

Oakwood Primary School

Newsletter



Friday 9th June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you enjoyed a lovely half term break and have enjoyed the summer weather.

It has been great to see the children back, full of enthusiasm for learning!

Please may we remind our parents and carers to be considerate of our neighbours in Oakwood Drive and Central Drive by turning engines off while you are waiting. We know how much our families value our sustainable ethos.

There have been some enquiries about how to support positive body image at home. You may find the website below helpful:

[The Resource Zone \(mindler.co.uk\)](http://mindler.co.uk)

We hope you enjoy sharing this fortnight's letter with your children, and finding out more about the learning they have been busy doing.

Have a lovely weekend!

The Oakwood Team

'Who's who?' Mrs Chan

Hello, my name is Mrs Chan and I'm the Teaching Assistant in Rowan Class. I particularly love helping children in their Maths lessons and seeing them mastering the skills is really rewarding. Part of my role is to lead a reading group in the morning. Every time we have a range of challenging questions and I enjoy supporting the children; it's wonderful to see them making progress day by day. As a Teaching Assistant, I also help make sure children are safe during their playtime and lunch breaks. You can always see me around on the playground. I love seeing the children enjoy their school life and learn enthusiastically every day.

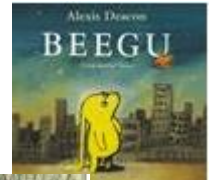
Recommended reading...

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

Beegu

By Alexis Deacon



Key Stage 1

A First Book of Animals

Author: Nicola Davies

Illustrator: Petr Horacek



Lower Key Stage 2

Over and Under the Rainforest

Author: Kate Messner

Illustrator: Christopher Silas Neal



Upper Key Stage 2

Malamander

By: Thomas Taylor



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 13 th June	Year 5 KNEX Challenge
Wednesday 14 th June, 6pm	New to Key Stage 2 meeting for current Y2 parents (Maple classroom)
Tuesday 20 th June	District Athletics
Thursday 22 nd June	District Athletics
Friday 23 rd June	Class photographs

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

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

01727 753930

Learning around Oakwood: Ash

Before half term, Ash class were busy investigating a variety of vehicles, their uses and their features. We looked at wheels, axles and chassis and how these worked on different types of vehicles. We investigated ways of creating and decorating the body of a vehicle before designing and making our own!

The children designed ice-cream trucks, burger vans, cars, lorries, tanks and busses. What a creative bunch!



Invitation from the PTA!

All parents and carers are automatically members of our PTA.

The PTA are currently looking for additional members to come to meetings and offer support at our wonderful events.

We hugely value the PTA's successful efforts to fundraise for the school. This fundraising supports educational and extra-curricular opportunities for children.

The PTA social events bring together the Oakwood community and we know how much the children (and adults!) enjoy them.

The PTA need your help to continue their success!

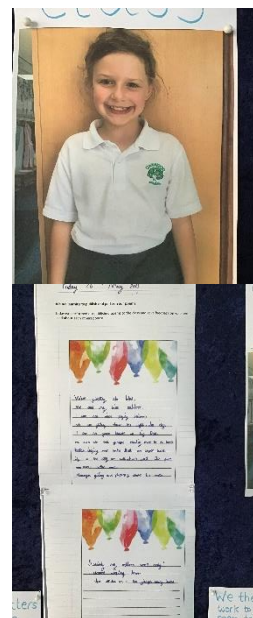
If you would like to find out more information please email oakwoodptachair@gmail.com

Work of the week!

Izzy in Cherry

This week in Cherry we have been writing poems. We used the poem "Into the Blue" to inspire our writing. We then used our geography learning to help us change the poem to be about Kenya. Izzy's poem included simile, descriptive language and expanded noun phrases. Izzy remembered to use capital letters, commas, full stops and exclamation marks. She also concentrated carefully with her best hand writing.

Well done Izzy!



