



NEWSLETTER

November 2018

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Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

As you will see from this newsletter, October was another busy month at Oaklands, with sporting achievements, visits, class and specialist assemblies, School Council feedback and lots of engaging lessons.

We held a very successful Open Morning on Thursday 11 October and welcomed a large number of new families visiting us to see the school in action for the first time. Our Year 5 and 6 pupils were great ambassadors for the school and were highly complimented on their smart appearance, outstanding behaviour and confident, knowledgeable conversation. Well done Year 5 and 6!

I hope you enjoy reading about all our activities and events in this newsletter and do please remember to check the website for forthcoming events. The count-down to Christmas is incredibly busy for you and your children!

Kind regards

Sue Belej

3L Cave Painting

3L investigated cave painting and carving from the Stone Age era. They discovered that there was no writing as such, but that people recorded the world around them by carving or painting on stones and cave walls. The class got to work by stepping into our own 'classroom cave', using chalk and recording some of our Stone Age daily duties. They then created Stone Age tiles by rolling out a small piece of clay and carving some Stone Age objects, chores and animals. Their beautiful Stone Age art is on display in Year 3L's classroom.





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Year 1 Stansted Mountfitchet Castle

Year 1 have been learning all about castles, so on Wednesday 10 October 1R and 1Z visited Stansted Mountfitchet Castle. The children enjoyed exploring the Motte and Bailey castle and worked in groups to complete a quiz about the building and the people who used to live and work there.

They also experienced first-hand what happened to people who committed crimes on the castle grounds, as they each had the chance to climb into the cages criminals were locked in! Everyone had a great time and the teachers were very impressed with how sensible the children were all day.



Wild Woods Club



KS1 enjoyed making some spooky potions in the woods during their Wild Woods Club. They mixed natural materials with foam, bubbles and glitter and explored the effects. They thought of an inventive name for their positions and added a label to the jar.

The following week the children made wands and had a hot chocolate and marshmallow treat!



Social Networking



Website

Go to the School Calendar page for upcoming events and our [News](#) page for all the latest news and lots more photos.



App

Keep up to date with the latest news, calendar dates, and much more by downloading the Oaklands School App.



Instagram

Follow us on Instagram for regular photo updates! Search **oaklandssch** to find us and then click follow.



Twitter

Follow us **@OaklandsSch** on Twitter to get the latest updates.



Facebook

Facebook is our newest form of Social Media. Like us on Facebook to get news, photos, events and updates posted straight to your newsfeed.

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Reception and 'The Three Little Pigs'



Reception Woodpeckers have had so much fun learning the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. They have taken part in many activities related to the story such as packing the Little Pigs' suitcases in Maths and predicting and testing what materials blow in the wind during our 'Understanding of the World' session.



A favourite activity was making their own masks to act out the story that they had sequenced as a group. The outside stage was a great destination for this.

Year 3 Chocolatey, Fraction Challenge

Year 3 got to enjoy a chocolatey, fraction challenge on Tuesday 10 October in their Maths lesson. They used chocolate Smarties to calculate the fraction of each colour in the pack. In pairs children counted and used mathematical vocabulary to identify the correct denominator and numerator.



As the lesson went on, the class were asked to start eating certain colours. They had to recalculate their denominator and record the remaining fraction of each colour. A fun and full lesson was had by all.

KS1 Art Club

KS1 Art Club have been learning all the skills they need to produce a self-portrait. They took selfies on the school iPads and printed them out. They then cut the photos in half so it was their job to draw the other half! It was difficult to get both halves the same. KS1 had to practise their shading skills and learn new techniques for drawing tricky things like hair and eyelashes. Well done everyone, the results look great!





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LK Learning and Having Fun Outdoors!



The children in Lower Kindergarten have been making the most of this wonderful weather!

The adventure playground provides great opportunities for taking part in physical challenges under safe supervision! Working out how to cross the hanging bridge or ropes on their own boosts self-confidence and resilience.



The children have also been making the most of our fabulous new outdoor play area, complete with our very own JCB! Our new ride on equipment strengthens gross motor skills and is a fun way to get to know new friends and improve social skills.



Pumpkin boats in the water tray proved a very popular mode of transport for our small world friends too!



