



## MESSAGE FROM OUR HEADTEACHER

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Dear Parents,

I have been overwhelmed, this week, by how very fortunate I am to be the Head Teacher of Oakfields. The children, parents and staff make this job, without doubt, a pleasure and a privilege.

My office became a space of quiet and concentration at the beginning of this week as I hosted two of our Year six children that were sitting ISEB (Independent Schools Examination Board) entrance exams. These took place over two days and were carried out in strict exam conditions. Many of us will remember the feelings we experience prior, during and after taking similar exams; it isn't always easy to keep our composure. However, both children were an absolute credit to their parents and the school. They arrived with smiles on their faces; they were focused but relaxed and, most impressively, supported each other in a manner that I truly hope others will learn from. I would like to take this opportunity to say that, whatever the outcome or results, I am extremely proud of all those that are sitting entrance exams. I know from what I have witnessed, and from the feedback given from our destination schools, that they are very special children – thank you.

It is for this reason that we feel it is imperative that we encourage our children to always do their best and aim high. So with this in mind, we hosted our first ever careers morning and what a success it was! It was an absolute delight to see our Year five and six children asking insightful questions and being genuinely interested in each of the occupations that were shared. I must thank the parents and new visitors, that took the time out of their busy schedules, to work with the children and answer their many questions. It was clear to see that the children were inspired by the thoughtful presentations given. I am also very grateful for the positive feedback that has been given following the event. We cannot wait to host the next one!

If anyone out there wants to be a Head Teacher, please come and see me for some careers advice – because I still believe this really is the best job in the world!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Carroll  
Headteacher

## HEAD TEACHERS AWARDS

- Year 6 - Fred E
- Year 5MB - Freya K
- Year 5UN - Anita D
- Year 4CM - Milly W
- Year 4JM - Phoebe P
- Year 3 - Ismael D
- Year 2 - Ranvir M
- Year 1 - Kayhan S
- RNC - Livia R
- RJW - Alexis O



## WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

- Y1 - 90.9%
- Y2 - 90.6%
- Y3 - 100%
- 4JM - 97.5%
- 4CM - 95%
- 5UN - 96.2%
- 5MB - 96.3%
- Y6 - 95.7%



## HOUSE POINTS

- 1st: Chestnut 254
- 2nd: Oak and Beech 229
- 3rd: Elm 172



Year 3 pen license winners:  
Madeline and Zariah

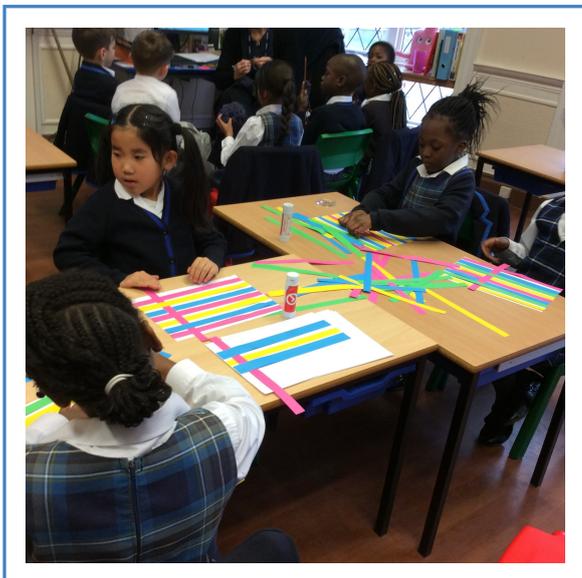
# Year Group Highlights

## YEAR 2

As part of our Science topic, materials and their properties, Year Two looked at different fabrics. We looked at types of fabric and what they were used for, whether the material was natural or man-made and why that material was used.

We also looked at how a single thread can be changed through twisting and weaving, into a piece of material.

We did this through knitting a single thread of wool into a piece of material. We found this very difficult but great fun! We also wove paper strips together to make a mat! They looked really good!



## KINDERGARTEN

In Kindergarten our topic is to the rescue! So we were very grateful to hear from Mr Carroll talk to the children about keeping safe in our environment. Mr Carroll talked to the children about his uniform and asked the children lots of questions. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to ask questions. Thank you Mr Carroll for sharing your knowledge.



