Oaklands Primary School
Great North Road, Welwyn, Hertfordshire AL6 OPX
Tel: 01438 715278
Email: admin@oaklands.herts.sch.uk
Web: www.oaklands.herts.sch.uk
Instagram: @oaklandsprimaryschool

Headteacher: Mr T Hassan
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Morgan

Newsletter October 23rd, 2026

Head Teacher's Message

As we come to the end of this half-term, there is so much fantastic learning to celebrate across the school. It has been wonderful to see the children exploring new ideas, developing their skills and taking pride in their achievements. A special well done goes to our Reception class, who have done a brilliant job of settling in and becoming part of the Oaklands school community. We are so pleased to have you with us!

A huge thank you to the PTA for organising the Halloween disco, and to everyone who supported it. The proceeds take us another step towards beginning to install air conditioning in the school. Mr Kev has met with several companies, and we are now comparing quotes. We look forward to sharing more information with you soon.

Today, the whole school took part in 'Windrush: Then and Now' workshops delivered by Bigfoot Arts Education, learning about the legacy of the Windrush generation. It was a lovely opportunity to round off a half-term full of learning and discovery. Another thank you to our PTA for funding this.

I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable half-term and look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 2 November.

Class News – follow the links below to find out what has been happening in your children's classes. For Hazel class see Tapestry updates.

Williow Pine Birch Sycamore Hawthorne Oak Maple Eco-Council

OPAL

The weather has continued to be kind with only a few rainy days this term so far. A reminder that all children should have a coat and welly boots or alternative outdoor footwear to change into so that they can access all the grounds during break and lunch times especially as we venture towards winter. Do check the Welly Boot hut which is brimming with preloved footwear waiting for their next adventure!

Attendance

Parents and carers have a legal responsibility to ensure that children of compulsory school age receive a suitable full-time education. Where attendance begins to cause concern, the school will work with families to understand any barriers and offer support as early as possible.
When must a Fixed Penalty Notice be considered? Under the national framework, the school and local authority must consider a Fixed Penalty Notice when a child has 10 sessions of unauthorised absence within a rolling period of 10 school weeks. Ten sessions are usually equal to five school days. The sessions may be consecutive, such as an unauthorised term-time holiday, or may build up through repeated absence. Reaching the threshold does not mean that a fine is automatic: each case must be considered individually, including whether suitable support has been offered and whether a notice is appropriate.

Oaklands Primary School
Great North Road, Welwyn, Hertfordshire AL6 OPX
Tel: 01438 715278
Email: admin@oaklands.herts.sch.uk
Web: www.oaklands.herts.sch.uk
Instagram: @oaklandsprimaryschool

Headteacher: Mr T Hassan
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Morgan

What may be considered exceptional? The DfE does not provide a fixed list; the headteacher must consider each request individually. Exceptional circumstances are normally rare, significant and unavoidable. Depending on the facts and evidence provided, examples might include a serious family emergency, the funeral of a close family member, or a sudden crisis that requires the child to be absent. Where possible, leave must be requested in advance.
What is not normally exceptional? Term-time holidays, cheaper travel, work commitments, birthdays, family celebrations, visiting relatives, extending a weekend or school holiday, and travel arrangements are not normally considered exceptional circumstances. Illness and necessary medical or dental appointments may be authorised under the relevant attendance rules. Routine appointments should be arranged outside school hours wherever possible, however we understand this can be challenging.

OPAL

The weather has continued to be kind with only a few rainy days this term so far. A reminder that all children should have a coat and welly boots or alternative outdoor footwear to change into so that they can access all the grounds during break and lunch times especially as we venture towards winter. Do check the Welly Boot hut which is brimming with preloved footwear waiting for their next adventure!

Upcoming Autumn Term Diary Dates

Date	Event
Half term: Monday 26th - Friday 30th October	
Monday 2nd November	Children return to school
Wednesday 4th November	Year 1 and 2 Parents reading meeting 14:30 - 15:10
Monday 9th November	Flu vaccinations AM
Tuesday 10th November	Parents Evening: 15:30 - 18:00
Thursday 12th November	Parents Evening: 16:00 - 19:00
Friday 13th November	Children in Need
Friday 20th November	Year 5 class assembly at 9am PTA Christmas Jumper shop
Friday 27th November	Year 3 class assembly at 9am
Thursday 10th December	Christmas jumper Day
Friday 11th December	Reception nativity 9:00 - 9:30am
Monday 14th December	Whole school Panto trip - Gordon Craig Theatre
Thursday 17th December	PTA Christmas event - after school

Oaklands Primary School
Great North Road, Welwyn, Hertfordshire AL6 OPX
Tel: 01438 715278
Email: admin@oaklands.herts.sch.uk
Web: www.oaklands.herts.sch.uk
Instagram: @oaklandsprimaryschool

Headteacher: Mr T Hassan
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Morgan

Friday 18th December	Whole school Christmas sing-a-long @ 13:30 End of term 14:00