

Oakwood Primary School Newsletter



Friday 19th December 2025

Dear Oakwood Community,

It has been a fortnight of mixed emotions at Oakwood. We would like to thank our whole school community for the compassion and kindness shown to other families during this difficult period.

We would also like to thank our incredible staff for their dedication and commitment to maintaining a positive and caring learning environment for children across the school.

Special recognition goes to the children and staff in EYFS and KS1 for their wonderful presentations to parents over the past fortnight. KS1 delighted families, showcasing a mixture of their learning across the curriculum with a celebration of Christmas, while EYFS presented a beautiful and endearing Nativity story. Well done to all the children, who performed with such confidence and enthusiasm.

We would also like to acknowledge the impeccable behaviour of the children invited to watch these performances, they made a wonderful audience.

Christmas celebrations have continued throughout this week, with our Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day on Wednesday and our whole-school *Carols Around the Tree* service on Thursday afternoon.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January!

The Oakwood Team

Xmas lunch at school

A huge thank you to Sharon and our wonderful team of kitchen staff who prepared an amazing Christmas lunch on Wednesday. It was delicious! We'd like to also say a huge thank you to all of our MSAs and kitchen staff for their hard work throughout the year!



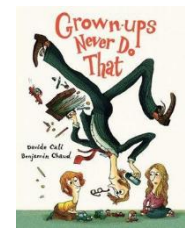
Recommended reading...

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

Reception

I Remember

By Jeanne Willis



Key Stage 1

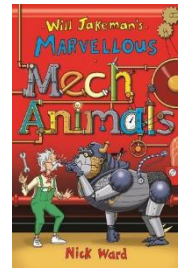
Grown Ups Never Do That

By Davide Cali

Lower Key Stage 2

Will Jakeman's Marvellous Mechanicals

By Nick Ward



Upper Key Stage 2

The Unexpected Find

By Tony Ibbotson

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 5th January	Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils
Tuesday 6th January	Children return to school
Wednesday 7th January	Acorns Height/Weight/Hearing /Vision screening
Monday 12 th January	New Santa Dash date – January Jog
Thursday 15th January	Year 4 Swimming starts

Inaugural Oakwood Mince Pie Competition

Congratulations to Ms Bowden on winning our first ever Oakwood Mince Pie competition. This was her first time making her own pastry and it was a roaring success. A notable mention to Mrs Leeson and Mrs Tavener who took 2nd and 3rd.



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

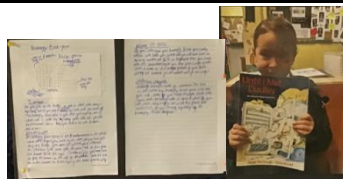
School contact details: admin@oakwood.herts.sch.uk

01727 753930

Work of the week!

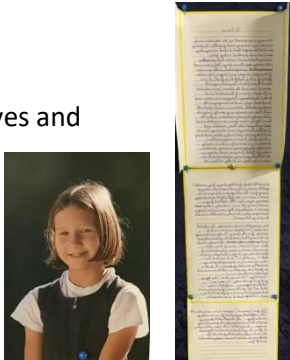
Callie in Lime

LKS2 have been creating wonderful explanation texts. Here, Callie has created a flying backpack which can fly the wearer to school. She has made use of all she has learnt about the structure and language used in explanation texts.



Sasha In Rowan

Rowan have been writing narratives and Sasha has crafted a wonderful story about a young delinquent including parentheses, carefully selected vocabulary to convey mood and figurative language.



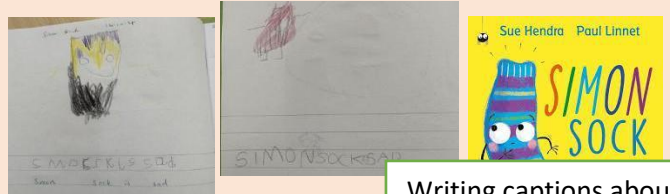
Learning around Oakwood: Acorns 1

Acorns 1 have been having lots of festive fun over the last couple of weeks, and it's definitely beginning to look a lot like Christmas! We had a wet but wonderful walk to St Paul's Church to participate in the Nativity trail and learn about the Christmas story. The children behaved beautifully and we were all very proud. Thank you to all parents who helped out on the day! Last Friday was our Acorns Nativity, the children did a fantastic performance. I was really proud of all the lovely singing and Makaton signing they did. I hope everyone who was able to come had an enjoyable time. Happy Christmas!

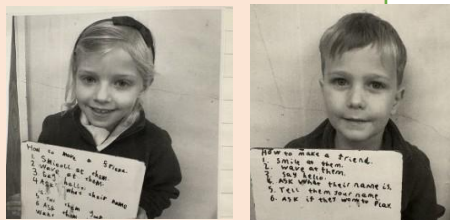


Curriculum celebration: English

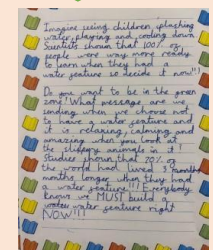
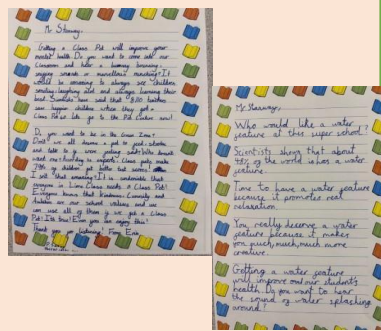
Throughout their time at Oakwood, children are introduced to a range of engaging texts that lead to purposeful writing for a range of audiences. From EYFS to KS1 that writing is mainly to entertain or inform the reader/audience. By the end of KS2 children are also writing to persuade and as a discussion. The children have lots of opportunities to share their work with each other and read it aloud. Enjoy seeing a small glimpse of the writing journey the children have been on so far!



