

Oakwood Primary School

Newsletter



Friday 26th January 2024

Dear Oakwood Community,

As usual, the children at Oakwood have been busy with their learning across the curriculum. Some highlights are included below.

Staff and governors have been busy this week learning about the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) programme. We are looking to improve the lunchtime experience and provision for our children and we are keen to get your views. Please see the survey sent today. Watch this space for exciting updates about our plans!

The PTA met with Mrs Thompson last week and we had an opportunity to celebrate the successes of events and fundraising last term and have been planning some exciting events for the rest of this year, and beyond!

Huge congratulations to the children in UKS2 who participated in the indoor athletics competition yesterday and have made it through to the next round! What a great achievement – well done!

Have a lovely weekend,
The Oakwood Team

Recommended reading...

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

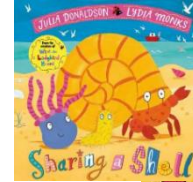
We hope you and your children enjoy this fortnight's selection of books.

Reception

Sharing a Shell

Author: Julia Donaldson

Illustrator: Lydia Monks

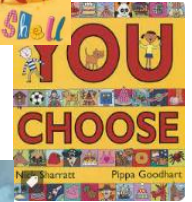


Key Stage 1

You Choose

Author: Pippa Goodhart

Illustrator: Nick Sharratt



Lower Key Stage 2

The Iron Man

By Ted Hughes



Upper Key Stage 2

The Violet Veil Mysteries

By Sophie Cleverly



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

Free SEND parent support group

Talking Toads

Support circle for parents & care-givers of children and young people who live with neuro-diverse conditions

10am-12pm
1st Tuesday of every month

Meet others & share experiences in a safe, supported environment

Empower yourself and your child through knowledge & understanding

Develop useful tools to help support your child

Regular guest speakers

£FREE
im fine wellbeing
169a Hatfield Road,
St. Albans,
AL1 4LB

im fine
WELLBEING

2024 Dates

- 6th February
- 5th March
- 2nd April
- 7th May
- 4th June
- 2nd July
- August - No group
- 3rd September
- 2nd October
- 5th November
- 3rd December

Important dates for your diary...

Monday 29 th January	Netball vs Windermere (home)
Tuesday 30 th January	Girls' football vs. Bowmansgreen (home)
Wednesday 31 st January, 9am	Y1 Parents Meeting – Helping your children with reading and writing (school hall)
Thursday 1 st February, 2:30pm	
Thursday 1 st February	Boys' football vs. Bowmansgreen (home)
Thursday 1 st February	Netball vs. Samuel Ryder (home)
Saturday 3 rd February	Herts Cross Country Championships, St Margaret's School, Bushey
Thursday 8 th February	Girls' and Boys' football vs. Mount Pleasant (home)

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

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

01727 753930

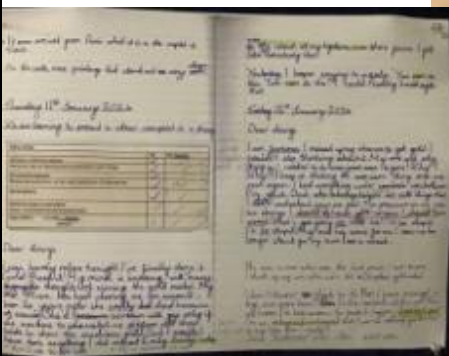
Work of the week!

Lizzie in Cherry



Cherry have been reading *The Last Noo-Noo*. We thought about what questions we would ask Marlon the monster if we could meet him. We used lots of different question words and we checked that we'd spelt them correctly. We then took turns to sit in the hot seat as Marlon the monster as the class asked their questions. Lizzie has written out her questions using a variety of question words and accurate punctuation. She has presented her work neatly with clear ascenders and descenders.

Paris in Rowan



UKS2 have been exploring the genre of diary writing. We noted that diaries tend to use an informal, chatty tone. We have read and analysed extracts from famous diaries. Paris has used relative clauses and relative pronouns to add detail. She has remembered to vary the length of her sentences to keep her reader interested as well as using rhetorical questions to talk to herself in an informal, chatty style.

