

Oakwood Primary School

Newsletter



Friday 11th October 2024

Dear Oakwood Community,

As ever, it has been an action-packed fortnight at Oakwood and you can find out more over the next few pages!

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who came along to our School Development Plan update yesterday. Parents asked some excellent questions and we will be publishing these, along with answers, on our website very soon.

OPAL updates

It is great to see how many children are completely unfazed by the rain and the mud during their busy and active lunchtimes (we are sure you are delighted to see the children at pick up time!). All children are welcome to bring muddy puddle suits or waterproof trousers for playing in the mud. We will also be updating you very soon on our capacity for welly storage so that as many children as possible can bring wellies to school.

Staffing updates

In our summer parent survey, you asked us to keep you updated on staffing changes as they occur. We would like to let you know that Miss Akthar will be moving on at the end of half-term. We are currently recruiting for new TAs at Oakwood and welcome applications from Oakwood families and friends; the vacancy is advertised on [Teach in Herts](#).

Have a lovely weekend!
The Oakwood Team

School Sports fixtures:

The school sporting calendar is continuing at pace with the Year 5 boys' football team visiting St Columba's and earning a 2-2 draw. On another day, the boys could have scored 7 or 8 goals and they played brilliantly. The Year 6 boys' team hosted Cunningham Hill and played out a 3-3 draw.

In our recent Cross Country fixture, the girls team placed 2nd and the boys team 5th out of 10 competing schools.

Well done to all involved for representing our school with excellent ambition and sporting kindness.

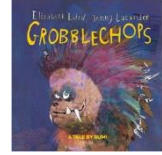
Recommended reading...

At Oakwood, we really value reading and see it as the gateway to knowledge and one of life's key pleasures!

Reception

Gobblechops

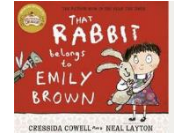
By Elizabeth Laird



Key Stage 1

That Rabbit belongs to Emily Brown

By Cressida Cowell



Lower Key Stage 2

The Worries: Sohal finds a friend

By Jion Sheibani



Upper Key Stage 2

A Drop of Golden Sun

By Kate Saunders



Please do visit your local library to select from a fantastic range of books. [Locations and opening times are here.](#)

Important dates for your diary...

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday 15 th October | PTA coffee morning for Acorns Parents - 9am |
| Tuesday 15 th October | Acorns Parent Forum 9:45am |
| Tuesday 15 th October | Open Classrooms 3:30pm – 4:45pm |
| Wednesday 16 th October | Acorns visit to Alban Arena |
| Thursday 17 th October | UKS2 visit to Hatfield Road mosque |
| Tuesday 22 nd October | Parent Consultations (Online) |
| Wednesday 23 rd October | Parent Consultations (In person) |
| Friday 25 th October | INSET day – School closed to pupils |
| W.B. Monday 28 th October | Half Term |
| Monday 4 th November | Children return to school |

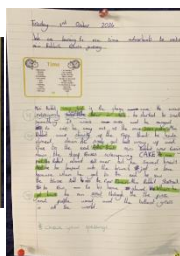
Our school website address: www.oakwood.herts.sch.uk

School contact details: admin@oakwood.herts.sch.uk
01727 753930

Work of the week!

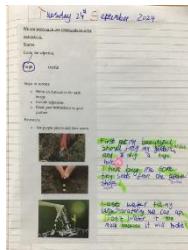
Phoebe in Maple

Maple have been using time adverbials during their writing unit this week. Can you find any?



Kimberly in Cherry

Cherry have been writing commands and Kimberly has used wonderful imperative verbs and time adverbials to start her sentences. Can you spot them?



Learning around Oakwood: Lime

In Lime Class, we have been having a lot of fun learning about different topics! In Science, we have been exploring the fascinating world of states of matter. We investigated the temperature at which ice melts and observed how chocolate changes under heat. Did you know that dark chocolate melts fastest due to the higher percentage of cocoa butter? Finally, we even made ice cream - what fun it was!

In Geography, we have been exploring the rainforest. We have learned about its unique layers, the amazing diverse animals and plants that live there and why it's so important to protect it. We were able to explore and learn more about this habitat on our trip to Kew Gardens.

In PE we have been playing tag rugby. We have been working on passing the ball backwards whilst moving forward, and trust us, it's not as easy as it sounds. Especially in the rain! We have been working on our skills and teamwork and improving our fitness.

