

Oakwood Primary School

Newsletter



Friday 21st April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break and enjoyed any festivals or events that you celebrated. Staff enjoyed a useful and productive INSET day on Monday and we were so pleased to see the children back on Tuesday. It was great to see all those smiling faces returning to school!

Sporting news: after a great season of Year 6 girls' and boys' football, the Year 5 boys played in the St Albans Schools interim tournament on Wednesday and won both of their matches. They will play in the finals tomorrow at Colney Heath and we wish them well.

Have a great weekend

The Oakwood Team

Learning around Oakwood: Maple

Maple class have been working hard with the rest of LKS2 to create a fantastic Stone Age to Iron Age production. We spent a lot of time rehearsing the songs and learning our lines to create the magic you saw on stage. This shows that hard work pays off. Songs we particularly enjoyed singing were Mammoth hunters and We will rock you (Stone Age version).



Thank you to all the parents and adults for coming to see the show and for your hard work preparing the artefacts for the stage and costumes.

The reasons we chose this as our play was because we have been learning about the Stone Age and Bronze Age in our history lessons. Recently, we have acted out life in a Bronze Age village and we considered how technological advances, such as the invention of bronze, caused changes for farming and warfare. This is a key historical skill called cause and consequence.



Recommended reading...

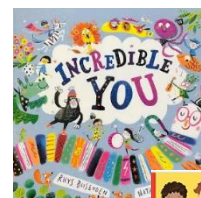
At Oakwood, we really value reading and see it as the gateway to knowledge and one of life's key pleasures. We hope you and your children enjoy this fortnight's selection of neurodiversity themed books.

Reception

Incredible You

Author: Rhys Brisenden

Illustrator: Nathan Reed



Key Stage 1

Not like the others

By Jana Broecker

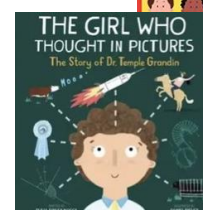


Lower Key Stage 2

The Girl who Thought in Pictures – The Story of Dr Temple Grandin

Author: Julia Finley Mosca

Illustrator: Daniel Rieley



Upper Key Stage 2

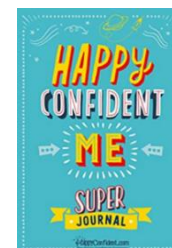
Happy Confident Me Super Journal

Authors: Annabel Rosenhead,

Nadim Saad

Contributor: Jo Chadwick

Illustrator: Daniel Bobroff



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...

Monday 24 th April	Year 4 Maths Challenge at Aldwickbury School
Monday 1 st May	BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 3 rd May	LKS2 Coronation Dance Workshop
Wednesday 3 rd May 3:30pm – 5pm	Open Classrooms – all classes
Thursday 4 th May	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Friday 5 th May	Oakwood Coronation Celebration – children can wear red, white and blue

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

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

01727 753930

Learning around Oakwood: Beech

Last term, Beech Class took part in two days of history workshops and travelled back in time to 1666, to experience The Great Fire of London!



The children had to 'work' in various shops including a leather shop – a tanner, a metal worker – a farrier, a candle maker – a chandler, and a barbers surgeon. They had the opportunity to bake bread, make a leather bookmark, make a candle, make their own ink and write with a quill on parchment.



A highlight was the role play of collecting the dead bodies who died from the plague, the children wore a plague mask, rang a bell, and collected the dead bodies on a cart to be deposited in a pit!

Some children chose to re-enact how the fire was put out using water from the River Thames and leather buckets, when this wasn't successful they used the advice of Prince James and pulled down the houses using fire hooks on sticks.

These two days were a fantastic opportunity for the children to consolidate and revisit their history knowledge of The Great Fire of London. A wonderful end to a fabulous term.

Work of the week! Oscar in Sycamore



In Sycamore we have been studying Macbeth by William Shakespeare. We enjoyed reading the story and analysing the language. We then wrote the ending to the story using descriptive language and dialogue.

Oscar has worked really hard to present his work neatly with a focus on his handwriting. He thought carefully about his word choices and independently edited his own work to improve it for his final draft.

Well done Oscar!

Spotlight on... Wellbeing: UKS2 Resilience Workshop

Before Easter, UKS2 had a resilience workshop where we learnt about Michael Jordan and how he had to fail multiple times over in order to become successful. This reminded us about the importance of perseverance, especially when things seem their hardest.

We learnt a variety of short term, quick fix strategies to help us to cope with our emotions when we are feeling down, overwhelmed or defeated such as smiling for 30 seconds to trick our minds into thinking we are happy; arm jogging on the spot to release endorphins and telling jokes (making other people smile makes us smile!). The workshop reminded us that it is okay to feel sad but we need to pick ourselves up and face our challenges head on.

As we move into the summer term and the transitions the end of the school year brings, we will use these strategies to keep us smiling.

For more information about how we support all children's wellbeing at Oakwood, please visit our updated website page under our 'Curriculum' tab:

[Mental Health and Wellbeing | Oakwood Primary School](#)

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: Acorns 2

This week we have returned to school very excited to share our 'holiday news'. The children were able to speak enthusiastically to each other and write a recount of something they had enjoyed doing during their school break.

We have also begun our new topic, 'Terrific Tales'. This week we have been concentrating our learning around the story 'The Three Little Pigs'. We have been re-telling the story to each other, creating story maps and thinking carefully about the story language we can hear. We have also been building houses for the pigs, testing them to check if they are strong so the wolf can't blow them down.



We have also decided to turn our role play into a castle to create a setting where we can act out lots of different stories! We have worked together

to create the props we would like to have, including sponge printing to create a brick effect for the walls of our castle.



Celebration Assembly

Every week, a celebration assembly is held to mark children's successes, efforts and achievement individually and as a class.

This week, and in the weeks before Easter, the following prizes were awarded to...



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

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



'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 – Poplar and Cherry



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

Ash – Khalil and Isabella
Beech – Annie and Isabella
Cherry – Ranya, Rosa and Bethan
Lime – Ashvin and Frank
Maple – Theo, Audrey, Amaan and Paddy
Poplar – Finley, Isla and Adriana
Rowan – Olivia E, Milly and Olivia W
Sycamore – Freddie, Ted and Jago
Willow – Liliana and Will D



'Who's who?' Miss Greenwood

Hello! My name is Miss Greenwood and I am the class teacher in Beech class. I am enjoying the opportunity to teach a mixed class of Year 1 and Year 2. I am Geography lead at Oakwood and I have a real passion for this subject, especially enhancing the cross-curricular links across the whole school. I am also working with Mrs Hooper in her role as Maths lead. I am available after school if anyone would like to come and have a chat, or alternatively just pop an email to the school office to arrange an appointment with me.

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