

Oaklands School NEWSLETTER



February 2024

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Headmistress's Message

What an incredibly busy half term with highlights from sporting events and visits from external helpers such as the Police Force. I have been thoroughly impressed with each and every one of the children who have worked hard both in their classes and on collective projects such as the Trashion show. Apart from being great fun, the learning surrounding this event was incredibly important for our children who will need an in depth understanding over the next few years on how to keep our planet healthy, beginning with the basics of Reusing and Recycling.

Well done everyone for a busy few weeks.

Awards

Congratulations to all the children who have been presented with either a Values, Good Behaviour or Friendship award since the last newsletter.

Class	Values	Merit
1V	Ruby	Noelle, Eva
1C	Saachi	Saachi, Austin
2S	Ava	Noah, Aryan
2Z	Omi	Omi, Emily
3CA	Olivia	Vallavi, Harper, Lennox, Aarin
3CO	Rabani	Amelia, Archer, Sienna, Sofia
4C	Amelia	Aria, Bryony, Jemima, Jessica
5Z	Arriana	Nhi, Margot, Denzel, Archie
6G	Hannah	Alice, Erin, Alicia, Ayianna

ISA Comic Strip Competition

Rafael in Y2Z won first place at the ISA Comic Strip Competition with his very original entry about friendship. We are extremely proud of him. Entries can be views on the ISA website by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.isaschools.org.uk/arts/art/comic-strip-competition.html>



ISA U11 Boys Football Tournament

Our 6 troops can certainly come away with increased powers of resilience after a very muddy and wet match. The team got into early leads in games 1 and 2 with Jimmy impressing with 2 well taken goals. The opposition soon found a tactic of kicking it long for the ball to stick in the penalty area and then smashing the ball in the net. Everyone warmed up on the minibus ride home and arrived back at school for a well-earned hot chocolate and biscuit. Well done everyone for all their effort playing in difficult conditions.



Stratford & East London Music Festival

On Monday 5th February Oaklands KS2 choir competed in the Stratford & East London Music Festival. Our 'class' was called "Christmas in February" and choirs were required to sing two contrasting songs from their Christmas repertoire. This year the bar was extremely high and it was wonderful to hear such polished singing from the different school choirs. The children sang their hearts out and were given high praise from the Adjudicator and although they did not win, the choir can be justly proud of their performance! Well done everyone.



U11 Oak-Tree Tag Rugby Tournament

Tuesday 6 February saw us take part in the annual U11 Oak-Tree Tag-Rugby Tournament at Eton Manor RFC.

It was the first time we held a separate girls and boys competition and it allowed for more pupils to take part, resulting in some fantastic rugby being played.

There were tries galore, magnificent defending skills to remove opposition tags and excellent sportsmanship on show throughout!

The overall scores were:

BOYS COMPETITION:

1st – Coopersale – 10 points

2nd – Oaklands – 6 points

3rd – Normanhurst – 2 points

GIRLS COMPETITION:

1st – Coopersale – 13 points (+6 try difference)

2nd – Oaklands – 13 points (+2 try difference)

3rd – Braeside – 9 points

4th – Normanhurst – 3 points



Lower Kindergarten Gruffalo trail

The children in Lower Kindergarten braved the rain and went in search of the Gruffalo! As they walked along the school field, down to the Wild Woods, Miss Collins read the Gruffalo story. They found the owl's tree top house, the snake's log pile house and the fox's underground den. The children searched and searched but unfortunately, they did not find the Gruffalo this time.



The children also really enjoyed our Gruffalo themed sensory trays -owl ice cream shaving foam and feathers, scrambled snake green spaghetti and roasted fox which consisted of tin foil, carrots, tomatoes and oranges. This was a great opportunity to encourage descriptive language, whilst exploring the different textures.



