



Headteacher: Mr T Hassan

Oaklands Primary School

Great North Road, Welwyn, Hertfordshire AL6 OPX

Tel: 01438 715278

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Newsletter 14th June 2024

Head Teacher's Message

First and foremost, congratulations to our Year 1 students for completing the Phonics Screening Test! Your hard work and dedication to learning phonics has truly paid off. We are incredibly proud of each one of you for your determination and progress.

Equally, a round of applause goes to our Year 4 students who have completed the Multiplication Tables Check. Your commitment to mastering multiplication is commendable, and your efforts will undoubtedly set a strong foundation for your future learning in mathematics. Well done!

I would also like to extend a massive thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our summer fete. Whether you volunteered your time, donated items, participated in the activities, or simply attended the event, your support was invaluable. It was wonderful to see the community come together!

Please note that as Mrs Andreas is now teaching in Reception for the remainder of the summer term, the newsletter will not contain PSHE updates during this time. PSHE will be taught by Miss McGrath during this period.

POLLING DAY – Thursday 4th July – SCHOOL CLOSED

Please note that school will be closed on the above date due to being used as a polling station during the upcoming general election. In the past we have asked if the POD can be used for this purpose to avoid closing the school, but as we cannot safely restrict access to the rest of the school site this is not an option. We have also suggested the scout hut on Cannonsfield Road as an alternative, to no avail.

We will not be setting work for the children on this day however, we encourage them to engage in reading and to log on to TT Rock Stars or Numbots.

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School office

We are really looking forward to walking in the Welwyn Parade on 29th June with as many families as can make it.

Please complete the google form so we are prepared for the numbers

<https://forms.gle/e3oK8JJ2eTGuDZFEA>



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PTA

There is no news from PTA this week apart from grateful thanks to all for helping at or attending the Summer Fair. Look out for further news in the coming days.

A message from Mrs Thompon (SENCo)

Our next SEND coffee and chat will be on July 8th at 9 AM. This event is open to all parents and carers of children with SEND. It's an informal opportunity to seek advice, share tips, and connect with others who understand. We'll be joined by professionals from SPACE, including experts in speech and language, as well as school family support.

Sporting news at Oaklands

As part of 'This Girl Can week', which has been taking place across Welwyn and Hatfield, our Year 3 girls took part in a free golf session at Mill Green golf club. It was a fantastic opportunity for the girls to all try a new sport and they had a brilliant time despite the weather!

On Wednesday children from across Key Stage 2 attended a district athletics competition at Gosling sports park. They had a fantastic time and did the school proud, with some children even bringing back medals for their individual events. A huge thank you to all the parents and staff who supported the event.

Eco-Schools with Mrs Bissmire

We are excited to announce that we will soon be installing our flag pole to proudly fly our Eco Green Flag award. In the meantime, the Eco Committee continues to work diligently on plans for an assembly. This assembly will inform all pupils about the steps we took to earn our accreditation and the significance of being part of the Eco Committee.

Looking ahead, we are already considering topics to focus on next year to maintain our flag. Additionally, please remember to fill out the survey regarding our upcoming Funded Walk Project with Safer Streets and the National Highways Agency. Your input is valuable to us!

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OaklandsPrimary>

Donaldson

We have had a busy couple of weeks since May half term! We completed auditions for Oaklands Got Talent and celebrated the efforts of the children who were very brave performing their talents to the class. We are looking forward to the big show next Friday morning.

We have been reading the text 'Oi Frog' and found many rhyming pairs of animals and objects, e.g., snake/cake, ribbon/gibbon, lamb/jam. This week, we all had a go at writing sentences for these kinds of rhymes, using our knowledge of 'tricky words' and digraphs to help us. Some amazing independent writing was brilliant to see.

Phonics: We are continuing our Phase 4 learning. In this phase, we consolidate and build upon the sounds we have already learned, using more complex words. For instance, 'screen' (a CCCVC word). Every day, we recap all the Phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs and read and write lots of words with these sounds in them, such as: strong, scrunch, toast, spoilt, spear, stair, bright.



