

# Oakwood Primary School

## Newsletter



Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an incredibly busy fortnight we have had! This week we have been pleased to hold our parent teacher meetings – thank you for your engagement with this important opportunity to talk through your child's progress.

Huge congratulations go to our Year 6 pupils for their performance at the St Albans Primary Schools Music Association (SAPSMA) concert at the Alban Arena on Wednesday evening. The children sang beautifully, rose to the challenge of performing in front of an audience and found this a rewarding experience. Many thanks to the Year 6 staff for organising and facilitating this opportunity and to all the parents and carers for your support.

KS1 have had the first of their exciting 'History off the Page' visits today to enhance their learning around the Great Fire of London and Year 5 pupils have been busy preparing for their performance of 'Joseph' which takes place this afternoon.

**Staffing update** – At the end of term we say goodbye to Miss Morley. We wish her all the best in her future roles. We will be very pleased to welcome Miss Reeve in Acorns 1 from 24<sup>th</sup> April.

Have a great weekend

The Oakwood Team

### 'Who's who?' Mrs Roche

My name is Mrs Roche and currently I share the teaching of Sycamore class with Mr Cowan. I thoroughly enjoy teaching the older children and preparing them for secondary school. Through sport, music and the curriculum I try to open up to the children as many opportunities as possible. I am passionate about reading, and the advantages of reading regularly a range of texts, so I have taken the time to read many new books and to make our reading corners in each KS2 classroom more diverse and exciting. We always welcome book recommendations from the children and I love discussing their reading and making suggestions to them as to what to read next.

### Recommended reading...

#### Reception

*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*

By Michael Rosen

*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*

Michael Rosen  
Alexa Dunsbury



#### Key Stage 1

*The Storm Whale*

By Benji Davies



#### Lower Key Stage 2

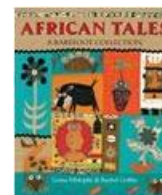
*African Tales: A Barefoot Collection*

Author: Gcina

Mhlophe

Illustrator: Rachel

Griffin



#### Upper Key Stage 2

*The Lost Thing*

By Shaun Tan



### Important dates for your diary...

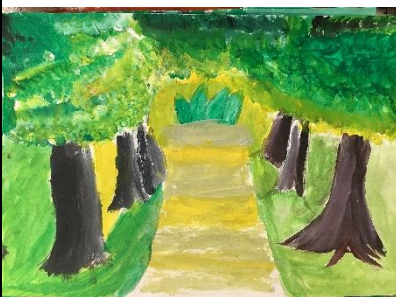
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 4pm – 7pm	Willow Parent Teacher Consultation Meetings (online)
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 – Great Fire of London Workshop
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 4pm – 7pm	Acorns 1 Parent Teacher Consultation Meetings (online)
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March, 2:30pm	LKS2 performance to parents
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 4pm – 7pm	Willow Parent Teacher Consultation Meetings (online)
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March, 9:15am	LKS2 performance to parents
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>LAST DAY OF TERM</b> No Jousts after school School finishes at 1:50pm for Acorns 1:55pm for KS1 2:00pm for KS2
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR PUPILS</b>
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	First day of term for pupils
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3 swimming starts

Our school website address: [www.oakwood.herts.sch.uk](http://www.oakwood.herts.sch.uk)  
School contact details: [admin@oakwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@oakwood.herts.sch.uk)  
01727 753930

## Learning around Oakwood: Rowan

We have had a really busy half term here in Rowan Class. In English we have been immersing ourselves in the world of Shakespeare and his play *Macbeth*. We have really enjoyed ourselves writing letters in role as Lady Macbeth persuading Macbeth to kill the Scottish King Duncan and take the throne. We have all loved recreating the barren heath in writing, art and drama. In maths, fractions and percentages have reigned supreme, and we have become real experts in spotting a percentage bargain.

In art we have been working with the vibrant colours of acrylic paints this half term, painting rocket pictures with abstract backgrounds in the style of Peter Thorpe and landscape pictures in response to our World Book Day book, "Voices in the Park."



Over this unit, we learned to use different tones to create a 3D effect, used one-point perspective and the pointillism technique in the style of Georges Seurat.



## 'Who's who?' Mrs Kireeva

I am Mrs Kireeva and I work Early Years. I really enjoy what I am doing! I think every child is unique and learns best when they are allowed to play, explore, and be active. As I'm a very creative and imaginative person, I love helping children develop their creative skills - we provide lots of opportunities for drawing and painting, and make lots of arts and crafts together! I am very interested in art-therapy and knowledge of the tools of art and play therapy are beneficial in my work with the children.