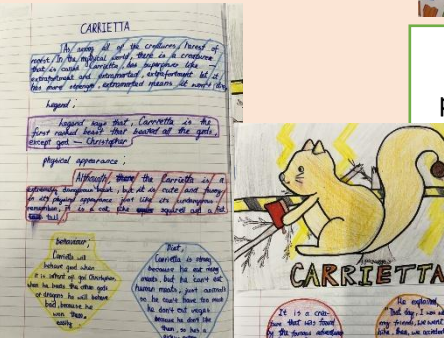
Writing captions about Simon's socks in Reception.



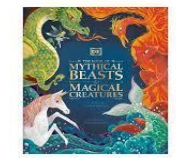
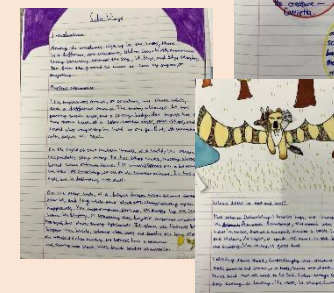
Writing instructions to inform how to make a friend in KS1.



Writing to persuade in LKS2.



Writing non-chronological reports to inform in UKS2.



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

Learning around Oakwood: Sycamore

This term has been full of exciting learning and achievements! In English, the children have been exploring descriptive writing, creating wonderful stories about regular items that can make our world a better place.

In Maths, we've focused on fractions and problem-solving, and it's been fantastic to see everyone growing in confidence.

Our DT project focused on rationing in WW2 and alternative ingredients to sugar to use when baking scones was a success!

We have enjoyed learning how to create our very own websites in computing and learning how to create links to different webpages on Googlesites.

Thank you for your continued support at home. We're looking forward to more learning adventures in the new year!



Celebration Assembly

Every week, 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 Cherry



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

'Golden Knife and Fork' for the best manners in the hall at lunchtime – Beech and Acorns 1 & 2

The 'Golden Toilet' for the cleanest and most looked after class toilets – Poplar and Lime



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

Acorns 1 – Taym and Uthman
 Acorns 2 – Tommie and Elijah
 Ash – Ilyas and Annabel
 Beech – Siyanna and Arya
 Cherry – Asya and Pen
 Lime – Elodie and Gray
 Maple – Clara and Robyn
 Poplar – Jack and Bella
 Rowan – Iyla and Kaiya
 Sycamore – Paddy and Audrey
 Willow – Joseph F and Gabriella



Spreading Festive Cheer

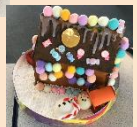
On the 12th December, our UKS2 pupils brought some of our Oakwood Christmas spirit to The Orchard, a local care home. The children delighted residents with a selection of traditional carols and festive favourites. Their beautiful singing was met with smiles and applause. A highlight of the carol concert being Rockin' Around the Christmas



Tree, which had everyone tapping along. It was a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to share kindness and connect with our local community.

Deck The Halls

Congratulations to our Deck the Halls award winners.



Acorns	Winner	Ruby
	Runner-up	Max
KS1	Winner	Ellie
	Runner-up	Annabel
LKS2	Winner	Rex
	Runner-up	Elodie
UKS2	Winner	Xanthe
	Runner-up	Izzy

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!

PTA Corner



We're delighted to bring you our very first PTA update in the Oakwood Newsletter. From now on, you'll be able to read regular news about our events, fundraising, and the many ways families can get involved.

Our Goal for the Year

This year, our aim is to raise £20,000 to help fund activities that enrich our children's education, strengthen our community, and create lasting memories. We know that relying only on events can be challenging, so we're exploring new ways to raise funds together.

Our Events & Fundraising

It's been a busy and joyful term. We welcomed new Acorns families with a picnic, held a uniform sale, organised a "Lend a Hand" day, and partnered with Verulam School for Fireworks Night.

And, thanks to your support, this half-term events have raised:

Autumn Disco: £350

Christmas Fair: £2,350

Parents' Christmas Party: £650

£2 Room: £1,995

Altogether, that's around £6,000 raised so far, a wonderful achievement. Thank you to everyone who joined in, donated, or volunteered.

How You Can Help Beyond Events

There are lots of simple ways to support the PTA outside of events:

Easyfundraising: Download the app and select Oakwood Association as a cause and we receive a % of sales directly from the retailers. And between 15–29 December, we'll also receive £15 for every 10 new supporters.

Company match funding: Check if your employer offers a scheme as it's an easy way to boost donations.

JustGiving: Support Marie Shenton, an Oakwood mum who is currently running a Mums March fundraising event until 31st December. All donations (up to £1000) will be applied for match funding by her employer:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/marie-shenton-5>

And if you have other ideas, we'd love to hear them.

Stay Connected

Alongside emails, WhatsApp, and now this newsletter, you can find us on:

Instagram: @oakwood_pta

Facebook page: Oakwood Primary School PTA St Albans

Or email us at oakwoodptachair@gmail.com with feedback and suggestions.

Thank you, have a lovely Christmas and a joyful New Year!