Spotlight on... Feeling safe:

At Oakwood, we are really proud of our focus on pupils feeling safe in school. In addition to regular staff training and updates, in the autumn term we launched the Protective Behaviours programme across the school. All classes had a weekly lesson to explore the themes and strategies of Protective Behaviours. All classes now have a weekly assembly to refresh their understanding. In addition, we offer 1:1 sessions for children who need further support. Ask your children what the Protective Behaviours themes mean to them!



If you have concerns about a child's safety, anyone can make a referral by calling Children's Services on 03001234043

For more information about how we support all children's safety at Oakwood, please visit our updated 'Mental Health and Wellbeing' website pages under our 'Curriculum' tab:

[Protective Behaviours \(PBs\) | Oakwood Primary School](#)

More information about Protective Behaviours can be found here: [Protective Behaviours Training Partnership - We All Have The Right To Feel Safe Booklet](#)

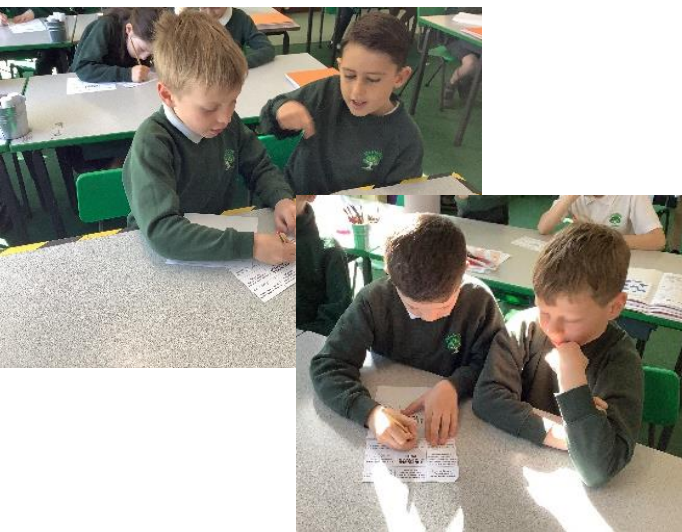
Please remember if you have any queries or questions, do make an appointment to come and speak to a member of staff. We are always very happy to meet with you. Don't let a little worry become a big one!

Learning around Oakwood: Lime

Last half term in RE, Lime Class were learning about the Eight-Fold Path, a key belief to followers of the Buddha's teachings. Our focus question was "What is the best way for a Buddhist to lead a good life?". We thought about the different elements of the path, learning what the Buddha meant by each one, before exploring how we could use some of the ideas in our own lives. For example, we thought about how Right Action involves making sure that no other living things are hurt as a result of a person's actions. Can we save marine animals by recycling our waste? We also considered the idea of Right Livelihood - what jobs would a Buddhist be able to do whilst following the Buddha's teachings? At the end of the unit, we matched key vocabulary linked to the eight-fold path to their definitions.

"Buddhists could be nurses or zookeepers because helping any living thing is good" - Thisan

"A butcher or woodcutter would be a bad job because it harms animals and trees" - Imogen



Celebration Assembly

Every week, a celebration assembly is 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 – Willow and Ash

'Golden Toilet' for the cleanest and most looked after class toilets - - Beech, Cherry and Rowan



'Golden Clock' for the class with the best attendance and punctuality – Acorns 2

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



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

Ash – Alex and Elâ-Nicole
Beech – Elodie and James
Cherry – William S and Sophia
Lime – Seren and Fergus
Maple – Isla and Kamran
Poplar – Harry and Tygar
Rowan – Joshua L and Joseph P
Sycamore – Emily and Josh
Willow – Oliva and Peggy



'Who's who?' Ms Buckley

Hello Everyone!

It's my turn this week! I am the Head Teacher at Oakwood. Every day has something new and exciting to bring! Whilst I have to get the inevitable paperwork done, the enjoyable parts of the job are those involving the children and their learning. I'm particularly proud of the experiences we offer to **all children** at Oakwood. This year for example, we have been delivering chess to the children in Years 3 and 4. Some children may not have experienced chess without these lessons - it's great being able to make a difference!

If you have any safeguarding concerns, including concerns about bullying, please email safeguardingteam@oakwood.herts.sch.uk