



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Friends of Oakfields

I am sure that many of you are closely following the news with regard to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) just as I am. It is a concern that the professionals in this area still know little about the virus or its future impact. The current risk is moderate; because of this all members of staff are working hard to limit risk, whilst maintaining a calm and measured approach. I feel very strongly that we do not overly worry the young people in our care, whilst ensuring they are educated sufficiently on the importance of good hygiene habits. It is our aim to allow learning to continue in a happy and caring school environment.

I hope to reassure you by sharing some of the actions we have taken recently, as we work hard to ensure that we do all we can to limit risk at this challenging time.

- On Thursday I participated in a very informative and reassuring conference call with our European Cognita Headteachers. This was led by Stuart Rolland, our CEO for Europe. We are fortunate to be learning from our sister schools across Asia. Mr Rolland gave updates about the most recent advice and Headteachers from across the group shared good practise. These conference calls will continue to take place whenever there is a need.
- The Cognita Covid-19 Response Plan has been shared with all Cognita schools. As the school's leader I have found it very reassuring to know that we have the support of our Cognita professional family and the respective expertise available to the group.
- Our Oakfields Senior Leadership Team have met and worked through each stage of our response plan, in line with our critical incident policy. This gives guidance for all levels of risk.
- Very importantly Miss Brewster and Mrs Caffull are preparing with Andy Perryer, our Digital Learning Advisor, for the possibility of remote and online learning, if there was a need for the school to close.
- We have put in place hand sanitising at both school entrances and would like to thank the children, as they have been absolutely brilliant and so sensible when stopping to clean their hands.
- We have purchased a school Coronavirus kit, which would be used to isolate any suspected cases of the virus.
- We have purchased contactless thermometers that can be used to check temperatures of children and adults. Currently we are asking all staff, visitors and children to check their temperatures at home, prior to attending school, as a high fever (38 degrees and above) is a symptom of the virus.
- All visitors are being questioned about their health and recent travel prior to visiting the school.
- Mrs Makwana and myself have met with our cleaning and catering teams to review their action plans and ask that all staff wash hands on arrival and check their temperatures. We have increased cleaning and I would like to thank both Thomas Franks and Lewis and Graves for their valuable advice and support.
- I will be meeting with all staff members before school on Monday to give a further update and ensure good practise is consistent across the school.

We are not to know what will come of this virus over the coming weeks or what actions we will be advised to take. Please be reassured though that as a school we feel informed and as prepared as we can possibly be at this time. I thank you all for your continued support and understanding.

Mrs Carroll
Headteacher

WHAT'S INSIDE...

- Page 1 - Headteacher's letter
- Page 2 - Celebrating Success
- Page 3 - Year Group Highlights
- Page 4 - Student Achievements
- Page 5 - Catering
- Page 6 - World Book Day
- Page 7 - World Book Day
- Page 8 - Coronavirus Update
- Page 9 - Extra-Curricular Clubs
- Page 10 - Extra-Curricular Clubs
- Page 11- General Information
- Pages 12- Upcoming Events

HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

- Years 6T - Dolly K
- Years 6W - Selinah-Shallom O
- Years 5B - Lila W
- Year 5S - Elliot C
- Year 4 - Josiah U
- Year 3 - Aria S
- Year 2 - Daniella S
- Year 1G - Livia C
- Year 1N - Arjun M
- Rec Holmes- The whole class
- Rec Stubbs - The whole class



TERM HOUSE POINT WINNERS:

- 1st - Beech - 2710
- 2nd - Chestnut - 2464
- 3rd - Elm - 2434
- 4th - Oak - 1937

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE:

- Year 6T - 100%
- Year 6W - 98.3%
- Year 5S - 94.1%
- Year 5B - 100%
- Year 4 - 95.8%
- Year 3 - 98.9%
- Year 2 - 95%
- Year 1G - 96.7%
- Year 1N - 94.7%

Year Group Highlights

RECEPTION

Reception travelled on a coach to the Discovery centre in Stratford. The children listened to the story maker and then entered a magical world of fairy tales to act out their own stories with their friends. There were many settings and character props to use and everyone had a fun time story making! Lunch was delicious and then time for a play in the Discovery adventure park. Everyone had an amazing visit and it was a perfect experience to support our 'Let's Pretend' topic.