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This term, we are focusing more on the 'tricky words' (words that can't be sounded out; we point out the 'tricky' bit, e.g., in 'were' - the 'e' at the end is the tricky bit).

Last week: we, he, me, be, she, of, says, there, what, when, one

This week: are, pure, sure, do, were, here, little, was

Next week: put, pull, full, push, my, by, some, come, love, like

We will also move on to word endings next week, including words ending in 's' (floats), 's' (/z/ sound) e.g., crowds (where the 's' at the end of a word makes a 'z' sound), 'es' e.g., dresses, and longer words such as portrait/frighten.

Maths: We have recapped composition to 10. This has included bonds to 10 (embedding this and constant repetition are important for maths fluency), doubles to 10, and odd and even numbers to 10. We have also looked at finding 'how many' (addition and subtraction using fingers, counters, and tens frames).

Next week: Sharing (equally, finding out how many are left over) and Grouping (e.g., there are 2 groups of 4 sheep; there are 8 sheep in total).

Our topic this term is 'Moving On'. We visited the Year One classroom, had a look around, and played with the Year One resources. We found out where the toilets and cloakroom/pegs are. We talked about time—how we have all of June and most of July in Reception, then a big break from school over the summer holidays, and back to school in September to start Year One. We thought back to when they started at Oaklands last September, and we will be keeping an eye out for the new Reception children who will be having some stay-and-play sessions over the next few weeks.

Next: We will start to look back at photographs of their time in Reception and reflect on memories they have made.

SCARF: We learned what is safe to go onto our bodies, e.g., warm clothes in the winter, suncream in the summer. We recapped good oral hygiene (brushing our teeth twice daily for two minutes, front, back, and sides; visiting the dentist regularly; avoiding lots of sugary foods and drinks). The children enjoyed brushing their teeth at school.

Physical Development: We have been practising for the sports day track and field events, as well as continuing to develop our fine motor skills through activities like cutting, manipulating playdough, and threading beads.

Values: We recapped our Oaklands Values (Kindness, Honesty, Respect) and have been pointing out when our friends and grown-ups have shown us these values.

Murphy

In Literacy, we have started our new text, Iggy Peck, Architect. The children have enjoyed getting to know the key characters in the story. We have been exploring some familiar buildings and connecting key



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vocabulary. We designed and created our own buildings, using a range of adjectives, superlatives, and comparatives to describe and compare structures. We have also been comparing the two main characters using conjunctions.

Our maths learning has focused on place value to 100. We have used the 100 square to notice patterns and concentrated on counting from 50 to 100. We have learned about multiples of 10 and representations of numbers, some of which show multiples of 10 and some that do not. The children have used their knowledge of counting both forwards and backwards to label number lines, counting up in 1s and then in 10s. We have identified missing values on a number line, as well as marking the positions of given numbers on unlabelled number lines.

As historians, we have continued to explore Victorian schools. The children completed true and false statements about Victorian schools and wrote descriptions of aspects of everyday life beyond our living memory. They were fascinated to learn that Victorian children went home for lunch during the school day!

In PE, we have started our athletics unit, which ties in nicely with our sports day preparation. We have been working on changing direction at speed and moving at different speeds over varying distances. We are looking forward to our school sports day event!

In RE, Miss Oneze has taught the children about the Sikh baby naming ceremony, Naam Karan. They used an online search tool to find the meaning of their own names and wrote the meanings on pieces of card, linking this activity to the Holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib.

In the next few weeks, we will be learning:

- Maths: Comparing numbers with the same number of 10s and using 'greater than' and 'less than' symbols to compare numbers 50-100.
- History: Describing historical artefacts to find out more about the past.
- Music: Splitting a song to sing in two parts and exploring echo singing.