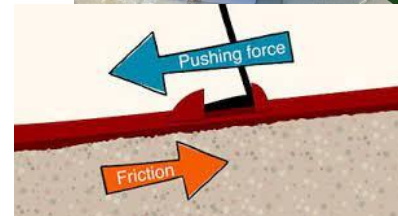
Well done Lizzie and Paris!

Learning around Oakwood: Lime

In science this half term our topic is 'Forces and Magnets'. We started our topic exploring pushing, pulling and twisting forces using items such as spinning tops, fidget toys, cars and balls.

Last week, we investigated how friction changes on different surfaces.

We worked in groups to set up an investigation to test the amount of friction caused by different surfaces. We used toy cars and boards covered in different materials. The five surfaces we tested were: cardboard, fabric, plastic, bubble wrap and sandpaper. We measured the height of the board when the car started to move. We concluded that



rougher surfaces produce more friction and smoother surfaces produce less friction. All of the children worked well together to carry out their fair test.



Important reminder:

Please remember to park safely if driving your children to school. The zig zag lines are there to protect your children. Highway code rule 243 states that drivers should not park near a school entrance; the yellow zig zag lines indicate the areas that should be kept clear. **Parking outside a school may obstruct visibility for parents and children trying to cross the road and is therefore highly dangerous.** Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community safe.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/waiting-and-parking-238-to-252>

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

Celebration Assembly

Every week, Key Stage 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 – Beech and Willow

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



'Golden Knife and Fork' for the best manners in the hall at lunchtime – Sycamore and Willow

The 'Golden Toilet' for the cleanest and most looked after class toilets – Acorns 1 and Maple



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

- Ash – Harry and Caelan
- Beech – Zac and Luna
- Cherry – David and Harrison
- Lime – Joseph and Sophie
- Maple – Anaya and Sophia
- Poplar – Kian O and Rebecca
- Rowan – Ishan and Amaan
- Sycamore – Elsie P and Olivia E
- Willow – Evie and Barney



"Lend a Hand Day" features in PTA+ magazine!

Congratulations to the PTA and everyone involved in the last "Lend a Hand Day" at Oakwood – the brilliant efforts of the PTA in creating the new gardening and eco area have been celebrated in the latest [PTA+ magazine](#). The article can be found from page 11 onwards under "Climate Change Success Stories" where we are one of three schools with an article. Thank you to everyone who was involved.

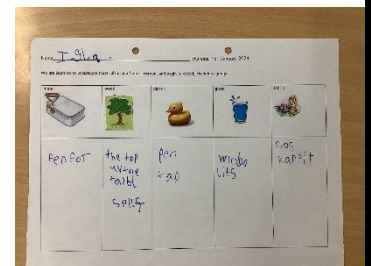
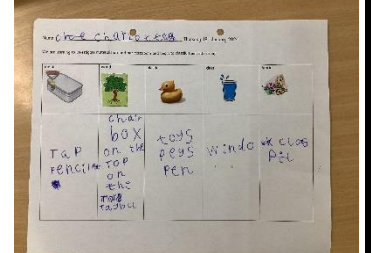
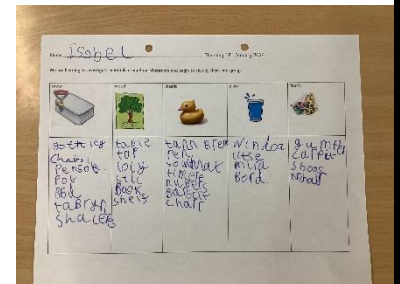


Learning around Oakwood: Ash

We have been learning about materials in Science. We started by focusing on understanding the vocabulary we use to describe materials. We played charades, acting out words like shiny, stiff, stretchy and so on, it was a blast! We have also been playing, "I spy" and describing the type of material that might be used for this object.



This week we sorted objects into groups and classified the objects by material. Some objects could go in two groups like our tables, they have a wooden worktop and metal legs. We then used our scientific vocabulary to describe the materials wood, metal, glass, fabric and plastic.



It is going to be even more fun when we start to select materials to build our... train out of... watch this space!

Important reminder - EYFS

Please can parents of EYFS children stay with children until they have finished hanging up their belongings outside and have entered the classroom. Thank you.

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