

Oakwood Primary School Newsletter



Friday 12th June 2026

Dear Oakwood Community,

We hope you had a wonderful and restful half term break and that the children have returned to school feeling refreshed and ready for the busy weeks ahead.

PTA Disco

A huge thank you to our fantastic PTA for organising last Friday's disco. It was another brilliant event, full of energy and smiles from start to finish.

We are grateful to DJ Mole for once again providing such great entertainment and helping to make the evening such a success. The children had a fantastic time, and events like these, which would not be possible without the efforts of parents and carers, are always so special for our school community.

Sporting updates

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 boys, who took part in a football tournament preliminary round on Tuesday. They showed excellent teamwork and determination, winning all three of their matches! This means they have now qualified for the tournament final taking place this Saturday. We know they will represent the school brilliantly and valiantly defend their title. Good luck, boys – we are all cheering you on!

Last week, our Year 4 and 5 girls had an exciting visit to St Albans High School for Girls, where they took part in a lacrosse masterclass.

It was a fantastic opportunity to learn new skills and try something different. The session was truly amazing, and the girls thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We are very proud of their enthusiasm and willingness to get involved.

Assessment Week

This week has been assessment week across the whole school which has included the Phonics Screening Check for our Year 1 pupils and the Multiplication Tables Check for our Year 4 pupils

We would like to say a huge well done to all our pupils for their hard work, focus and resilience. They deserve to feel very proud of their efforts.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to our teachers and teaching assistants, who have worked tirelessly, as always, to support the children throughout the process.

Staffing Updates

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Tate to the school office team. She will be working on Thursdays and Fridays alongside our existing admin staff.

We are very pleased to have her join us and are sure she will be a wonderful addition to our team.

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! This week our recommendations are inspired by Pride Month and celebrating diversity.

Reception

Love Makes a Family

By Sophie Beer

Key Stage 1

Bathe the Cat

By Alice B McGinty

Lower Key Stage 2

'Twas the Night Before Pride

By Joanna McClintock

Upper Key Stage 2

The Secret Sunshine Project

By Benjamin Dean

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

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 16 th June | District Athletics at Westminster Lodge |
| Thursday 18 th June | District Athletics at Westminster Lodge |
| Friday 20 th June | Oaklands' Festival of Sport |
| Friday 20 th June | Y4 & Y5 Girls' Football Tournament |
| Friday 20 th June | Y5 Knex Challenge |
| Monday 22 nd June | Y1 Florence Nightingale workshop |
| Tuesday 23 rd June | Y2 Florence Nightingale workshop |
| Tuesday 23 rd June | Y5 & Y6 visit to British Museum |
| Wednesday 24 th June | KS1 and KS2 Guitar, Keyboards and Drum performance |
| Thursday 25 th June | Sports Day (timings below) |
| Friday 26 th June | Y4 & Y5 Girls' Netball |

Sports day timings at a glance

| | |
|------|----------------|
| EYFS | 9:15am - 10am |
| KS1 | 10:20am - 12pm |
| KS2 | 1:30pm - 3pm |

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

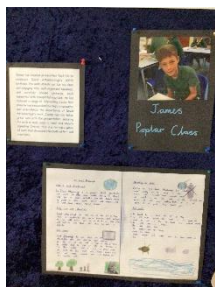
School contact details: admin@oakwood.herts.sch.uk

01727 753930

Work of the week!

James in Poplar

Poplar have created fact files about David Attenborough to celebrate his 100th birthday. James' work has well-organised headings, carefully chosen pictures with captions and interesting facts.



Emily in Willow

Willow have been integrating dialogue into description. Emily's speech is well punctuated and her description is vivid.



Learning around Oakwood: Maple

We've had another fantastic week in Maple Class, packed full of creativity, imagination, and determination! In English, we have been exploring poetry inspired by *Stars with Flaming Tales* by Valerie Bloom. The children have written some wonderful original poems and have created their own poetry journals to publish their work in.

One of our favourite pieces was a special "You Are" poem, where we thought about someone important in our lives and used the amazing things around us to describe how they make us feel. The children's thoughtful ideas and beautiful language have been a joy to read.



In History, we have begun our exciting new topic all about the Vikings. To help us step back in time, we imagined that we had witnessed the Viking invasion of Lindisfarne and wrote our own journal entries describing the events. The children showed great creativity and historical understanding in their writing.



Our Art lessons have seen us begin our

work on weaving. The children enjoyed learning the basic techniques and did a fantastic job trialling their first weaving practice. We are looking forward to developing these skills further over the coming weeks.

In RE, we explored the significance of water in the Hindu religion. We thought carefully about why water is so important and created our own word art using vocabulary that reflected its meaning and importance. The children produced some thoughtful and creative pieces.