Sports

UPCOMING FIXTURES

- Tuesday 10th March is Yr 5 /6 Swimming Gala at Abbs Cross Academy
- Wednesday 11th March – Years 5 & 6 Boys football semi final v Parsonage Farm
- Friday 13th March – Year 5 Girls Netball Rally – Brentwood School

Student Achievements



Kindergarten 2 Award Winners

Catering

WORLD BOOK DAY LUNCH

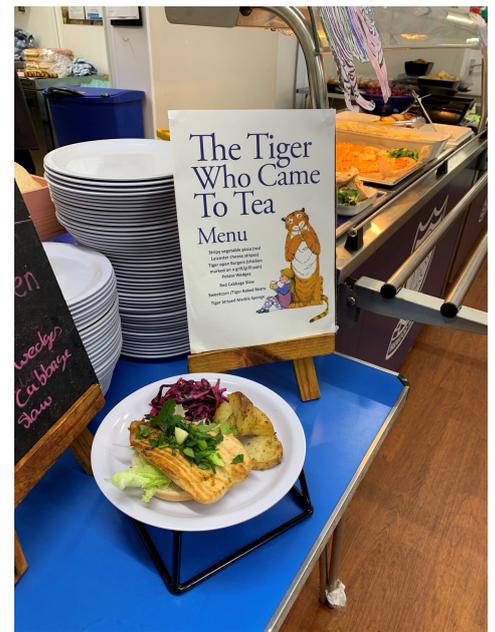
On Wednesday 5th March, Thomas Franks Catering put on a brilliant themed lunch for World Book Day. The theme was "The Tiger Who Came to Tea" featuring stripy vegetable pizza and tiger open-faced chicken burgers which all went down a treat! I must say the star of the show was the delicious tiger striped marble sponge.

A raffle was held to giveaway a soft plush tiger toy to 1 KS1 winner and a WHSmith voucher for 1 KS2 winner.

Here are the lucky winners below

- KS1 - Chloe S
- KS2 - Chloe M

A wonderful day for all!



KS1 Raffle Winner - Chole S



KS2 Raffle Winner - Chole M

Next Week's Lunch Menu

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ENTREE	Beef Lasagne served with Homemade Focaccia Bread	Mild Chicken Curry and Braised Rice with Mango Chutney and Onion Salad	Pepperoni Pizza with a Wholemeal Base	Roast Beef Yorkshire puddings and Gravy	Breaded Fish Fillet with Homemade Tartar Sauce and lemon
VEGGIE LOVERS	Roast Vegetable Lasagne Homemade Focaccia Bread	Sweet Potato and Chickpea Curry with Braised Rice and with Mango Chutney and Onion Salad	Margarita Pizza with a Wholemeal Base	Roasted Quorn Fillet with Yorkshire pudding and Gravy	Baked Cheddar Cheese and Broccoli Quiche
LIGHT BITES	Baked Jacket Potato Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Penne Napolitana	Baked Jacket Potato Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Tomato and Basil Sauce with Lightly Boiled Pasta	Baked Jacket Potato Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise
ON THE SIDE	Sweetcorn and Sweet Peppers Garden Green Salad	Roast Cauliflower Bombay Potatoes Sauté White Cabbage	Baked Potato wedges Garden Peas Californian Slaw	Roast Potatoes Steamed Broccoli and Carrots	Oven Chips Garden Peas Baked Beans
TASTY PUDS	Yoghurt Sundae with Sliced Peaches	Banana and Cinnamon Cake	Rice Pudding with a Mixed Berry Compote.	Mandarin Orange Jelly	Chocolate and Raspberry Cake