Dahl

Year 2 have had a very busy couple of weeks since returning from half term! We have been practising our class assembly, which the children have worked really hard on. They have done a fantastic job, and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did putting it together!

In Literacy, we have finished the book 'The Dragon Machine.' To complete this, the children rewrote their own versions of the story after creating their own plans. They used time connectives, expanded noun phrases, prepositional words, and creative vocabulary to create these. I thoroughly enjoyed reading them and loved seeing their ideas come to life!

In maths, we have been very busy as well! We have completed some maths assessments in which the children have done amazingly well. They worked really hard on these and demonstrated fantastic retention of all our prior learning. We have also been practicing our statistics by drawing pictograms, tally charts, bar graphs, and tables. They have grasped this new concept really well and are able to interpret and draw their own ones.



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In History, we have continued to learn about different significant monarchs from the past. They have looked at William the Conqueror and the negative impacts he had during his reign, such as creating the feudal system. They have also learned about the significance of Henry VIII during his reign and the positive and negative impacts he had. They are really enjoying this History topic and are asking very inquisitive questions!

In DT, we have started our new topic called Push and Pull. We have explored different types of mechanisms that we see in our everyday lives and their uses. They have also made their own mechanisms using paper. They created slider and lever mechanisms and brought them home as well!

In the following weeks, we will be:

- Literacy: Rosie Revere the Engineer
- Maths: Statistics
- DT: Creating and making their own celebration card using a mechanism
- History: Making a board game using information they have learned

Ahlberg

Ahlberg Class have started the new half term with an exciting topic on shapes. The children have been exploring different types of lines, including horizontal, vertical, perpendicular, and parallel. They've also delved into right, acute, and obtuse angles. With this knowledge, they have been classifying 2D and 3D shapes based on these properties.

In Literacy, we have embarked on a journey with a new book called Flotsam. This wordless story follows a boy who gathers 'flotsam' from the shoreline and discovers a camera containing a series of intriguing photos. The children have been focusing on descriptive writing, using prepositions, expanded noun phrases, and adverbs to vividly describe each photo. They have also written letters to scientists, seeking help in understanding the photos. The class has used the book's illustrations to make predictions about the origins of the photos and to infer details about the main character.

Our History lessons have been enriched with a special session from Mr. Sankey, who taught the class about the Roman Invasion while dressed as a Celt. The children learned how the Celts were initially better prepared than the Romans. They went on to study the successful Roman invasion and even drew their own Celt Warriors.

In Art, the class has been exploring mosaics. They have designed their own mosaics and are looking forward to making their own mosaic tiles next week.

In Science, we have started an investigation into plants. The class has labelled a flowering plant with its parts and their functions, and they have taken a closer look at roots. Next, they will be investigating stems.

Next Week:

- Maths: Graphs and pictograms



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- Literacy: Non-chronological reports
- Science: Investigating stems
- Art: Mosaic tiles

Morpurgo

Year 4 have worked hard over the last fortnight back at school. They have been preparing for Sports Day, "Oaklands Got Talent," as well as various other events that we will participate in this half term. We are all very excited for a busy final half term in Year 4!

In Literacy, we have focused on tasks related to the text "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe." We have examined how emotions evolve throughout the book and how we can incorporate this into our own stories. Additionally, we have engaged in hot seating with characters to delve deeper into their identities and reasons for being in Narnia.

In Maths, we have completed our topic on shapes. We have explored different shapes, understood their names, characteristics, and categories such as quadrilaterals, equilateral triangles, and isosceles triangles. We have also studied angles and the concept of symmetry. We have now transitioned to our new topic: statistics. This involves reading and interpreting tables, as well as analysing differences between various sets of data.

In History, we have consolidated our understanding of the Ancient Egyptians. We have put effort into our homework by creating models of the pyramids of Giza, which we have presented to the class. Additionally, we have explored the significance of King Tutankhamun. The children have shown keen interest in the different pharaohs of Egypt and are using this knowledge to prepare PowerPoint presentations for their peers.

