

OAKFIELDS WEEKLY

Weekly Newsletter of Oakfields Online Learning Experience

MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers

We are live! Wow – what an amazingly different and exciting week at Oakfields. In all honesty, I began this week feeling more than a little nervous as to how online Oakfields would be received by children, parents and teachers. We were diving into the unknown with the very best of intentions, lots of enthusiasm and thankfully the support and team spirit amongst the staff – I cannot thank them enough for all they have done. Their excitement about seeing the children and continuing teaching and learning has made this transition so much easier than I know it has been for many of my colleagues. As a parent and a teacher myself, I am in the perfect position to empathise with everyone needed to make this a success... and so the panic set in on Sunday evening! Our teachers were understandably nervous during the Easter holidays – being live in everyone's living room is not something we are used to. I had also spoken with lots of parents, who shared with me their anxieties about how this would look and work in the home. It became clear that there hasn't been one member of our community who hasn't anticipated this week with at least a little trepidation. And yet here I am! Logged off on Friday afternoon and about to go through my own husband's efforts of home schooling for the day – believe me you are all doing a much better job! Our first week online has come to an end and I am overwhelmed by what we have all achieved this week. I want to thank each of you for your honesty and for giving us the opportunity to settle into this new era. Your understanding has meant a great deal to the teaching staff. We know we won't get everything right but please keep talking to us and we will do our best to keep improving and supporting the children every step of the way.

I sometimes underestimate how lucky we are at Oakfields. Yes, we have had a few technical hiccups, yes Miss Brewster and myself have been jumping in and out of Teams, to try and keep up with the number of posts and yes we have all at times felt a little overwhelmed by the new virtual Oakfields world we find ourselves in. And yet ... your lovely emails, phone calls, posts and live chats with the children have been the reminder we all needed as to why teaching at Oakfields is a privilege. This will work because we are wanting to make this work together. Your teachers are working very hard, you as parents are going above and beyond and our children are amazing. Thank you. I would, however, like to take this opportunity to remember those in our school community that have had particularly difficult times due to the current pandemic. I have spoken to both staff and parents that have recently lost loved ones due to the Covid-19 virus. On behalf of our school community, I wish to send them our condolences, love and prayers. Please take time to enjoy your weekend and I look forward to seeing the children next week online.

kindest Regards

Mrs Carroll

FEATURED INSIDE:

- *Highlights of online learning*
- *Oakfields Weekly Fun Activities*
- *Helpful ideas and reminders*



ONLINE LEARNING IN SESSION

What have the children enjoyed in their first week of online learning?

BY MISS BREWSTER

In our well being sessions we asked the children what had been their favourite lesson so far and why. Overwhelming, the children's favourite subject this week was Maths. It was the most popular lesson. They liked the voice over PowerPoints as they could pause them when they wanted and listen to them again when they needed to clarify something.



EXCITING NEWS!

Miss Gowing has begun to receive the book orders that were purchased using the money raised from the sponsored read which the children participated in back in March! More orders to be delivered!

HEAD TEACHERS AWARD

- Kindergarten - All of Kinder for their first week of fabulous online learning
- Reception - All of reception class and their grownups for being fantastic online learners and thank you grownups for being such super helpers!
- Year 1 - Winner this week is the whole of Year 1 for such a positive start to our online teaching journey and for working incredibly hard on all of their learning tasks.
- Year 2 - For all of Year 2, I am so proud of you all and I am amazed by your work! Thank you for making me smile all week!
- Year 3 -Dia P for carefully listening to, clarifying and following the instructions given in the starter input which has led her to successfully complete all of the English and maths tasks set. Well done on a successful first week online learning Dia!
- Year 4 - Zariah E, for her exemplary work in English. where we were focusing on paragraphs and the reasons we use them in our writing.
- Year 5 - Isabel F For her calm and collected approach to the new way of learning, Isabel has adapted well to virtual teaching and learning from home.
- Year 6 - The whole of Year 6 for engaging so well with the online teaching and learning!