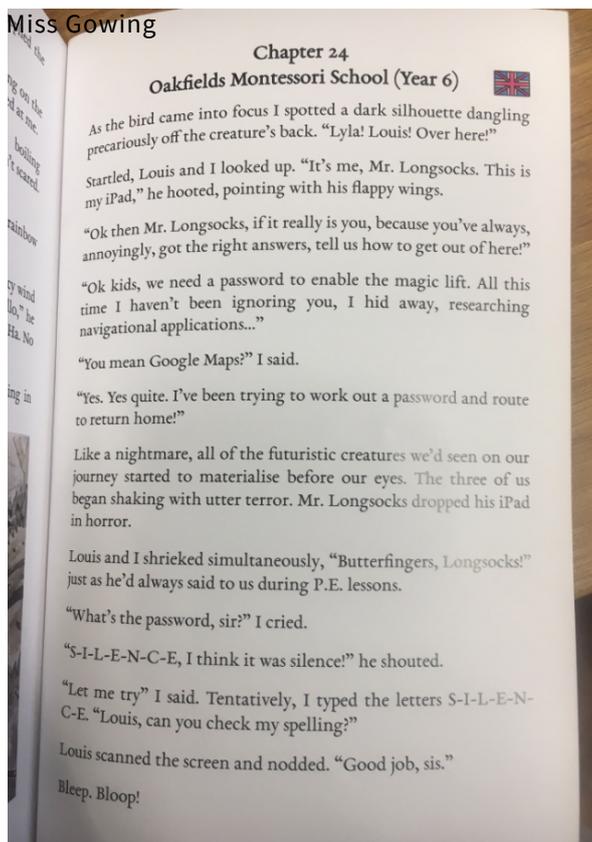
Oakfields Lunch Menu - Week 3

On Thursday 5th March we all celebrated World Book Day. We took part in various fun activities including:

- **Sharing our favourite stories**
- **Designing bookmarks**
- **Entered a National Book Token Competition**
- **Designed our classrooms doors with the front cover of books**
- **Entered a raffle competition and much more...**

COGNITA SHARE A STORY PROJECT

On World Book Day our former Year 6 pupil, Adiel E, became a published author! Well done to Adiel for all her hard work in creating an imaginative chapter for the Cognita Share a Story II. It is an amazing achievement to have been selected to create a chapter for a book which will be read by people from different countries across the world. You should feel extremely proud of yourself. I particularly liked Adiel's choice of vocabulary which gripped the readers' interest and for her clever application of anagrams. Keep up the fantastic writing!



PTA BOOK SALE

A massive Thank You to all parents and carers from the PTA for your generous second hand book donations and supporting us by attending our sale on Thursday after school. We raised £186.50 towards the new school climbing frame! We hope your children enjoy reading their new books!



BOOK COVER CLASSROOM DOOR COMPETITION

The winners for our World Book Day Book Cover Door Competition are Miss Emin and the entire Year 3 class! Well Done everyone!



World Book Day



Coronavirus Update

Dear Parents

I wanted to write to parents at all 40 of our schools in the UK to update you on our planning in relation to coronavirus in light of the government's release of their Coronavirus Action Plan.

In the UK, we are adhering to the guidance and protocols of Public Health England (PHE). However, one of the advantages of being part of a global schools group is that we can draw on the experience of our colleagues in other parts of the world and the range of measures they have taken to respond to the unfolding crisis over many weeks now. This has included using technology to maintain teaching and learning amid government-mandated closures of all schools in Hong Kong and Vietnam. By contrast, in Singapore and Thailand, our schools have stayed open during a period of heightened risk by implementing decisive measures such as screening temperature at the school gate.

Fortunately, we are not at the same level of risk in the UK, but we are planning ahead to ensure we are prepared. We have reviewed the UK Government's Coronavirus Action Plan published yesterday. While this did not contain a high level of detail, there are a number of key measures we are taking in our schools, including a heightened focus on hygiene, as Mrs Carroll explained in her letter to you on 28 February. Our additional measures include:

Travel. From a groupwide perspective, we have implemented a travel ban to the most affected countries. For some time, we have been requiring all our people to declare if they or their families are travelling overseas. One positive learning from Singapore is that parents there are self-reporting all travel plans to the schools. This allows their school to be fully informed in the event government travel advice alters and we believe this approach would be beneficial for our schools here in the UK. We would therefore be grateful if you would inform your school of any overseas travel plans by family members in order to monitor risk more effectively.

School Trips. We are working with our schools to take a measured approach for trips planned in the coming weeks. We are recommending the postponement or cancellation of trips to Northern Italy, which is the highest risk region in Europe. For trips to other parts of Europe and further afield we are following Government advice and conducting our own detailed risk assessments. School trips are a fundamental part of a child's educational experience, developing character and creating lifelong memories, so we will seek to keep trips running if at all possible whilst being sensible about the risks involved and keeping parents updated.

