favourite part was pressing the car horn. This activity was a great opportunity for the child to learn new vocabulary and how parts of a vehicle work.



The children have also been introduced to the concept of 'floating and sinking'. The children were shown a variety of objects including a spoon, a rubber duck, a peg and a toy cow. They took it in turns to predict whether they thought the item would sink to the bottom or float to the top. The children enjoyed putting the objects in the water to see if their predictions were right.



The children had fun baking some yummy traffic light biscuits. They helped to stir the mixture, roll out the dough and cut out their traffic light using a special cutter. Once it was time to decorate their biscuits, we spoke about what each coloured light did. The children remembered that red means stop, orange/yellow means get ready and green means go.



Upper Kindergarten

Upper Kindergarten have been learning all about mini beasts. They were asked to draw their favourite minibeast on the school iPads or the interactive board. They had to think about what features they needed to add to their drawings such as legs, wings and feelers. They were then asked if they knew anything about their particular minibeast. The children did so well in remembering some of the facts they have learnt over the last few weeks.



Upper Kindergarten planted sunflower seeds. The children learnt what their seed would need to grow: soil, water and sunlight. First, they decorated their plant pot using mini beast pictures. Then they spooned some soil into their pot, added their sunflower seed and finally watered it. The children were very excited to take their sunflowers home to plant in their gardens.



Reception Owls

In class we have been consolidating recall of number facts.

Working with a partner, Owls wrote down as many ways of making 5 that they could think of. They were able to use their fingers, a number line, unifix cubes or just recall learned facts. Some children also remembered they could do a 'switcheroo' for example writing $3+2=5$ and then swapping the numbers to write $2+3=5$.



Reception Woodpeckers

We have introduced Traditional Tales as our last topic in Reception. The children have been excited to learn about the structure of traditional tales, such as how they always start and who is the villain! Whilst exploring the topic, we read the Gingerbread Man. The Woodpeckers then put on their own performance of the story, complete with masks! The children loved working in a team to act out the story on the outside stage.



Reception Robins

Robins class had fun learning positional language such as under, opposite, beside, over etc. First they used a block and then worked with a partner to show each position. Can you tell which word they are demonstrating?



Early Years Fathers Day Celebration

It was so lovely to welcome so many dads to school over two mornings this term in celebration of Father's Day. There was a range of outdoor activities available which included mud stencilling or painting, parachute games, an obstacle course, bug hunts, dressing up, the adventure playground, and large construction area using crates and guttering. The highlight for many was the 'soak daddy' organised by Mr Paine using water pumps to wet daddy through the target net!

Daddies, a huge THANK YOU for taking time away from a busy work day to spend some precious time with your child.



Year 1V

In English we made our own 'Bug Hotels' and wrote a set of instructions. The children used time adverbials and wrote them in chronological order. We used sticks, grass, leaves and some soil. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



Year 1C

1C had a fantastic week learning how we could help to save our planet. We read the book *Rocket Says Clean Up!* by Nathan Bryon and were inspired to do our bit by recycling any empty plastic bottles; just like Rocket and her 'Clean Up Crew' in the story. We turned our plastic bottles into bug hotels by filling them with sticks, twigs, lolly sticks, pinecones and bits of bamboo. We wrote instructions about how we made them, so other people could have a go too. We hung them outside and can't wait to see if the bugs and mini-beasts enjoy their little shelters!



Year 1 visit to Southend

Year 1 took an exciting trip to Southend-on-Sea. We visited Sealife Aquarium where we saw incredible fish and coral in tanks, watched penguins be fed and then had a picnic on the beach. We collected shells, built sandcastles and then fell asleep on the coach journey home. We had a fantastic learning experience and enjoyed ourselves thoroughly.



Year 2S

2S have been learning all about different poems in English. The children chose a poem and practiced adding in actions with their group. Finally they performed their piece to their peers.



Year 2Z

2Z have been learning about different diagrams and tables in Maths. They recorded how many times they had rolled a dice into a block diagram and answered questions about the data that they had collected. Well done, 2Z!



Year 2 Library Visit

Year 2 had a wonderful time visiting Loughton Library. The Librarians read them a funny story about a duck who didn't like water and told them how they can become a Library Member. Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed browsing the children's section of the library and sitting down to read. Well done, Year 2!



Farwell to Mark Hewitt

We said farewell to Mark Hewitt this term. He has been a caretaker at Oaklands School for two years but has been part of the Oak-Tree family for over 20 years. The children and staff were given the opportunity to thank Mark for all he has done for us at Oaklands. The children shared some lovely memories of Mark and what they will miss about him. The school presented Mark with a lovely book where each child in the school had drawn him. Some wrote a personal thanks as well. We then sang him a beautiful song about how we should never stop dreaming.

Thank you Mark for all that you have done for us at Oaklands. Good luck for your future.



WESSP Swim Gala

Oaklands Swim team finish in the medal places at WESSP Swim Gala!