Upper Kindergarten Police Officer Visit

Upper Kindergarten had a visit from a Police Officer. Sergeant Smedley spoke to the children about road safety, stranger danger and what a police officer's job is. All the children had the opportunity to sit inside a real police car and try on some mini police uniforms. Some children also got to see what it's like to wear handcuffs!



Reception Woodpeckers

The Woodpeckers were very excited to go on an expedition to find the mysterious eggs. They found them hidden deep in the Wild Woods and were intrigued to find that they had hatched. The children speculated over what could have hatched from the mysterious eggs using our knowledge of animals that can lay eggs. Miss Francis even suggested, "It could be a dinosaur egg!"



Reception Robins

Reception have been learning about o'clock times. Robins have been thinking about what we do at different times of the day, making the times on our clocks and having fun playing 'What's the Time Mr Wolf?'



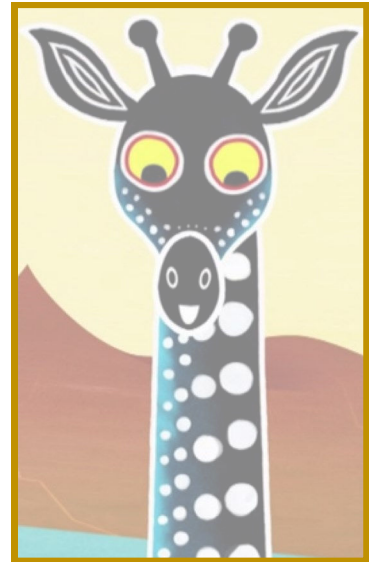
Reception Owls

As part of our Chinese New Year celebrations, Owls took part in a Tai Chi session led by Ms Refalo. She was very impressed with their focus and ability to retain and perform the exercises demonstrated.



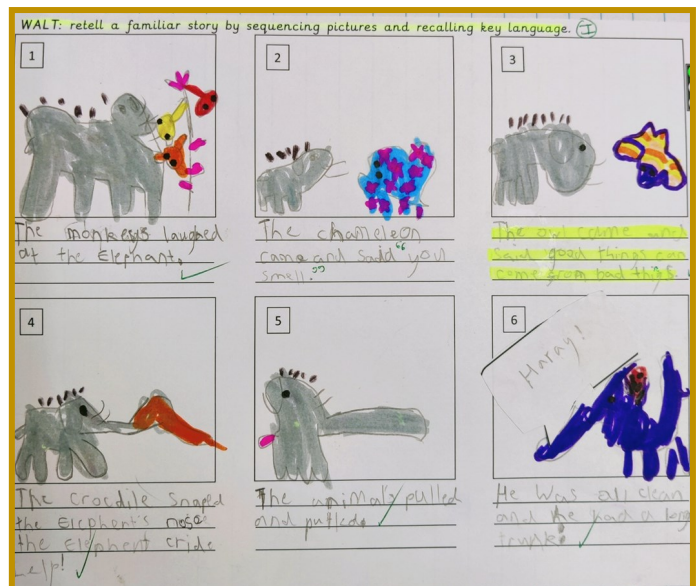
Year 1V English

This week in English, the children took part in a role play activity where they re-enacted the Tinga Tinga Tale 'Why Giraffe has a Long Neck' in small groups. The children took on the role of different African animals in the Savannah.