Alongside all of this exciting learning, the children have been completing their assessments this week. I could not be prouder of the resilience, perseverance, and positive attitudes they have shown throughout. They have approached every challenge with determination and maturity.

Well done, Maple Class, for another brilliant week of learning!



Curriculum celebration: Music

It's been another busy term for music at Oakwood and as we look ahead to the coming half term, we have more exciting musical events to look forward to.

In my last Newsletter contribution, I put out a plea for music making ensembles to come into school to perform for our children, hopefully to ignite an interest in singing or instrumental playing. I have already had a response from St Albans Rehearsal Orchestra who have offered to play for us – the orchestra has around 45 members which will create a fantastic sound in our school hall. Watch this space for a date! If any other music groups can come in, please contact me via the school office.

Hannah Morgan (Head of Music at Beaumont School) will be coming in soon to run some singing workshops with Year 3 pupils, and we will participate in the Beaumont Summer Concert in July. Oakwood instrumentalists can play alongside Beaumont Concert Band and String Orchestra, giving them the chance to perform alongside other musicians.

Our school choir continues to go from strength to strength, and we were able to enjoy showcasing our singing skills to parents. We have started learning a new repertoire of songs this half term and will be performing these towards the end of term.

It was fantastic to see Year 3 and 4 pupils perform their amazing musical 'Plastic Pirates'. The staff and children did such a great job learning lots of songs, it is an important part of the music curriculum for children to develop their performance skills. I am looking forward to our Year 6 performance in July!



As part of our music curriculum at Oakwood we have introduced Golden Threads which underpin and connect learning across our music curriculum. These threads — pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, texture, timbre and structure — help children to build on prior knowledge make meaningful links between past and future learning.

As Prom season approaches this concert may interest some of you.

The National Youth Music Theatre and BBC Philharmonic Orchestra celebrate Alan Menken's music for Disney.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/events/ejngfx>

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: Acorns 1

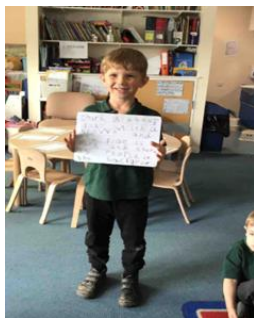
We are looking forward to a busy half term in Acorns Firstly, a reminder that it is our showcase to parents on **Tuesday 30th June at 2.40pm**, we are all excited to share our learning with you! Acorns 2 have their showcase on **Thursday 2nd July at 2:40pm**. We have only just started our new topic 'Minibeasts' this week and as luck would have it Mrs Bateman kindly brought in our second family of caterpillars to care for over the coming days. We can't wait for the butterflies to emerge from their cocoons.



This week in Art we used the collage techniques we have been practising over the year to create our own interpretations of Henri Matisse's famous snail picture. Matisse described it as 'painting with scissors' and I was so impressed by the creativity the children showed in their own work. We listened to classical music as we created, just as Matisse did in his art studio.



The children have made fantastic progress over the year with their writing and are proud to show me their sentences, lots of them using their phonics understanding and even finger spaces and full stops!



Celebration Assembly

Every week, Celebration Assemblies are held to mark children's successes, efforts and achievement individually and as a class. In the last three weeks, the following prizes were awarded to...



'Golden Dustpan and Brush' for the tidiest classroom – Lime & Lime



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



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



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

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

Acorns 1 – Luca & Dexter
Acorns 2 – Maeva & Oliwia
Ash – Toby & Maya K
Beech – Sophia & Charlotte
Cherry – Bonnie & Eddie
Lime – Felix & Isla
Maple – Scott & Caelan
Poplar – Tazeem & Rosario
Rowan – Iyla & William J
Sycamore – Alex & Desmond
Willow – Emily & Keir



Year 6 and Reception Parents and Carers Survey:

Hertfordshire is partnering with researchers at UCL, Durham and Newcastle Universities to invite parents to take part in the SHINE Parent & Carer Survey. This 20–30-minute survey is designed for parents and carers of Reception and Year 6 children. It focuses on their perspectives on children's health and wellbeing and explores their experiences with the National Child Measurement Programme.

Parents and carers can also enter a prize draw for one of four £50 shopping vouchers, awarded in your local authority area. Please see the link below.

[SHINE Parent & Carer Survey](#)

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

Hello from the PTA! We hope you are well and enjoyed the sunny and warm half-term that now feels long gone.

PTA term meeting

Last week we held our termly PTA meeting, where we reviewed funding requests and discussed several topics. Full minutes will be shared soon.

