

# Oakwood Primary School

## Newsletter



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a lovely half-term break last week! This week, we welcome three new Teaching Assistants: Mrs Keenlyside and Mrs Hurst have joined our EYFS team and Miss McQueenie will be supporting in Rowan class. Welcome to Oakwood!

As part of our focus on pupil wellbeing, we are very excited about continuing our work on Protective Behaviours. Starting next week and for the rest of this term, all classes will have a weekly Protective Behaviours session with their class teachers. More information about Protective Behaviours will be shared at our Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Workshop. To attend, sign up [here](#).

**VISION AND VALUES UPDATE:** We have been working on finalising the updated version of our Values and Vision following the sessions we ran with staff, parents and children. We have decided to implement them in the spring term which allows us time to bring new staff members into the conversation and be part of the planning to bring them to life at Oakwood.

Have a great weekend,  
The Oakwood Team

### 'Who's who?'

#### Miss George

Hello, Miss George here! For those of you that don't know me, I currently am working in Beech class, having spent last year in Acorns. I am a Teaching Assistant; this means that I support within the classroom, spend lunchtimes on the playground and deliver targeted support. I enjoy being in the classroom and seeing the spark of excitement from the children and I also have the benefit of spending time with the children outside on the playground. I am currently Equality Lead along with Mrs Roche and am gaining knowledge within this role and I am keen to implement lots of the ideas we have.

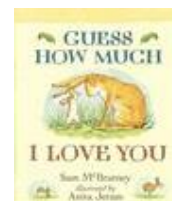
### Recommended reading...

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 week's selection of books.

#### Reception

*Guess How Much I Love You*  
Author: Sam McBratney  
Illustrator: Anita Jeram



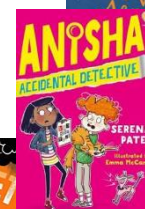
#### Key Stage 1

*The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark*  
By Jill Tomlinson



#### Lower Key Stage 2

*Anisha Accidental Detective*  
Author: Serena Patel  
Illustrator: Emma McCann



#### Upper Key Stage 2

*Who Let the Gods Out*  
By Maz Evans



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 7 <sup>th</sup> November 9am	Safeguarding Briefing for parent volunteers
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Workshop for parents 2pm – online 6pm – School Hall
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 5:30pm	Acorns Parents Phonics Meeting (online)
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	UKS2 Mexicolore Workshop
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSED FOR PUPILS

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: Ash

This week in Ash class we have been excited about autumn! The children listed some of their favourite things about this time of year including pumpkins, hedgehogs, colourful leaves, conkers, windy weather and fireworks! We all practised our sentence writing to include these things and some of us even included an adjective or two!

We talked about Diwali and learned some of the ways in which Diwali is celebrated.

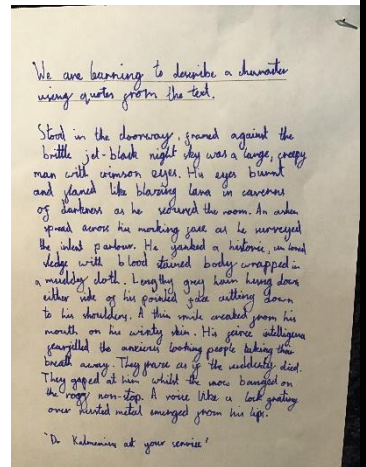
The children designed some fabulous Rangoli inspired designs using a maths resource called Numicon, really focussing on lines of symmetry.



## Work of the week!

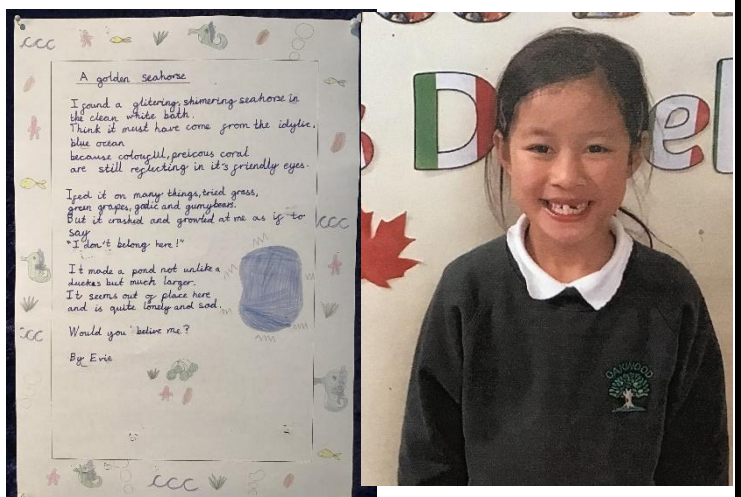
Every week an exemplary piece of work is chosen to be 'Work of the Week' and is displayed in the school dining hall. Please do come and have a look.

### Olivia W. in Rowan



Rowan class have been reading "Clockwork" by Philip Pullman. They have been learning to read like writers. The pupils used vocabulary from the text to write their own character descriptions. They thought of three adjectives that described Dr Kalmenius, then found vocabulary (words and phrases) to support their opinions. This is **evidence**. When we copy the exact words from the book it is a **"quote."** Olivia drew a quick sketch to help her visualise the character. She then wrote a wonderful description of this fascinating character.

### Evie in Maple



Maple class have been learning to write free verse poems. Pupils enjoyed performing and exploring the techniques in 'Overheard on a Saltmarsh' and 'A Small Dragon'. Evie's poem was chosen as she used powerful adjectives and had a clear structure. Can you find alliteration in Evie's poem?

Well done Olivia and Evie!

## 'Who's who?'

### Mrs Islam

Hello Oakwood parents/carers, my name is Mrs Islam. I am the class teacher of Poplar class and I teach year 4 pupils. I am also the History Lead at Oakwood and responsible for the structural overview of the History curriculum across all Key Stages. I work Monday to Wednesday and work alongside Mrs Brown and Mrs Jarratt. I aim to create a love and curiosity for learning across all subjects. I enjoy creating positive relationships with pupils based on trust and respect, and watching them flourish into lifelong learners. The most important thing in Poplar class is being open to learning from one another and making our learning memorable. If parents/carers have any questions or queries I am available after school on Mondays and Tuesdays – you can speak to me on the playground or arrange an appointment via the school office.

## Learning around Oakwood:

### Acorns 1



In Acorns 1, we have been learning all about Special Times. We discussed the different celebrations that people may celebrate, recapping on the learning that we did before half-term about Diwali. This week, we have been learning about Bonfire Night, discussing what it is, why people celebrate it and the importance of keeping ourselves safe during this time. The children were keen to go home and tell their grown-ups all about the 5<sup>th</sup> November! To enhance our learning about Bonfire Night, we have also been busy in the creative area, using paints and kitchen roll tubes to print our own firework display.

The children were fascinated by the array of colours on their picture, which sparked lots of discussions about the bright colours that can be seen in the sky during a firework display. We look forward to learning about more celebrations throughout the year!



## Celebration Assembly

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

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



'Golden Dustpan and Brush' for the tidiest classroom – Cherry and Willow

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



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

'Golden Knife and Fork' for the best manners in the hall at lunchtime – Acorns 1 and Willow



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

Ash – Max  
Beech – Phoebe and James  
Cherry – Tandia and Cameron  
Lime – Jamie and Humayra  
Maple – Evie and Cameron  
Poplar – Hamish and Alex  
Rowan – Alice G and Evie  
Sycamore – Eliza and Ahnaf  
Willow – Illy and Edward



### Important reminders:

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>

**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!**