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Even on lock down, we know our children are still making waves whilst at home proving just how amazing they are. If you have a special moment you would like to share with the rest of the Oakfields family please feel free to send it to Office@oakfieldsschool.co.uk

Lucy 's (Year 5) singing school ran a competition where they had to choose a song that they felt suited their voices that they didn't already know, learn all the words and perform it. They were asked to deliver a performance that told the story of the song, Lucy was awarded first prize for her rendition of No Way from the musical Six. Well done Lucy!



HIGHLIGHT FROM RECEPTION

BY MRS WILLIAMS

Reception have been amazing learners during our first week of online learning. All of the children have enjoyed their live phonics lessons and learning with their friends in our 'virtual classroom'. They have engaged with the lessons and made ladybirds, clocks to tell the time and also learnt some interesting facts about Spain. The children enjoyed making Spanish flags and even took part in a little Flamenco dancing! Fantastic learning Reception, we are all very proud of you. A big thank you to all of our Reception parents who have supported the children's learning this week, we salute you!



STORY TIME

WITH MRS CAFFULL

In case you missed it...Click [here](#) for some captivating story time with Mrs Caffull on our Facebook page. If you would like to be involved in Oakfields story time please send your videos to office@oakfieldsschool.co.uk. I'm sure we have some great story readers within our Oakfields family!

HIGHLIGHT FROM YEAR 1

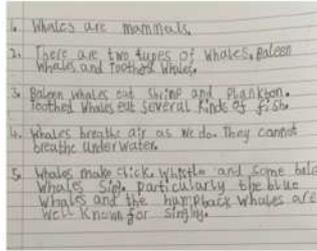
BY MISS NUNN



Look at this wonderful leaf print artwork by Livia! Those shapes and colours are so eye-catching, Livia!



Here's Tate counting objects in 2s and working out how many groups he had for his mastery challenge on Tuesday!



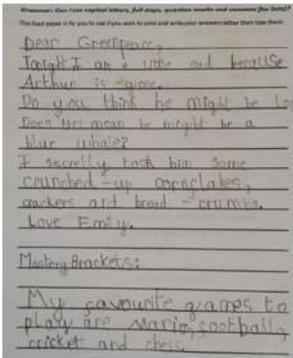
Haoran's excellent writing was all about whales. He did a brilliant job with researching the answers to questions linked to our story.

Year 1 have been absolutely A-MA-ZING adapting to our first week of online teaching, hence why they all deserved the Headteacher's Award!

It has been wonderful to start each day with a live lesson and to see and speak to one another during our video calls.

We are getting more and more used to our new routine each day and I am so proud of all of the children. Thank you, parents for your continued support and hard work.

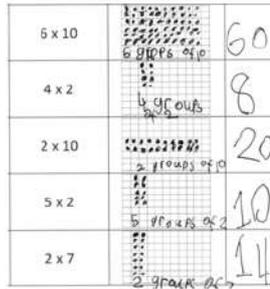
The children have been handing in their fantastic efforts online and here are just a few highlights of what we have been getting up to this week...



Check out Avy's fantastic writing. He corrected the missing punctuation in a letter from the story we have been reading.



This delightful photo is Alexis practising her 5 times table by counting dandelions in the garden in groups of 5!



The mathtastic work above is by Leah! She worked so well to use arrays to work out the answers to her multiplication questions. You should be very proud, Leah!



HIGHLIGHT FROM YEAR 4

BY MISS SHEPHERD



I am so proud of Year 4 for the way they have adapted to the virtual classroom! I have thoroughly enjoyed our lessons and being able to see them, even if it is through a screen! The children have worked really hard to complete the tasks and assignments and their enthusiasm brightens my day. In Art, we looked at Hans Holbein and we compared two of his portraits, the responses from this work were fantastic.