We also accepted the resignation of our chair, Elaine, who will be stepping down as she will no longer be a parent at the school from September. She will continue in the role until 21st July while we search for a replacement. If you would like to contribute even more to the PTA and put your name forward for Chair, please email oakwoodptachair@gmail.com.

Sports Day survey

You will have seen the email from the school about the Sports Day survey. We are very grateful to the school for the space and for the opportunity to hear from all of you. Please take a moment to share your feedback so we can continue to make the PTA even more awesome.

Our Events & Fundraising

Earlier in May we held our Lend a Hand Day. A huge thank you to all the parents who came along and helped tidy the shared areas of the school. It made such a noticeable difference and we are really grateful for your time and energy.

Just before half-term we held our first after-school Lolly Sale. The warm weather certainly called for a refreshment and the children loved a lolly on their way home. Thanks to your support we raised £170 for the PTA. The Lolly Sale will continue every Friday after school until the end of the school year, weather permitting.

Our Disco last week was another great success. One hundred and fifty children took part and showed some brilliant dance moves, and our parent volunteers did not disappoint either. It was a fantastic way to end the week and raise funds for the PTA (£340).

We are now heading towards the last event of the year, our much-loved Oakfest. Expect giant inflatables, live music (including a debut performance from a band made up of Oakwood parents), a quiz, face painting, games and much more.

- Saturday 11th July (2pm-9pm)
- Tickets are £10 adult, £5 child (under 3 free), £30 family (2 adults + up to 4 children)
- Earlybird family ticket £25 (ending soon!)

Further details and tickets are on our [website](#). And If you are able to donate a prize for our raffle, we would love to hear from you.

All of these events are organised by parent volunteers, and we're grateful for any help you can offer. Our [website](#) lists a range of volunteer tasks, please sign up if you're able to support.

How You Can Help Beyond Events

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

- Easyfundraising: Download the app and select *Oakwood Association* as your cause. We receive a percentage of sales directly from retailers.
- Company match funding: Many employers offer match-funding schemes, which can significantly boost donations.
- JustGiving: You can donate at any time through our JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/charity/oakwoodassociation>

- Retail employees: If you work in retail and have access to an employee discount, we would be so grateful for your support. We're always looking for ways to keep costs down when buying supplies for PTA events, and even small savings make a big difference.
- Raffle prizes: If you, or the company you work for, are able to donate raffle prizes for our Summer or Christmas events, please get in touch with us.

Stay Connected

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

- PTA website: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/oakwoodpta/>
- Instagram: @oakwood_pta
- Facebook page: Oakwood Primary School PTA St Albans

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

Thank you!

PTA Committee

Elaine Tittanegro Correa, Amy Wright & Irina Glencross

sports2inspire
resilience • determination • teamwork

CLIMBING MOUNT SNOWDON!
RAISING FUNDS THIS SEPTEMBER!

We're climbing Mount Snowdon on Friday 4th September 2026 to raise vital funds to help provide opportunities for children and young people to access sport, physical activity and positive enrichment experiences.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP PROVIDE:

- SPORT SESSIONS & COACHING
- HOLIDAY ACTIVITY PROGRAMMES
- AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES
- EQUIPMENT & PARTICIPATION SUPPORT
- POSITIVE PHYSICAL & MENTAL HEALTH WELL-BEING ACTIVITIES

Help us Inspire, Empower & Transform Young Lives!

MEET THE FOUNDER TAKING ON SNOWDON!
COACH ZAK
Founder & Sports Coach
Founded Sports2inspire with a passion for helping young people build confidence, stay active and reach their full potential through sport, physical activity and positive experiences.

SUPPORT OUR SNOWDON FUNDRAISER

DONATE TODAY!
Let's climb together for brighter futures!

<https://gofund.me/abf8aa8fa>
info@sports2inspire.co.uk
Follow us: @sports2inspire

Summer 2026 Holiday Sports Courses

27 courses at 14 school venues in Herts & Bucks

SPORTS fun, games & matches with friends in an enjoyable and safe environment

BOOKINGS WILL OPEN SATURDAY 13TH JUNE

About our sports courses this Summer:

- Sports courses are open to all children currently in Reception Class to Year 6
- Courses include: Football, Tennis, Mini Olympics (Dodgeball, Football, Basketball & Tennis)
- Courses run from 9 am - 3 pm
- Early Drop off available (8:30 am to 9 am)
- Children can attend single or multiple days
- Game On coaches are DBS checked, First-Aid & Safeguarded trained
- Attend 3 or more days and receive either a Puma Football or a Game On Sports Bag!

www.gameonsportscoaching.co.uk
info@gameonsportscoaching.co.uk
@gameonsportscoaching

Game On
Sports Coaching 25 YEARS