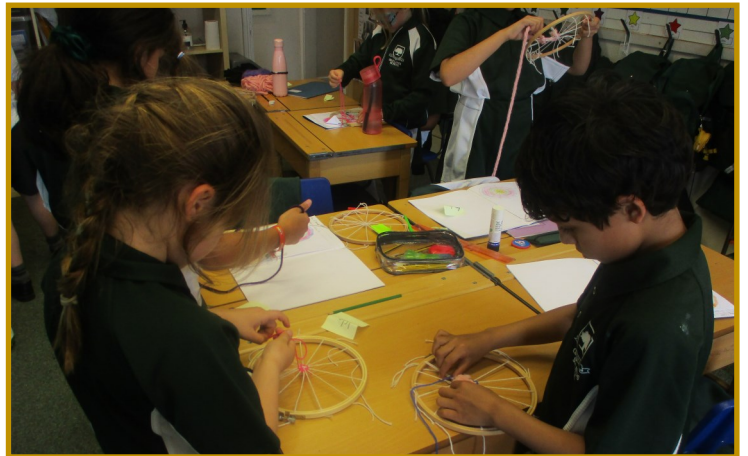
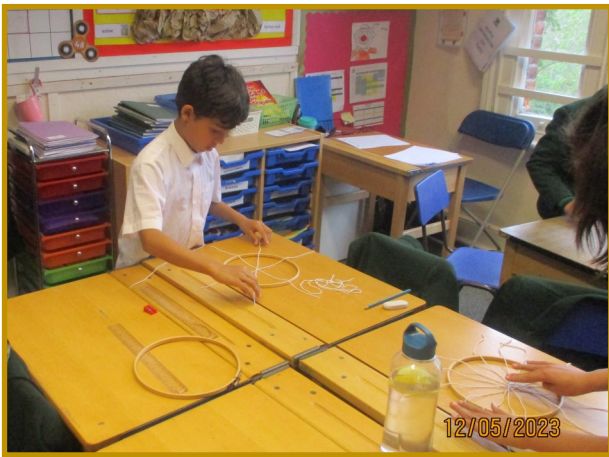
Oaklands took 16 very eager and talented swimmers to the West Essex Schools Sports Partnership Year 5&6 Swim Gala at Waltham Abbey Pool on Wednesday 14 June. In a pool (no pun intended) of 10 schools, some of which have 100 children per year group to select from, our amazing pupils finished in 3rd place! An amazing achievement and a medal to cherish. Well done to Arjun, George, Ana, Chanel, Gabriella, Ava, Max, Sammy, Ethan, Lucy, Lina, Erin, Abi, Jude, Denzel and Archie!



Year 3D

3D are having lots of fun in our weaving unit of work. Although to begin with, it was a little bit challenging trying to make sure that each section was equal and to follow the same 'over and under' pattern. 3D have had to develop their resilience, and learn from their mistakes. Despite at times finding weaving to be frustrating, all of the children have now got into a rhythm and are so happy with how their work is looking so far.

3D have also been working really hard in English to improve their use of capital letters and full stops. They had fun viewing 'text messages' of famous people which were full of mistakes! The children all worked very hard to help correct the capital letters and full stops. Keep up all of the hard work 3D.



Year 3C

Year 3 have worked hard this year to develop their problem-solving skills. The children are now well versed in using their maths knowledge to challenge and support each other. Working together, obstacles are overcome using strategies such as '3B4ME.' The process begins with the children taking time to reflect, before looking back through their work for ideas, and then approaching up to two partners for support. The children have made great strides towards being independent learners, a skill which will serve them well in every aspect of their lives.



ISA London North Athletics, Bedford

Oaklands school took a team of pupils to the ISA London North Athletics Championships at Bedford International Athletics Stadium on Monday 22 May. In a field of over 30 schools, the pupils had their work cut out to get into the finals, and then finish 1st, if they were to be selected for the Nationals!

They can all be very proud of their efforts as they all performed amazingly well. Highlights were the Year 4 Boys team finishing 1st in their relay heat, and narrowly missing out on 1st place in the final with a 2nd place finish. Annabelle qualified for the 60M final and produced a fantastic sprint, coming in 2nd place. Well done to all our athletes; Alex, Denzel, Rufus, Kais, Annabelle, Winnie, Margot, Sammy, Max, Prabhlok, Lucy, Erin, Abi, Ayianna, George, Arjun, Henry Ca, Ana, Chanel, Georgia and Gabriella!



Oak-Tree Tennis Tournament



On a lovely sunny morning, the tennis team took part in the annual Oak-Tree Tennis Tournament at Chingford School of tennis. The pupils had 3 singles matches and 3 doubles matches to play, in order to score valuable points for their school.

It was fantastic to see each school win a separate age group competition, showing the talent we have across the 4 schools! Well done to Arri, Annabelle, Denzel, Alex, Sammy, Max, Lucy, Abi, Ana, Chanel, George and Arjun!

Year 4C

In PE, Year 4 have been practicing their cricket skills, linked with their rounders ability by having a game of cricket rounders in the sun! Using their knowledge of bowling and batting, children secured points for their team by going around the bases. Team B won by 40 points to 30.

Lots of fun and enjoyment had by all in the sun!



Year 5Z

The Oak-Tree Challenge has been a great opportunity for the children in Year 5 to try new skills and challenges. As well as developing teamwork skills, it has celebrated academic, sporting and musical achievements. The scheme has encouraged pupils to think about others and offer help through providing a service in school or out of school. The children have been working hard through the year to successfully complete their challenge by the end of this term.

Year 6G

Year 6 took part in a first aid course. They all learnt how to administer CPR on an adult and were instructed how to attach and use a defibrillator. The children learned the importance of D.R.A.B.C when assessing the accident scene and casualty.

All pupils passed with flying colours.



Year 6 Warner Bros Studio

On Monday 5 June, the Year 6's 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!