In PE, we have commenced our new topics: rounders and OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities).

Over the next fortnight, we will be focusing on the following:

- Literacy: Writing our own story inspired by "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe."
- Maths: Wrapping up our Statistics unit and moving on to position and direction.
- Art: Exploring Islamic art.
- DT (Design Technology): Creating moving buildings.

Westall

In literacy, we are continuing to read about Odysseus's epic tale in 'The Odyssey' by Gillian Cross. We have reached the part where Odysseus encounters a six-headed monster and battles to save his vessel from her wrath. We wrote a descriptive piece on how Scylla attacked the ship and the devastating consequences. Additionally, we have started planning our own epic adventure story.

In maths, we have completed our unit on decimals. We practiced multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, and 1000 with decimals, and solved problems involving missing values. Our next unit will focus on negative numbers. We are exploring negative numbers in real-life contexts such as temperatures, distances above and below sea level, and the number of floors in buildings that extend underground. We are also practicing counting both forwards and backwards through zero, and in multiples.



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In science, as part of our topic on 'Properties and Changes of Materials', we discussed the definition of solubility and its implications. We watched a video on the process of dissolving and learned key terminology such as solvent, solute, solution, soluble, and insoluble. Working in small groups, we tested the solubility of different materials in water and recorded our findings in a table. We discussed the results and addressed any errors or misconceptions before completing questions in our books.

In art, part of our 'Mixed Media' unit involved creating a fabric crumb on a felt square using small pieces of materials. We experimented with techniques such as layering and overlapping with fabric scraps, and enhanced our work with beads and sequins. Additionally, we made handcrafted paper by tearing up newspaper, mixing it with water, and adding seeds, flowers, and leaves for decoration.

During our PE lessons, we focused on learning cricket skills. In our first lesson, we practiced developing our throwing and deep catching techniques, as well as securely collecting the ball with two hands. In the second lesson, we worked on improving our bowling accuracy by drawing a number 6 with our bowling arm and stepping forward with our opposite foot to build momentum.

Looking ahead, in the next fortnight we will be learning:

- Maths: How to convert units of measure
- Literacy: How to sequence and summarise the main events of a story
- Science: How to separate mixtures by sieving and filtering
- RE: About the Hajj pilgrimage
- Art: How to make a paper collage

Tolkien

In Literacy, we have completed 'Boy in the Tower'. We wrote our own narratives based on the book, incorporating characters and dialogue.

In Maths, we've been tackling numerous problem-solving and reasoning questions, such as how to solve various calculator problems when the 4 key has stopped working.

In DT (Design Technology), we've begun our 'Make Do and Mend' topic, exploring the efforts during wartime and understanding its significance.

In Art, we've been exploring abstraction further, experimenting specifically with abstract shapes.

In Reading, we've continued with our book 'The Wolf Wilder'.

In Science, we conducted practical experiments demonstrating how natural variation leads to evolution within species (for example, how birds' beaks vary in shape due to different diets).

We've also dedicated a lot of time to rehearsing our play, 'The Greatest Show'.

Coming up...

- In Literacy, we'll be starting a horror book.



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- In DT, we will create clothing items from existing clothes.
- In History, we will continue our studies on wartime history.