Social Distancing. We will risk-assess and restrict as necessary the exposure of pupils to significant numbers of other people, including avoiding large sports and entertainment events. However, we intend to maintain sports activities, including fixtures with other schools, unless the overall risk level increases.

Temperature Checking. As a precautionary measure, we are asking that you take your child's/children's temperature each day prior to coming to school. If their temperature is below 38c, they may come to school as normal. Should their temperature be 38c or above, we advise that they do not attend school but self-isolate and contact NHS 111 for further advice. We are also introducing this measure for our staff.

Possible School Closure. We are also preparing for the possibility of prolonged school closures in the UK in the event of a more serious outbreak of coronavirus. As we have done in Vietnam and Hong Kong, we would establish a virtual online teaching and learning programme, particularly for our GCSE, A-Level and IB Diploma students, who are at a critical stage of preparation for their national examinations. The experience of our Asian schools is that in these circumstances maintaining a structured, timetabled day is most productive, with regular breaks for exercise. We are following up with the various public exam boards so that we will know early what contingency plans they have in the event of a more extensive outbreak. In the instance that a school is closed for a shorter period up to five days, schools will deploy a remote learning protocol; teachers will provide home learning tasks to students by normal means of school communication. If circumstances allow, hard copy learning packs may be distributed.

Please be reassured that we are prioritising the management of this issue in a way that is both proportionate and well-informed. Our Consultant Nurse has supported Cognita historically through SARS, Swine flu and other epidemics, so we have great experience to call on. On a positive note, COVID-19 infections in children and young people are rare indeed and, where they have occurred, tend to be mild.

In closing, our commitment to children's wellbeing is all the more important at this time. Our Group Director of Wellbeing has shared this link from the Child Mind Institute about talking to young children about coronavirus without making them more worried.

We will continue to keep parents updated. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at stuart.rolland@cognita.com.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Rolland
Chief Executive Europe

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are pleased to introduce two new extra-curricular clubs for the Summer Term.

Young Engineers Essex - STEM

Young Engineers Essex is a STEM education provider, teaching Science and Engineering to young children using their custom KNEX and LEGO kits. We are very happy to announce that Young Engineers Essex are willing to offer their programs exclusively for our children, at the school as an afterschool club (subject to minimum numbers). The offering will be from the summer term and the club intends to run on a Thursday after school.

They will be offering two sessions:

Big Builders (3:15 to 4:00) – A session specifically designed to introduce Science and Nature to children in Year 1 and Year 2. These sessions will run for 45 minutes after school. (Minimum 8 / Max 12 children in session).

Bricks Challenge (3:45 to 4:45) – A session to introduce Science and Engineering concepts through LEGO to KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) children. These sessions will run for 60 minutes after school. (Minimum 20 children)



BIGGER IDEAS WITH YOUNG ENGINEERS!

LEARNING IS CHILD'S PLAY

AGES 4-6

BIG BUILDERS

Our Big Builders unique learning enrichment program introduces KS1 children to scientific concepts through hands-on experiential learning, by building 3D models, using our custom kit with KNEX® blocks. We believe that establishing this connection between learning and fun at a young age will pave the right way for their future education and development.

Big Builders (Year 1 and Year 2) Club:

- Increases knowledge about the world and environment.
- Encourages independent and creative thinking.
- Thursday's after school. £70 per child per term. 10 sessions/term.
- Please express your interest by sending an email to [Young Engineers Essex](mailto:essex@young-engineers.co.uk) by 31-Mar.

Step-by-step



078 7508 9219 / 079 1234 3849
essex@young-engineers.co.uk
<https://essex.young-engineers.co.uk>
<https://www.facebook.com/YEEssex>

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PLAY LEGO® and LEARN PHYSICS, ENGINEERING & MATHS. EXCLUSIVELY WITH YOUNG ENGINEERS, now coming* to OAKFIELDS as an afterschool club.

LEARNING IS CHILD'S PLAY

Year 3 to Year 6

BRICKS CHALLENGE

The Bricks Challenge is our most popular program and we would love to bring it to Oakfields Montessori School.

Enrich your children's world with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) through our unique programme.