Story Time at Oaklands

It was story time today and all the Year 6 Prefects were given the opportunity to read a story of their choice to some of the younger children. They read to Upper Kindergarten, Lower Kindergarten, Reception and Year 1. All the children loved the stories and were definitely engaged.



Thank you to all the Prefects. You did a fantastic job!

School Council

Our first School Council feedback assembly of the academic term was led ably by Libby, one of the Year 6 Chairs. The results of the water bottle survey were shared with everyone and it was very encouraging to see that the majority of children already bring in a reusable water bottle. A proposal had been put to Mrs Belej asking whether a reusable bottle could be made part of the school uniform 'kit'. Mrs Belej confirmed that it is already included in the school uniform list but will be highlighted in the next Head's letter. In addition, the large water bottles, which the school uses in vast quantities will be replaced with jugs of water during this half term.

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Y1 'Where the Wild Things Are'

Children in Year 1 have been enjoying reading 'Where the Wild Things Are' by Maurice Sendak. The children had lots of fun playing the characters of the 'Wild Things' by creating their own 'Wild Rumpus' on the field by stomping around and being very scary. They even created their own horns in class in order to fully get into character!



Fantastic Work in 2S

2S shared some of their fantastic work in an assembly before the half term. It was lovely to see all the different things they have been working on in Topic, Maths, English and Art. Keep up the hard work 2S!

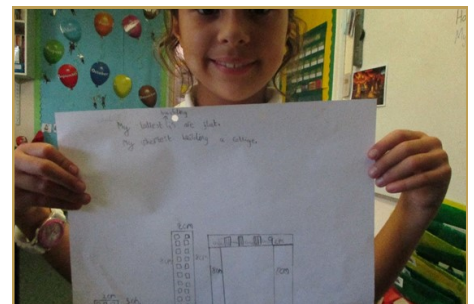


2C Town Planners

2C have been measuring in centimetres in a recent lesson. They used their skills to design and build their own 'town' out of blocks. Pupils measured the heights and the widths of their buildings and recorded the measurements on their plans, they could then work out the difference between the shortest and tallest, or widest and narrowest.



"It was challenging but fun being mini architects!" said Sebastian.



KS1 Certificates

It was KS1's turn to award some special children with a Friendship, Behaviour or Merit for amazing work. Well done to all those children that received a certificate this time!



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'All Aboard' Y4 Assembly

Year 4 took the rest of the school on a journey across the seven seas in their wonderful assembly 'All Aboard'. The play charted Captain Cook's three voyages across the world sighting kangaroos, penguins and perishing polar bears! The children sang and danced beautifully and took on the role of sailors. The highlight of the show was their storm which saw both them and the boat rock from side to side.

Well done to all the children in Year 4.

ISA Swimming Gala

On Monday 15 October, pupils from Years 4-6 took part in the ISA London North Swim Gala. On a wet and cold morning, the pupils arrived very early and still sleepy ready for the journey to Barnet Copthall Swimming Pool in Hertfordshire. There were some very strong schools in attendance and our children were focused and ready to swim their 50M races, accompanied by some nerves of course. Every single pupil did amazingly well, especially considering some of them have not even swam this year during lessons and were also representing the school for the first time.



There were some really close finishes with a lot of the pupils finishing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in their heats. Medals were awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishes across 2 heats and based on the 3 quickest times. We were up against 15 other schools making it a real challenge to get those medals. So they were all very much deserved. Annabella and Alex both managed to produce fantastic performances and were awarded a 2nd place in their event.

Congratulations to Annabella and Konstantin who have both been selected to take part in the ISA National championships. They will be representing London North in the Front Crawl Relay at the Olympic Park in Stratford in December. Well done to everyone!

ISA London North Art Competition



On Thursday 12 October the annual ISA London North Art competition was held. The judges, who are professional artists, found it very difficult to agree on the winners as the standard of competition was so high.

Huge congratulations to all our artists including: Aadi who came first in the KS2 Textile category, Max who came third in the KS1 Art category, and Lower Kindergarten and Receptions Robins who took second and third place in the EYFS Group 3D Art category.



Aadi's entry will represent London North at the National Art Competition on Thursday 8 November.



