



# Oakleaves

Dear Parents and Friends of Oakfields,

## Key Dates 2017

Please refer to Class newsletters for dates and times of activities relating specifically to your child's class.

### Summer Term:

Tues 25 Apr—Fri 26 May inc.  
(Note: Mon 1 May is a Bank Holiday)

Mon 5 Jun— Fri 14 Jul inc.

### May

Thurs 4 P.T.A. Music Room

Tues 9 Year 5 Transition to Secondary School 6.30-7.30 pm

Thurs 11 Class Photographs—Kittle Photography

Fri 12 P.T.A. Spring Ball

### June

Thurs 12 P.T.A. Music Room

Tues 13 Kindergarten Sports Day 10 a.m.

Fri 16 Infants Sports Day 1—4 p.m.

Fri 23 Junior Sports Day 1—4 p.m.

Sat 24 12 noon—4 p.m. P.T.A. Summer Fayre

Weds 28 Showtime (Years 3-6)

### July

Fri 7 Reports home

**Sat 8 (9.30 for 10—12 noon) Prize Giving.** All children from Reception to Year 6 to attend in school uniform. **(Please save the day in your diary!)**

Tues 11 Parents' Evening (Reception to Year 5 only)

Weds 12 Parents' Evening (Reception to Year 5 only)

Fri 14 Last day of term

(Year 6 Leavers' Assembly and Year 5 and Year 6 Leavers' Party)



Welcome back to what promises to be a busy and highly rewarding term for all of our Oakfields' community: children, parents and staff. I do hope you and the children have had time out to enjoy the glorious weather that we have been having recently.

Many of you will have noted from our Facebook page that several Oakfields' families attended Wembley Stadium on a gloriously hot Sunday, 8th April, in order to see the 'double-header' rugby union fixture between Saracens Rugby and Harlequins Rugby. Moreover, Oakfields' children were lucky enough to take part in Saracens' 'Pride in Unity' parade around the Stadium, waving and smiling broadly, before a crowd of 71,000 cheering fans! It was a truly memorable occasion, whereby Oakfields' children, suitably

equipped with school flags, were captured not once, but twice, onto the big screen at Wembley! The children's impeccable behavior and superb enthusiasm was commented upon by the Saracens' organisers and other participating rugby clubs. Thank you Mr Matthews for arranging this and thank you also to our wonderful parents who supported the event ensuring that so many of our children could experience this unique occasion.



With the commencement of the Summer Term, Years 5 and 6 may now look forward to a six-week cycle of exciting activities at Stubbers Adventure Park where they will experience and learn about a whole variety of different disciplines from climbing the high ropes to a team building obstacle course. Furthermore, next week sees the excitement of our Multi-Cultural week which will allow the children to widen their horizons and learn more about far flung countries. Many thanks to Mrs Smith for organising this. Likewise, the biennial residential trip to Etaples in France, is eagerly anticipated - superbly and meticulously organised by our very own outstanding Madame Helene Bernard.



Finally, the latter part of the summer term, will see children, staff and parents bid a fond farewell to our current Year 6 class. This process, once again, involves our annual Extravaganza, 'Showtime', coupled with a 'Leavers' Assembly', a 'Leavers' Disco' - not forgetting the 'time capsule' burial.

In the second half of summer term, Year 6 Vienna will be head teacher for the day and we look forward to sharing her debriefing—and perhaps feedback from a lesson observation—at home time! Meanwhile Mr. Gill and Miss Derbidge provided the winning bid for a party for Zara and so plans are afoot to organize the entertainment, involving of course the help and support of those teachers who have kindly offered their services!

Over/....

## J & S BESPOKE SCHOOLWEAR

J & S offer a 'click and collect' service via their website: [www.bespokeschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.bespokeschoolwear.co.uk). Orders can then be collected from the school. They can also be found in the school library each Friday (term-time only) 3—4.30 p.m.





Summer Fayre - Parent Mrs Adams-Browning has come up with another wonderful idea to involve EVERY child in Oakfields' colourful, flamboyant and spectacular Summer Fayre – to be revealed shortly! Maybe the clue is in the P.T.A.'s beautiful poster? (left).

We had our videographer in school a week or two prior to the English Speaking Board (ESB) exams and so took the opportunity to record some of the children running through their presentations. The result is a wonderfully put together video that will shortly be made available for all parents to view. When viewing, please note that it was impossible to disrupt the children's timetables to "select" the children who took part; it was done on the basis of which child was available at any given time. An absolutely fabulous video that truly captures our ethos.

On the subject of ESB, the results have now arrived into school and will be shared with the teaching staff, and then the children and parents. The Certificates will—as in previous years—be awarded during this year's Reception to Year 6 Prize Giving. Please can I ask that you to put the date and time in your diaries (over); it really is such a special occasion and all Reception to Year 6 children are required to attend in their school uniforms.

Work on our Communication Charter is now underway and a focus group with parents will take place shortly. However, I am pleased to confirm that the glitches in our website have at last been fixed and you will now find the Events Calendar and Fixtures facility is working. This can be found under the Parents tab at the top of our home page, and also under the School Life tab.

*"Teach a child to read, and keep that child reading and you will change everything," (Children who choose to read a lot at home do well at school).*

*Jeanette Winterson*



Can I remind parents to sign up for the School Gateway "App" and to remain logged in as we will be using this facility more and more? I must also reassure those of you who haven't installed the App, that you will continue to receive messages via SMS Text—this is about improving communication, not cutting parents out! It is just that there is a cost for SMS whereas messages via the app are free—to Parents and the school.

Over the last two days (Staff Training/Inset Days), teachers, Kindergarten practitioners, teaching assistants and specialist coordinators have all participated in a very informative, hands on, training day on Read Write Inc. (Phonics) delivered by Sinead from Ruth Miskin Training (right). Parents of children in Kindergarten 2, Reception and Year 1 may wish to refer to the Ruth Miskin website where you will find a wealth of resources specifically detailing how you can support your child at one of the most important stages in their development:

[www.ruthmiskin.com/parents/](http://www.ruthmiskin.com/parents/) or [facebook.com/miskin.education](https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education)

Congratulations to Teaching Assistant Kate Johnstone who took part in Sunday's London Marathon on behalf of the National Autistic Society, something that is very dear to her heart as her son has Autism. I know several staff members are keen to support this wonderful charity and so if you would also like to donate, here is the link: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/kate-johnstone-SAVMLMBONDS3332017-86613483>

Finally, well done Year 5 Annabelle who passed her grade 1 theory music exam with 95/100 at the beginning of April—ensuring a distinction. We await results for other children!

Whilst the staff have enjoyed a rest, Harwood Hall has become a little too quiet of late and we are all fully refreshed and excited to welcome the children back!

**Laura Ciftci, Headteacher**

Harwood Hall  
Harwood Hall Lane  
UPMINSTER RM4 2YG

Phone: 01708 220117

Fax: 01708 227911

E-mail:  
[office@oakfieldsschool.co.uk](mailto:office@oakfieldsschool.co.uk)



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