In our maths lessons we have been practising our addition and subtraction skills by using lots of manipulatives and fun activities we are getting faster and more accurate each lesson.

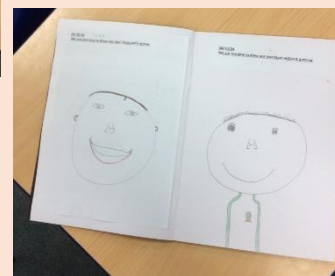
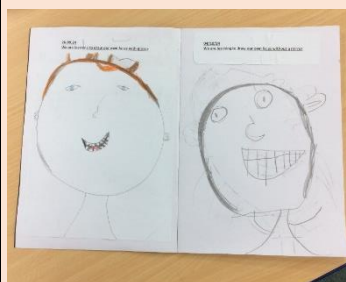
It's been a busy and fun time in Lime Class and we can't wait to learn more



Curriculum celebration:

Since the start of term, the children at Oakwood have been focusing on portraits as part of their art curriculum. Each year, students create self-portraits for their Oakwood Book, which allows them to express themselves creatively while tracking their artistic growth over time. This ongoing project encourages independence, self-expression, and critical thinking as they explore different ways to represent themselves.

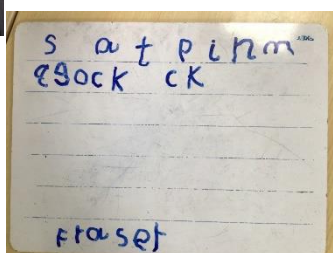
Here are some snapshots of their practice self-portraits, both with and without mirrors, as they experiment with various techniques and perspectives. Throughout the process, students also build resilience by refining their work through practice and persistence. By completing their self-portraits each year, they not only showcase their growing skills but also reflect on their evolving artistic journey.



If you have any safeguarding concerns, including concerns about bullying, please email safeguardingteam@oakwood.herts.sch.uk
For **urgent** concerns, please **telephone** the school office

Learning around Oakwood: Acorns 2

This week Acorns 2 have been focussing on the sounds they have learnt so far this year. They have been detectives and cracked a code in order to colour the scarecrow and they have practiced matching picture cards to the correct initial sound. They have also practiced their letter formation using the pronunciation phrase attached to each grapheme. Within topic, we have been learning about Seasons and weather, the children have made rain clouds and rainbow suns using threading and collage skills. We are also utilising the outdoor area by discovering how gravity helps cars and water move down ramps and how the pitch of the ramp makes a difference to the speed.



Celebration Assembly

Every week, Celebration Assemblies are held to mark children's successes, efforts and achievement individually and as a class. In the last two weeks, the following prizes were awarded to...



'Golden Dustpan and Brush' for the tidiest classroom – Poplar and Ash



'Golden Clock' for the class with the best attendance and punctuality – Lime and Lime



'Golden Knife and Fork' for the best manners in the hall at lunchtime – Beech and Cherry



The 'Golden Toilet' for the cleanest and most looked after class toilets – Rowan and Willow

'Person of the Week' for demonstrating values which are important to everyone in our school:

Ash – Mariella and Ariya B
Beech – Scarlett and Ariya
Cherry – Hannah and Callie
Lime – Patrick and Luna
Maple – Harriet and Elâ-Nicole
Poplar – Iyla and Zach
Rowan – Jamie and Noureen
Sycamore – Frank and Leo
Willow – Sienna



Year 6 PGL

The Year 6 children returned tired yet brimming with stories from their visit to PGL last week. One child said, "The activities were amazing and the food was brilliant." Here is just a selection of photographs from the trip.



Parking reminder:

We understand drop-off and pick-up times can be busy outside of the school gates. However, we ask that parents park considerately of our neighbours and the Oakwood community. Many of our children and families walk to and from school and it is important they are able to do this in a safe environment where road visibility is not obscured by parked cars. We understand these times can sometimes be rushed but do ask all parents to consider their parking choices. We would encourage families, where possible, to walk rather than drive to and from school as part of a healthy lifestyle.

It is important to remember parking on pavements, double yellow and Zig Zag school lines is illegal, at certain times for the latter.

Please remember if you have any queries or questions, do make an appointment to come and speak your child's teacher. We are always very happy to meet with you. Don't let a little worry become a big one!