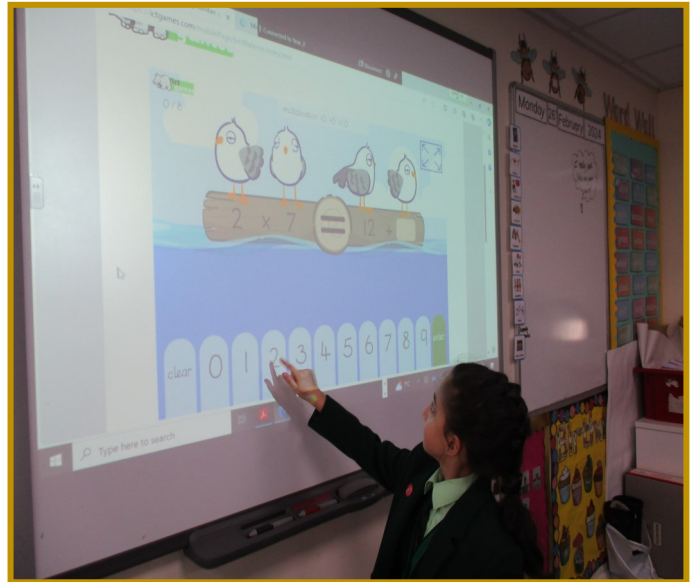
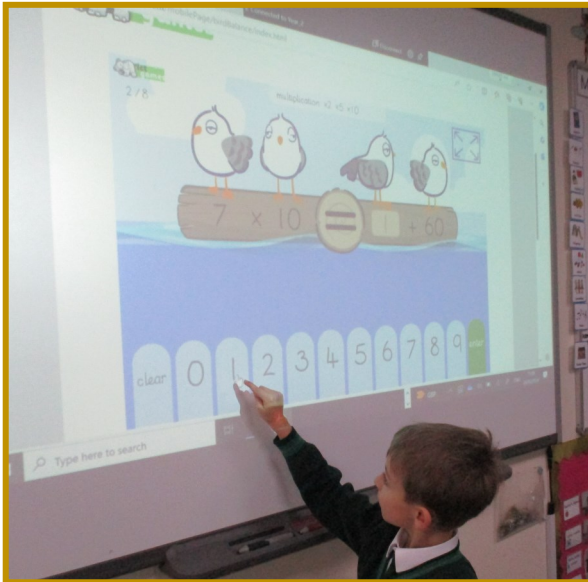
Year 1C traditional stories

1C have been listening to traditional stories from different cultures. They watched an animation called *Zahra* and talked about the story setting, the themes and the beautiful bright patterns used in the animation. The children also listened to some Tinga Tinga tales from Africa, where each story is about a different animal and how they got their main characteristic. 1C listened to *How Elephant Got His Trunk* and made our own story boards. We wrote captions for the pictures and used some speech bubbles. We are planning how to write our own Tinga Tinga tale next week!



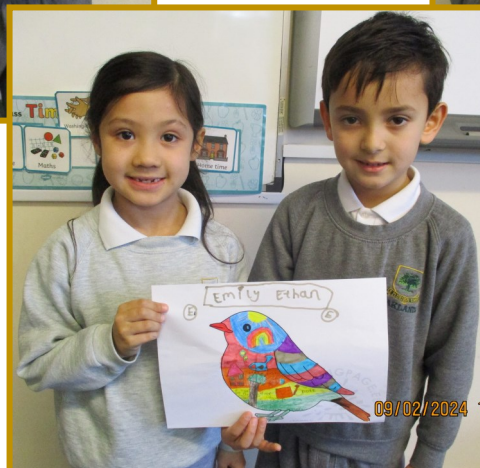
Year 2Z Maths

2Z thoroughly enjoyed practising their times tables in Maths this week. They have played a game called 'balance' where both number sentences must equal the same answer in order to save the birds from the shark! Well done, 2Z!



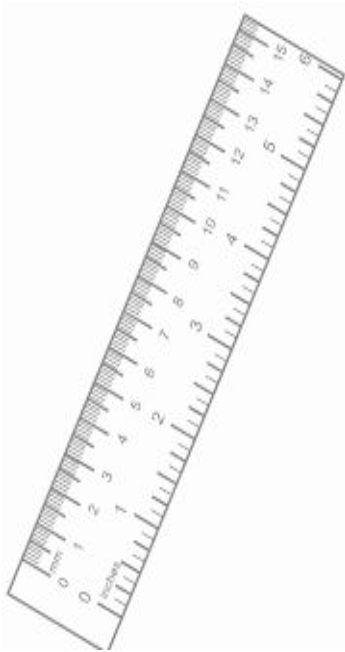
Year 2S

During our PSHE lessons 2S have been learning to work together as part of a team. They worked with a partner to design and decorate a bird with all the things they like to do. Well done for working well together.