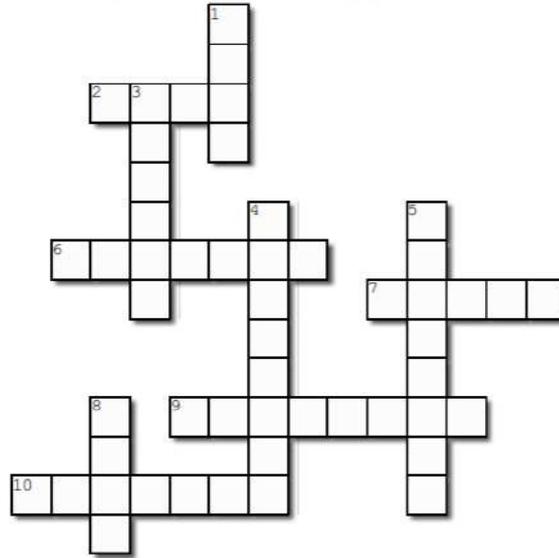
Well done to every one of you this week, and I hope you are looking forward to next week!



Name: _____

Oakfields Weekly Fun!

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Across

2. Surname of our Year 2 teacher
6. Surname of our P.E. teacher
7. Surname of our Year 6 teacher
9. Surname of Deputy Head
10. Surname of our Headteacher

Down

1. Surname of our Year 1 teacher
3. Who is Our Head Boy?
4. Surname of our MFL teacher
5. Surname of our Year 4 teacher
8. Who is our Head Girl?

WEEKEND FUN



Home

10 ways to safely entertain your children at home

In This Section

10 ways to safely entertain your children at home



#homeschool #activities #stem
Awesome Indoor Obstacle Course For Kids | Indoor Activities for Kids During Quarantine | DIY Kids



**FUN IDEAS
FROM PARENT
ZONE**

**INDOOR
OBSTACLE
COURSE**

**TAKE A STROLL
THROUGH THE
NATIONAL
GALLERY**

Make it your own and have a blast!



PARENT Q&A

Some questions and answers from both parents and children

Q. Can I call the teacher?

Unfortunately not. There are two main reasons for this:

1. Safeguarding. If there is only one child and one teacher on the call then it can not be monitored. So in order to keep the teacher and the child safe it is not possible.
2. If a teacher is on the phone to a child in lesson time then they are unable to support the rest of the class who would be contacting via the posts. It is much easier to respond to three questions in minutes than 3 phone calls.

Q. Can all the assignments and work just be in one place?

This is a Microsoft team platform and based on the memory of the file it is dependent on where it goes.

- All children's tasks that need to be completed and handed in will be in ASSIGNMENTS.
- There may be times when PowerPoints and information are in files this is because some are too big and teams will only allow us to upload it into files.
- If a task is small in memory it will appear in assignments and on the posts as an assignment. We can't stop this or make them all appear here – it literally depends on the size of the file.

Children – all work will be in assignments.

Q. I am finding it difficult to find the announcement banners – can you help?

We are asking all children to just reply to the lesson banners. Please do not start your own conversation as it is becoming very difficult for children and staff to answer questions. Just reply under the lesson banner and staff will help you. Also, lots of posts are just filled with emojis – remember only learning questions please. These are preventing children from finding their own question they asked or their work.

Q. What lesson is live? What is my next lesson? When do we have PE?

All timetables were sent home to parents but just in case these have not been shared, we are now asking all class teachers to put the day's schedule on the registration banner so that everyone knows what lessons they have that day.

Q. Can I do another group's work today?

We all know the children, we are a small, friendly family orientated school and the tasks have been pitched by the teachers who know the children well. It is based on what the teachers have seen the children complete independently in class. Please trust their judgement and allow children to complete the task that was assigned to them – these are the tasks the teachers are providing feedback on.

Q. Can every lesson not be live?

We are conscious that the children are not sitting in front of the screen for the whole day. They need online and offline activities. If all lessons were live, they would be in front of the screens for up to 5 hours a day – that is just too much. From next week, both English and maths will be live for Years 1 – 6 and phonics and maths will be live for reception. Our teachers are there behind a laptop for all the other lessons ready to support your child. At the moment, they are available using the posts to answer questions but going forward (depending on how long online learning lasts) we will look into live elements for some other lessons.