## POSTCARD FROM THE GOVERNORS

Governors had an enjoyable and informative visit to school on Tuesday as part of their termly schedule of visits. We had the opportunity to meet with some of the children and ask them some safeguarding questions such as do they feel safe at school. Without any hesitation, they all said they felt safe and that they knew who to go to if there was a problem. They said they found staff both caring and kind and we were impressed with the children's knowledge of PSHE, online safety and the ability to explain their understanding of bullying. Children also talked to us positively about their thoughts of the school facilities such as Chromebooks and the play equipment, as well as valuing the opportunities they have across the curriculum, for example in the range of sports available in PE lessons.

Governors also met with the school's SENCO, Miss Stubbs, and learnt more about the SEN provision and all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to help and support children with special educational needs.

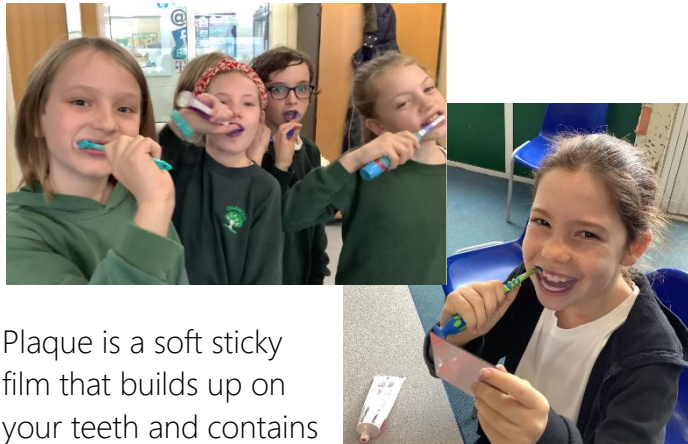
It is always a pleasure for us to visit the school and we would like to extend our thanks to Ms Buckley, Mrs Thompson and Miss Stubbs for giving up their valuable time to provide us with insights into some of the important areas of the school.

**Jacky Elliott, Chair of Governors**

**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: Poplar

In Science, we have been learning all about 'Teeth and Eating'. We have been focussing on the importance of keeping our teeth healthy and brushing our teeth correctly.



Plaque is a soft sticky film that builds up on your teeth and contains millions of bacteria. We carried out an investigation to look at plaque in our mouth. As part of our investigation, we chewed a 'plaque disclosing tablet.' The disclosing tablet contained a harmless vegetable dye, which highlighted any plaque that may be present on the surface of a tooth. The dye showed old plaque in blue and new plaque in red. We had lots of fun and some of us were quite surprised at the results. It really highlighted the importance of brushing our teeth properly.



## Celebration Assembly

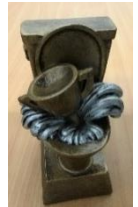
Every week, a celebration assembly is held to mark children's successes, efforts and achievement individually and as a class.

In the last two weeks, the following prizes were awarded to...



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

'Golden Toilet' for the cleanest and most looked after class toilets – Sycamore and Acorns 2



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

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



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

- Ash – Carys
- Beech – Lilly and Jolie
- Cherry – Harry
- Lime – Xanthe, Thomas and Johnny
- Maple – Isla and Kian
- Poplar – Oxley, Olivia and Suzy
- Rowan – Freddie, Fleur and Seb
- Sycamore – Clara, Isabel and Bertie
- Willow – Immy and Riley

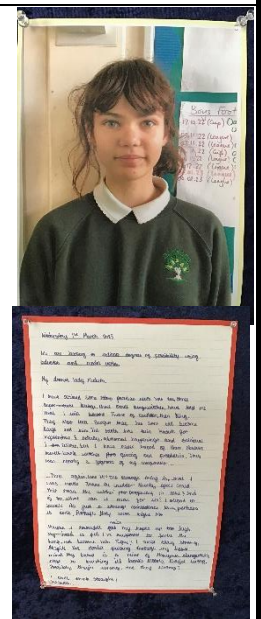


## Work of the week!

### Peggy in Willow

In Willow this term we have been studying Shakespeare's 'Macbeth.' For this piece of work, we took on the role of Macbeth having heard the witches' prophecy, and wrote a letter to Lady Macbeth seeking advice as to what to do next. Peggy wrote a wonderful letter to Lady Macbeth, using a variety of modal verbs to eloquently explore Macbeth's inner thoughts and express his dilemma. Peggy's work is impeccably neat with excellent spelling, punctuation and grammar.

**Well done Peggy!**



**If you have any safeguarding concerns, including concerns about bullying, please email [safeguardingteam@oakwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:safeguardingteam@oakwood.herts.sch.uk)**