Year 3CA

In Maths, 3CA have been looking at how to measure accurately using a ruler, in this lesson, we went outside to measure items of furniture, sports equipment and school equipment on the playground, decking and surrounding areas. Using a meter ruler, the children accurately measured different items.



Year 3CO

3CO have studied Antoni Gaudi whilst looking at mosaics. They created their own mosaic inspired by nature just like Gaudi. To celebrate their hard work, we held an artist gallery in class whereby the children were all able to view each others work. It was tricky at times but the end result was fantastic!



Year 3CO Assembly

3CO enjoyed showcasing all of their knowledge during their class assembly. They learnt so many facts about the Stone Age within our topic lessons and loved the opportunity to demonstrate their learning. They performed some fabulous songs and dances as well as playing a lovely piece of music using their recorders. It was a fantastic display of learning and we are all incredibly proud of the hard work and effort they put into their class assembly. A big thank you to the children and their parents for supporting them with their learning.



Y4 Eco

Year 4 recently created artwork to highlight just how essential it is to think ecologically. The children are very much aware of how their behaviour impacts the different ecosystems that exist on earth. In fact, it is fair to say that the children at Oaklands see themselves as custodians (of earth), where the need is to conserve, and hand the planet on to future generations in the best possible condition. The art we chose to produce celebrates these ideas.



Y5 Trashion Show

Pupils at Oaklands School put on a fabulous 'Trashion Show' where students modelled amazing designer looks made out of recycled materials. Our ECO councillors enjoyed being part of this project and actively encouraged others to recycle. Children in Holly, Beech, Sycamore and Willow houses enjoyed the challenge of designing and creating outfits made of 'trash'. It was fabulous to see the hard work, imagination and thought that had gone into the outfits. Well done!



Y5 PSHE Dreams and Goals

As part of our PSHE topic, Dreams and Goals, Year 5 have been exploring different job opportunities available to people. They have shared their future aspirations with the class 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 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.



U11 Netball competition

Our U11 girls netball team braved the cold weather and performed incredibly well at the ISA netball competition at Redbridge Sports Centre. They had some tough opposition throughout the day but remained positive. Their strong resilience and excellent teamwork will stand them in good stead for future tournaments. Well done girls, Mrs Davey and Mrs Booth are very proud of you all.



Year 6G Carnival

The Year 6 have been working on a 'carnival' theme in our DT lessons. The children researched carnival masks using the I-pads and then designed their own mask using their research as inspiration. They then used acrylic or spray paint for the background and then embellished them with jewels, lace, pearls, sequins and feathers. We have an amazing array of designs from Marvel inspired designs to colourful, feathered creations.



KS1 Football Club

In KS1 football club, we have been practicing our ball skills. Dribbling in space, passing to our partners and shooting. At the end of each half term, we put all that we've learnt into practice into match scenarios. The children had a lot of fun working collaboratively with their team mates and putting their new skills to work.



Year 6G Houses of Parliament

On Friday 23rd February, Year 6 travelled on the tube to the Houses of Parliament. After going through tough security measures, we met our guide and then entered the grandiose building where the architecture was stunning. We learnt about Westminster Hall where Henry VIII used to play indoor tennis. More recently, it has been used for the lying-in-state of Queen Elizabeth II. Luckily, the House of Lords were not in session, so we were able to enter into the chamber and see the 'woolsack' and the very ornate, gold decoration. Then, we were taken up to the public gallery of the House of Commons where we were able to see a debate on the space industry. After that, we participated in a workshop which entailed a fun quiz all about Parliament and then a debating session on whether we should have homework or not! The children had a thoroughly enjoyable day out.