# Year Group Highlights

## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE

For the last three weeks, the children have had the opportunity to get to know a Cognita colleague from Chile, Lizette. She visited the whole school, observed our practice and gave an authentic touch to the Spanish lessons. She also brought her school mascot!

Today, the students in Year 1 were learning the names of fruit in Spanish with their teacher and Lizette, a native speaker! The students first enjoyed learning new words, then they took part in a matching up activity with the names of fruit, the students also drew two of their favourite fruit and wrote what they are called in Spanish and finally they danced “el baile de la fruta” (the fruit dance).

H Watson



# Careers Day

Thank you to Dr Adewole, Mrs Edinburgh, Mr Forrest, Mr Carroll, Mr Brentnall and Ms Emma for taking time out of their busy schedules to come and speak to our pupils. We had several intriguing professions represented including a Doctor, Solicitor, Veterinarian, Police Inspector, Cinematographer and Career Coach. The children had fun whilst gaining insightful knowledge to guide them towards a fulfilling career path!



All of our visitors were very impressed with our students.

Mr Brentnall, Career Coach, said...

*"They were so polite, respectful, pleasant and more importantly so switched on to thinking about their future careers! In my role as a career coach I use a card game which helps people identify their values and key elements to work they identify as priorities or not ... that then helps me advise them on possible career/employment paths and options.*

*I can honestly say how impressed I was with their thinking and insights .... I had conversations about careers that I would expect to have with adults!*

*I'm sure these children will go on to great things in the future at senior school, university and/or work.*

*I think this reflects on the fantastic senior staff and teachers at your school.*

*I would love to come back and do this again!"*



## SPORTS/PE

- Parents please ensure your child has their full compulsory PE tracksuit for this cold weather outside. I prefer the pupils to wear lots of layers including the school thermals, PE kit, tracksuit, warm white socks (or blue stripey school socks). The school fleece hat and gloves will be allowed for extreme cold weather conditions but not scarves.
- The golden mile club has had to be postponed until after February half term due to the unsuitable conditions on the field.
- Year 5/ 6 Girls netball team will be competing in a very challenging netball rally next Wednesday 30th January at Alleyn Court Prep. This is the first ISA netball event we have entered so we wish them the very best of luck! The top 3 schools qualify to go through to the National netball finals on Saturday 16th March

## UPCOMING SPORTS FIXTURES

- Wednesday 30th January - Girls Yr 5 & 6 ISA Netball Rally away at Alleyn Court Prep
- Tuesday 5th February - Infants Indoor Sportshall Athletics at Harrow Lodge
- Tuesday 12th February - Mixed Yrs 5 & 6 Uni Hockey at Coopers Coborn



## SCHOOL CLUB HIGHLIGHT

### **Basketball**

The Basketball Club gives the children the opportunity to develop their knowledge, skill and understanding of the sport. Sessions are delivered by Right Development Foundation (founded by Lamar Roberts) who are qualified and vastly experienced. The club encourages development in social, technical and physical aspects of basketball for all who attend. This week in Basketball Club the children had a fun time with Coach Leroy practising layups!



### **Basketball Club:**

**Years 5&6**

**Wednesdays**

**3:45pm - 4:45pm**

**Years 3&4**

**Thursdays**

**3:30pm - 4:30pm**

# Pupil Achievements

## STUDENT SUCCESS

Anaikh S in Year 4 recently competed in the UEL Judo competition and has won 1st place!

Well done Anaikh!



Aria S in Year 2 met with Brinn Bevan (British Olympic gymnast) at her club's invitational competition, where she picked up level 1 gold for floor and silver for vault!

Well done Aria!



Thought for  
the week

## Accomplishment

"It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things."

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)



# Welcome New Staff

Mrs Vardin - Year 3 Teacher

I was born in Mauritius and moved to London at a young age. I studied Languages and Management at Kings College London and spent 15 years in Banking until I decided to go into Teaching. I completed my PGCE and taught various subjects in Secondary secondary schools with some exposure into Primary around London. Teaching is my passion and I have the children's best interest in mind at all times. To sum it all up I will use this quote 'If a child can't learn the way we teach, may be we should teach the way they learn'.

