

Oakwood Primary School Newsletter



Friday 7th November 2025

Dear Oakwood Community,

Welcome back! We hope you and your families all had a lovely half term.

It has been delightful to welcome the children back to school and to see them enthusiastic and raring to learn.

It was wonderful to see so many families attending our recent Parent Consultation Evening before half term. The atmosphere both during online meetings and at the face-to-face meetings was warm and positive, with teachers and parents working together to celebrate pupils' achievements and discuss next steps in their learning. Thank you to all parents and carers for taking the time to meet with teachers and for your continued support.

This week, our governors visited us to find out about the progress we are making with our school development priorities. Governors also had the opportunity to meet with all staff to find out about how staff are supported in their roles at school. We will share a summary from the governors in our next newsletter.

Staffing update

This week we have welcomed Mrs Clark, our new Pastoral TA, who will be working with small groups and individuals across the school. We have also welcomed Mrs Khan who has joined our lunchtime team.

Reminder - outdoor clothing

As the weather turns colder and wetter, please ensure that children are suitably kitted out for outdoor play, including wellies and warm, waterproof coats. Children are not permitted to play on the muddy areas unless they are wearing wellies.

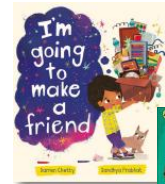
We hope you all have a lovely weekend!
The Oakwood Team

Recommended reading...

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

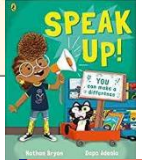
Reception

I'm Going to Make a Friend
By Darren Chetty



Key Stage 1

Speak Up
By Nathan Byron



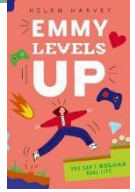
Lower Key Stage 2

The War Next Door
By Phil Earle



Upper Key Stage 2

Emmy Levels Up
By Helen Harvey



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 10 th - Friday 14 th November	Anti-bullying week
Monday 10 th November	Odd Socks Day
Monday 10 th November	UKS2 trip to IWM Duxford
Tuesday 11 th November	Y6 Netball match vs St Bernadette's
Wednesday 12 th November	KS1 trip to St Albans Cathedral
Wednesday 12 th November	EYFS Parents' Phonics workshop
Thursday 13 th November	Girls' Football match vs St Peter's
Tuesday 18 th November	Willow learning showcase to parents @2:50pm
Thursday 20 th November	Sycamore learning showcase to parents @2:30pm
Thursday 20 th November	Y5 Boys' football match
Thursday 20 th November	Y6 Boys' football match



Thank you!

Oakwood Primary School

For your incredible donations collected during Harvest Festival. The total collected was 174.5 kg which is the equivalent of 415 meals.

Your dedication and support have made a huge difference to the lives of people living in poverty.

Thank you from
All the Foodbank Team

www.stalbansdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

01727 613019

info@stalbandistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Registered charity number 1156917.
Registered in England and Wales.



Supporting St Albans
and the surrounding
villages

@StAlbansDistrictFB @st_a_and_dist_foodbank

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

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

01727 753930

Work of the week!

Noureen in Sycamore

Noureen's writing has been showcased because of her wonderful structure, use of expanded noun phrases and exciting vocabulary. She has also used a wide range of authorial techniques. Well done, Noureen.



Annabelle in Cherry

Cherry have been learning how to use adjectives based on their class story. Annabelle used her writing checklist to ensure that she used finger spaces, capital letters and plenty of adjectives. Well done, Annabelle.



Learning around Oakwood: Lime

Lime Class have had a busy Autumn so far, packed with learning opportunities.

In our science lessons, we have just finished investigating Light and Shadows which included opportunities to explore light sources, reflections and working with mirrors and shadows. The children looked in different reflective surfaces to see how their reflections changed. They noticed that spoons have concave and convex sides and they looked different in each side!

This has connected brilliantly to English where we used the text *The King Who Banned the Dark* to explore persuasive writing. The children all wrote fantastic speeches asking Mr Stanway to change something about school – getting a class pet and using virtual reality headsets in school were popular choices! The children have enjoyed reading their work aloud and using their voices to persuade.

In Maths, we've been deepening our understanding of addition and subtraction. Pupils have been exploring their operations with and without exchanging and are now using columns to add and subtract three-digit numbers.

Overall, it's been a fantastic time of learning, and we're really proud of all the engagement Lime Class have shown across all areas of the curriculum.



Curriculum celebration: Art

This term in Art, our pupils have been developing their drawing and design skills in exciting and creative ways!

Key Stage 1 have been focusing on observational drawing. The children have been looking carefully at local buildings, exploring patterns, shapes, and lines in different directions. Inspired by the colourful and imaginative work of Friedensreich Hundertwasser, they designed their own buildings in his unique, whimsical style — full of bold patterns and bright colours!

In Lower Key Stage 2, pupils are looking forward to exploring sculpture during the Autumn 2 term. They will be learning how to plan, design, and build their own three-dimensional artworks, experimenting with different materials and techniques to bring their creative ideas to life.

In Upper Key Stage 2, pupils have been refining their sketching and toning techniques, learning how to create depth and contrast in their drawings. They studied the sculptor Henry Moore, exploring how he used shape and form to represent the human figure. Using these ideas, the children created their own London landscape artworks, incorporating Henry Moore-inspired figures. They also learned about one-point perspective, helping them take their 3D drawing skills to the next level!



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: Rowan

Rowan Class have had busy and exciting few weeks filled with hands-on learning and creative exploration across all subjects!

In our Science lessons, we have been investigating *forces* in action. Using umbrellas, toy cars, measuring tapes, Newton meters, and even playdough, the children explored how *water resistance* and *air resistance* affect movement. They also measured the effects of *friction* and discussed how different surfaces and materials change the forces we experience in everyday life. The experiments sparked lots of curiosity and teamwork as pupils predicted, tested, and recorded their findings like real scientists.

In Maths, we've been deepening our understanding of *prime numbers*, *square numbers*, and *cube numbers*. Pupils have also been developing more efficient *multiplication and division strategies*, applying their knowledge to solve increasingly challenging problems. It has been wonderful to see their confidence and reasoning skills grow.

In English, our focus has been on *descriptive writing* using *figurative language*. The children have worked hard to create vivid imagery through similes, metaphors, and personification, bringing their writing to life and engaging the reader's imagination.

In PE, Rowan Class have been developing their *passing*, *bouncing*, and *marking* skills, as well as improving their *spatial awareness* during team games. Their cooperation, focus, and enthusiasm have been impressive! Overall, it's been a fantastic period of learning, and we're proud of the effort and curiosity Rowan Class have shown across all areas of the curriculum.



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 Rowan



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



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



The 'Golden Toilet' for the cleanest and most looked after class toilets – Rowan and Willow

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

Acorns 1 – Dexter and Holly
Acorns 2 – Oliwia and Amelia
Ash – Filip and Annabel
Beech – Edward and Nidas
Cherry – Dilan and Willow
Lime – Charlotte and Callie
Maple – Amelie and Khalil
Poplar – Maila and Rosabella
Rowan – Joseph and Natalie
Sycamore – Alex and Poppy
Willow – Fergus, Keir and Frank



Year 6 PGL

Every child will tell you when they leave school that residentials are one of their fondest memories. Last month, our Year 6 pupils embarked on an amazing adventure to PGL where their limits were pushed and they learnt more about what they could when they challenged themselves. The staff were glowing with praise upon their return, describing how pupils represented our school superbly, supporting each other and throwing themselves into every adventure. Well done, Year 6!



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!