078 7508 9219 / 079 1234 3849
essex@young-engineers.co.uk
<https://essex.young-engineers.co.uk>
<https://www.facebook.com/YEEssex>

LAMDA

LAMDA is the 2nd club that will be introduced at the school from the Summer Term. The sessions will be run during Monday and Thursday lunchtimes by a LAMDA Trained Specialist in the school library.



LAMDA Acting and Speaking Verse & Prose classes are now available at Oakfields Montessori School.

- 30-minute classes held in groups of up to three.
- Lunchtime classes available on a Monday and Thursday
- Suitable for Years 1 -6.
- £70.00 per pupil per term (dependent on grades) based on a 10-week term.

* Examination fees are charged separately and dependent on grade.

Who are LAMDA?

Founded in 1861, LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) is the oldest drama school in the UK. LAMDA started to offer examinations in speech and drama to the public over 130 years ago.

How will LAMDA benefit your child?

The process of preparing for and succeeding in a LAMDA examination essentially helps learners, whatever their ages or aspirations, to develop a broad range of skills that will serve them throughout life. Across the range, LAMDA examinations develop a learner's ability to:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- expand vocabulary to improve powers of self-expression
- improve confidence in speaking and listening
- memorise and recall information
- research and create persuasive formal presentations
- create and defend arguments
- engage in constructive informal conversation
- work both on his/her own and participate as a member of a team. Yes

All LAMDA examinations are rooted in encouraging participants to develop a love of literature, poetry and drama and thus improve standards of communication through the spoken word. This syllabus provides a wide range of opportunities to do so.

What are the exams options?

PERFORMANCE

ACTING - Developing a strong speaking voice and good memory skills by learning and performing monologues and duologues. Designed for solo or duologue performances.

COMMUNICATION

SPEAKING VERSE AND PROSE - Developing a strong speaking voice and memory skills, designed for individual candidates.

To register your interest or for further information please email: gemma_keeling@hotmail.com

HOMEWORK POLICY

We would just like to clarify and confirm the homework marking policy for the whole school.

Key Stage 1

Every piece of written homework will have a positive comment with house points awarded.

If the homework has not met the intended learning outcome then a comment will be written by the teacher.

Spellings that the teacher feels the child normally spells correctly will be picked up with an 'sp' in the margin and written underneath for the child to copy out correctly three times.

If a child does not hand their homework in on time then the teacher will inform the parent via a comment in the homework diary

Key Stage 2

Every piece of written homework will have a positive comment with house points awarded.

If the homework has not met the intended learning outcome then a comment will be written by the teacher.

Spellings that the teacher feels the child normally spells correctly will be picked up with an 'sp' in the margin. Some children will have the incorrect spelling underlined for them to correct. Others will be expected to find the incorrect spelling on that line and then correct it themselves.

If a child does not hand their homework in on time then the teacher will inform the parent via a comment in the homework diary, the child will receive a demerit and then will miss a playtime. The missed playtime is not for them to complete the homework. All homework is to be completed at home or at homework club if your child attends.

Homework

Maths: Mathletics given every Monday

English: one piece of homework weekly to be either reading or writing depending on the week's teaching.

Reading: 4 times a week and diary signed by an adult

Spellings: provided weekly

Additional homework

There may be times when each individual class teacher may feel the need to provide additional homework. This is down to teacher judgement and as a result will vary from class to class.

We ask that if you would like your child to complete additional work at home then you use the learning overviews as a guide to support your child with what they have learnt or will be learning the following week.

UNIFORM

Please be assured that any changes to the summer uniform will be introduced on a phased approach therefore the navy felt boater and navy socks are welcome however not mandatory upon return from Easter break.

HAIR GUIDELINES

We have noticed some haircuts and hair bows appearing in school that do not meet the school's uniform policy. Please ensure that all haircuts and hair accessories are in line with the following guidelines:

- All children with hair longer than their shoulders need to be tied back.
- Hair ties need to be in our school colours: navy or white. Children are not permitted to dye their hair or have any designs shaved into their heads.
- All hair styles should be natural looking with no colours added.

SPEEDING

Please note that our speed limit is 5mph in order to keep all members of the school community safe. If a parent has exceeded this limit, they will be informed. If this occurs three times, then you will be asked to make other drop off arrangements as exceeding this limit could endanger parents, staff and pupils.