Q. When is the school reopening?

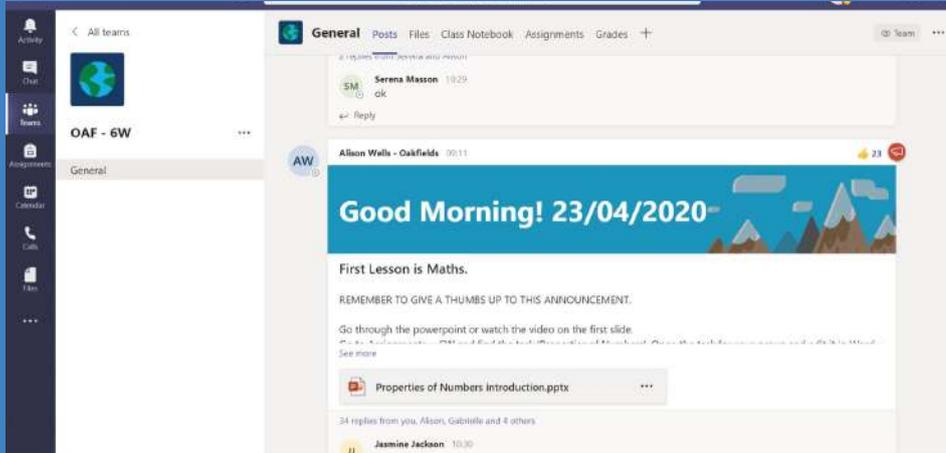
Honestly, we do not know. We found out the same time as you that schools would be closing by watching the government's briefing. There has been a lot of speculation around schools reopening but my advice to you would be to wait until the government announces that it is safe for schools to open, only then will we welcome our Oakfields students back.



SOMETHING FROM US

Some information for both parents and children

1. Please thumbs up the banner in the corner just like Year 6 have done here. You do not need to reply with a thumbs up in the reply section underneath.



2. The call and email function have been disabled as we have had a few children call each other late at night and some children have been emailing teachers directly rather than handing in their assignments on teams.

3. Please ensure that children are not in their pyjamas in the live sessions.

4. Please ensure all members of the household are fully clothed. We do understand it is warm outside and some of you will be sunbathing but please could you wear tops and bottoms when your child is on a live teams lesson/wellbeing session.

5. Finally, be kind to yourself. Let the children play, enjoy the outside and have time away from the screen. If they do not complete all the lessons it is okay. If they only managed 2 completed it is okay.

We are all finding our feet with this and hopefully, with time, we will all get into a routine that supports us all.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

In case you missed it...

PARENT WEBINAR

It's not too late to attend a parent webinar session on 'Moving into a world of online learning', which will provide tips and advice on the transition to online learning for students. Simon Camby, Cognita's Group Education Director, will be joined by Siobhan McGrath, Principal of Southbank International School Kensington and Kara Dowson, Head of School at Akeley Wood Junior near Milton Keynes.

Dates and Times:

Tuesday 28 April 5:00pm

(Refer to parent webinar school comms for the link)

Before the Event: We suggest that you test out the relevant event link below 10-15 minutes prior to the start of the webinar for a smooth experience. NB: The webinar will not be live until the specified start time.

Instructions: You can join this meeting using a computer or a mobile device and you will find instructions attached for both options. However, from experience, we know that parents usually find it easier to watch these events via a desktop or laptop.

"Stay home... save lives."

Be Well Tips and Advice for Families

Our major focus on wellbeing has never been more important.

We are supporting our families and our people in managing the impact of coronavirus with new focused content in the area of wellbeing. These include a range of 'Cognita Be Well Tips' on dealing with school closures and talking to your child about coronavirus. More on these and other resources can be found at www.cognita.com.

COGNITA

Support for Your Family During Online Teaching and Learning

If you experience any technical issues please contact Cognita's technical support team.

They are offering a technical support service to help address any issues relating to online learning that may arise for your family. To access their technical support, you can contact email:

OnlineLearningSupport@Cognitaschools.co.uk.

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