Diary Dates

| Monday 27th - Friday 31st May: Half term | |
|---|--|
| Tuesday 18th June | Sports Day - Reception and KS1 AM, KS2 PM |
| Wednesday 19th June | Reserve Sports Day - Reception and KS1 AM, KS2 PM. |
| Friday 21st June | Oaklands does Comic Relief Talent show AM |
| Monday 24th - Friday 28th June | Diversity Week |
| Tuesday 25th June | Year 6 show - afternoon performance |
| Thursday 27th June | Year 6 show - evening performance |
| Friday 28th June | Year 1 class assembly at 9am |
| Monday 1st - Friday 5th July | Year 6 Residential trip |
| Thursday 4th July | <u>POLLING DAY SCHOOL CLOSED</u> |
| Monday 8 th July | Rescheduled SEND coffee morning: 9am - 10am to be |
| Tuesday 9th July | Year 2 school trip to Paradise Wildlife Park |
| Thursday 11th July | Transition day |
| Friday 12th July | Reception class assembly at 9am Reports sent out to parents |
| Wednesday 17th July | End of term celebration afternoon: 2pm-3:15pm This will be an outdoor event, so a reserve date has been allocated in case of bad weather. |
| Thursday 18th July | Reserve date: End of term celebration afternoon: 2pm-3:15pm |
| Friday 19th July | Year 6 Leavers assembly: 10:30 - 11:00 am Year 6 children to leave afterwards. |



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| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Friday 19th July | End of term at 2pm. No after school club. |
| Tuesday 3rd September | Children return to school |

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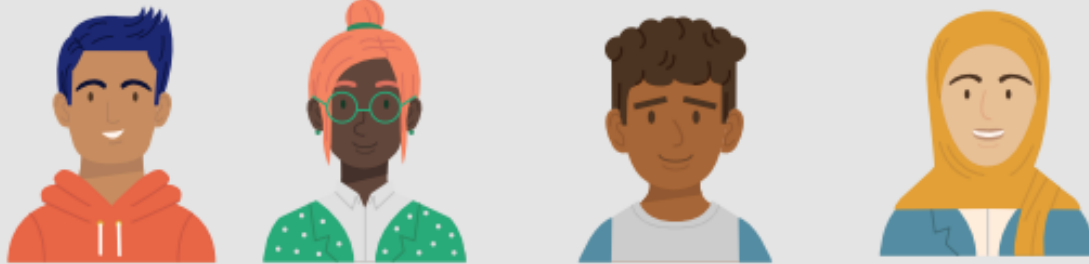
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ARE YOU A YOUNG CARER?



Do you care for a family member because.....

they have a
mental or
physical
illness?

they
struggle
with
alcohol?

they have a
mental or
physical
disability?

they
struggle
with drugs?

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*"Having people listen
and support me has
got me through the
hardest of times."*



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Mid Herts Music Fair

Come and try out a range of instruments at Mid Herts Music Fair - all ages are welcome!

This will be an opportunity for parents, carers and children to see what we have on offer at our music centres.

You will be able to try out different instruments and find out which one suits you.

Talk to qualified music teachers and if you already play an instrument, learn about the many ensembles we have on offer.



Saturday 13th July 2024



10am—12 (midday)



Mid Herts Centre for Music & Arts



Free to attend—register your interest using the QR code



01707 270025



www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/HMS-MidHerts



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**





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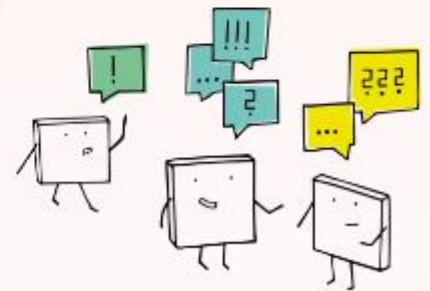
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- HOW CAN I EMPOWER MY CHILD?
- TOP TIPS

DATE:
Thursday 20th
June, 2024

VENUE: Birchwood
Avenue School.
AL10 OPS

TIME: 9:15am -
11:15am.

To Book a Place, go to this link or click on the QR:
<https://forms.office.com/e/nK7eK0qhN4>





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WELWYN 10k at Panshanger PARK

Sunday 30th June 2024, 9:30am Start

Organised by Garden City Runners in support of the Welwyn Festival charities

- Chip Timing • Scenic 10k event in historic Panshanger Park
- Unique medal for all finishers • 2k childrens event (4 to 14 year olds)

Venue: Panshanger Park, Hertford

Entry Fee: 10k £20* 2k £3

*£2 discount for members of affiliated running club

Entries: www.welwyn10k.org.uk