Upcoming Events

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



MARCH

- THURSDAY 12TH - Year 5 trip to British Museum
- WEDNESDAY 18TH - Year 1 trip to Colchester Zoo
- TUESDAY 24TH - Parents Evening 4-7pm
- THURSDAY 26TH - PTA Easter Egg Hunt/Parents Evening 4-7pm
- MONDAY 30TH - Year 4 Destination School Meetings/EYFS Easter Bonnet Parade 2 - 2:45pm
- TUESDAY 31ST - Year 4 Destination School Meetings

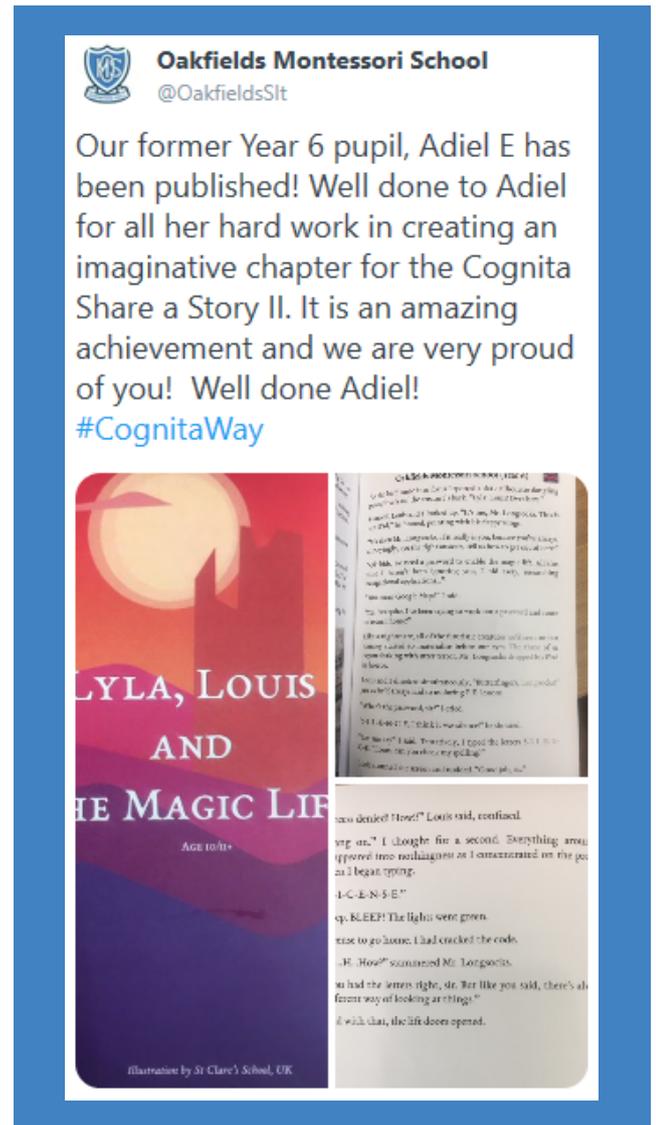
APRIL

- WEDNESDAY 1ST - MONDAY 20TH - **EASTER HOLIDAYS**
- TUESDAY 21ST - CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL
- WEDNESDAY 29TH - PTA Meeting
- THURSDAY 30TH - OPEN MORNING 9:30 - 11:30(**FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS**)

MAY

- TUESDAY 5TH - Year 6 Police & Crime Scene Investigation Training
- THURSDAY 7TH - Year 4 Rainham Marshes
- FRIDAY 8TH - **BANK HOLIDAY**
- MONDAY 11TH - FRIDAY 14TH - **Year 6 PGL**
- WEDNESDAY 13TH - Year 2 Hyde Park
- FRIDAY 15TH - PTA Ball open to all parents
- MONDAY 18TH - Parent Engagement MeetingsS
 - Yrs. 3 & 4 (9am-10am)
 - Reception (2pm-3pm)
 - Kindergarten (4:30pm-5:30pm)
- MONDAY 18TH - Preparation for joining Reception Presentation (K2 only) (5:30-6:15pm)
- TUESDAY 19TH - Parent Engagement Meeting
 - Yrs. 1 & 2 (9am-10am)
 - Yrs. 5 & 6 (2:30pm-3:30pm)

RECENT SOCIAL MEDIA POST



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@Oakfields.Monte
ssori.School