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October Awards

Congratulations to all the children who have been presented with an award during October.

Class	Merit Certificates	Class	Good Behaviour	Class	WOW
1R	Asya, Zara	1R	Skye	1R	Surya, Basil
1Z	Ozlem, Lina	1Z	Lucy	1Z	Lucy, Elias
2C	Isabelle, Enzo	2C	Nael	2C	Jack, Ava-Isha
2S	Arjun, Gabriella	2S	Arabella	2S	Rafaella, William
3C	Calli, India	3C	Kiki	3C	Jusleen, Santiago
3L	Saffiyah, Joah	3L	Kristina	3L	Cleo, Tyran
4C	Freya, Konstantin	4C	Bebe	4C	William, Ava
5G	Jack, Aadi	5G	Phoebe	5G	Luke, Amber
5Z	Poppy G, Ellie	5Z	Gwilym	5Z	Leo, Cailan
6J	Charlotte, Zaamin	6J	Amy	6J	Afiyah, Babette

KS2 Mad Science



In Mad Science, children were given the opportunity to make their own harmonicas, which was great fun. Using the harmonicas, they tested the fact that the sounds we hear every day are actually soundwaves travelling through air, much like how an ocean wave is generated by the vibration of the movement of an object. It was an enjoyable and informative session!



House Points Cup

The House Captain of Willow House collected the House Points Cup from Mrs Belej during KS2 assembly on Monday 5 November on behalf of all the members of Willow House. They accumulated the fantastic total of 754 points during September and October!





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Oak-Tree Football Tournament

On Friday 19 October, boys from Years 5 and 6 took part in the annual Oak-Tree U11's football tournament at the Peter May Centre in Walthamstow. On a lovely sunny morning, pupils were treated to a wonderful event which saw some fast, exciting football being played. Oaklands had a few boys represent the school for the first time and the experience from the tournament will do them the world of good going forward.



Unfortunately we came up against very strong Normanhurst and Coopersale Hall teams boasting some very talented footballers and our boys put in some tireless displays but could not contain their attacking threat. However, our brave goalkeepers, Alex and Sydney, pulled off some remarkable saves to keep the score line down to give us some respectable results. We ended up on the losing side in both matches but managed to draw against Normanhurst B, with Cailan setting up Luke to score the equaliser in what was a well deserved point.

Overall, we came 3rd and the boys can be proud of their efforts and can look forward to more matches on the horizon.

Oak-Tree Netball Tournament



At the same time as the Oak-Tree Football Tournament, girls from Year 5 and 6 were battling it out on the netball pitch. All of the children played really well, with some excellent shots and passes. Unfortunately, Coopersale Hall's team remained unbeaten and took the trophy this year. We are looking forward to next year's event where we will hopefully claim the winning title!

Y6 Composing Cinematic Sound Tracks



This term pupils have been composing their own cinematic sound tracks in music using Garage Band. Children worked in pairs and had to record their own voices. They then explored the effects of the sampler and FX 'button' to create some very unusual sounds! It was a great learning opportunity and everyone had lots of fun!





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Y6 Pen Pals



The Year 6 children had the opportunity to write to their Pen Pals in France. Their letters were posted and they are now anxiously waiting for a response from their French friends!



'Values' Assembly

On Monday 5 November, Mrs Belej took an assembly based on 'Respect', one of the school's values. The KS2 pupils assisted Mrs Belej to explain what respect is and how we should show respect towards our friends, our families and teachers, and everyone in the world.

For the first time, a member from each KS2 class was awarded a 'Values' badge by their class teacher. They will keep the badge for half a term for consistently displaying the values of the school.



Congratulations to Jusleen in 3C, Samrit in 3L, Freya in 4C, Poppy S in 5G, Jayden in 5Z and Amy in 6J.

OPA Halloween Party!



Oaklands pupils, siblings and families had a spooky afternoon before the half term at the OPA Halloween party, held at Murray Hall in Loughton. There were some wonderfully frightful costumes and everyone was very entertained by the scary witch and her magic spells.

A huge THANK YOU to the OPA for organising such a fun afternoon for everyone!



**Poppies are on sale
in the office & parents waiting room**



Non Uniform Day - Friday 16 November