Mrs Perry - Forest School

An ex School teacher based in Havering, Sue returned to education in 2013 following a successful career in HR. Her love of being outdoors lead to her interest in environmental education and volunteering at Essex Wildlife Trust (EWT). In February 2014 Sue joined the education team at EWT and ran many outdoor learning sessions for school aged children and events for families, scouting groups and guides. She began training as a Forest School Practitioner in 2014 and since then has set up a number of Forest Schools on behalf of EWT for all ages. Sue has also qualified as an Outdoor Learning Practitioner and a Coastal Schools Practitioner. In 2016 Sue set up her own company Branching Out-woods and has been working in a Primary Academy in Southend running Forest School for Years 1, 2, 3 and 5 and also at another Cognita School St Margaret's Prep School in Gosfield. Sue lives locally and went to school in the area. She loves hiking and camping and cooking outdoors. She is very keen on nature and looking after the environment.

## Year 3 at Forest School this week



## SCHOOL UNIFORM

### Reception:

Blazer  
Girls Pinafore/Summer Dress  
Trousers/Shorts  
Navy (Sky Trim) Jumpers/Cardigans  
School Coat  
Girls Winter Hat/Summer Boater  
Boys Winter Cap/Summercap  
Elasticated Tie  
Book Bag  
PE bag  
Royal PE shorts  
PE White School PE shirt  
Swim Bag  
Swim costume/trunks  
Swim hat

### Years 1-5:

Blazers  
Girls Kilts/Summer Dress  
Trousers/Shorts  
Shirts/Rever Blouses  
Navy(Sky Trim) Jumpers/Cardigans  
School Coat  
Girls Winter Hat/Summer Boater  
Boys Winter Cap/Summer cap  
Tie  
Water bottle  
Winter hat, scarf and gloves  
Tracksuit (Year 3-6)  
Rugby top (Year 3-6)  
PE polo shirt  
PE skort or shorts  
Base layer  
Swim costume/trunks  
Swim hat  
Junior Rucksack (Year 1-2 Book bag)  
Sports Bag (Year 1-2 PE bag)  
Swim bag



***Please ensure all items of your child's uniform is clearly marked with their names to avoid items getting lost or taken by accident.***

***Thank you***

### \*Severe Weather Procedures\*

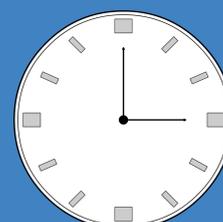
During the winter months, severe weather conditions may make it impossible for students and staff to come to school. These conditions are rare and are unlikely to occur every year and our aim is always to keep the school open, however, our priority must be the safety of our students and staff. When such weather conditions occur, I would like parents to be aware of the following routines:

As with any emergency:

- If the school needs to close, parents will be notified via email, Twitter and the school website (please make sure that we have your most up to date contact information);
- School staff will always stay with, and look after, any students who are on site waiting to be collected;
- Work will be set by the class teacher

### \*Lates Reminder\*

We still have some pupils arriving late. Please remember school starts at 8.50am. It is extremely important your child arrives at school on time as work has been set for them to complete. Being 15 minutes late every morning for a week adds up to 1 hour and 15 minutes of school time lost, over a half term this is 7 and a half hours! This is more than a whole school day. Please ensure your child arrives on time and is ready to work.



# Upcoming Events

## Dates for your Diary

- Monday 4th February - Reception Coffee Morning/Young Voices Years 5 & 6 choir
- Tuesday 5th February -Year 1 Coffee Morning
- Wednesday 6th February - Kindergarten Stay and Play
- Friday 8th February - Kindergarten Coffee Morning
- Monday 11th February - Year 5 Coffee Morning
- Tuesday 12th February - Year 6 Coffee Morning
- Wednesday 13th February - Year 2 Coffee Morning
- Mon 18th February - Fri 22nd February - HALF TERM
- Monday 25th February - Year 3 Coffee Morning
- Tuesday 26th February - Year 4 Coffee Morning



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Google Review

Would you be interested in writing a review for OMS? Simply go to [www.google.co.uk](http://www.google.co.uk) search for Oakfields Montessori School and click the review tab on the right hand side.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete a Google review!



# THANK YOU!

VOICE OF THE PARENT

It's not too late to have your say. We are very keen to hear your thoughts on what we are doing as a school, but also what we can do to improve. Thank you to all the parents who have already taken the time to complete our VOP survey, we look forward to receiving more responses.