

Oakwood Primary School Newsletter

Friday 26th June 2026



Dear Oakwood Community,

We hope you are managing to keep cool during this hot spell. We are very grateful that we have air-con in the school and have been able to remain open. Well done to all our children for their resilience and flexibility this week!

Sports Day

We plan for Sports Day to go ahead on Thursday 2nd July and will confirm this on Monday. There will be an opportunity on the day for you to complete our survey about our parent teacher association (PTA).

History workshops

We are pleased that several of our recent activities have been able to take place as planned, including our History off the Page workshops for LKS2 and KS1. On Monday and Tuesday this week, our Year 1 and 2 children were captivated by the Florence Nightingale workshop, stepping back in time with excitement and curiosity as history came alive through hands-on learning, role play and imagination. See below for more information about LKS2's Viking workshop. Thank you to all of the parent helpers who helped to ensure these workshops were able to take place and to the PTA for their contribution towards the costs.

Sporting updates

Pupils across KS2 have recently been involved in a variety of sporting activities over the past 2 weeks including district athletics, Oaklands festival of sports, a Y4 and Y5 girls football event at St Albans High School and a Y6 boys football tournament. All of the children deserve to feel proud of themselves for their ambition, resilience and attitude - well done Team Oakwood!

Musical and performance events

Children across the whole school have been involved in various performance events over the past week. This has included the amazing Performing Herts show in Harpenden on Saturday - well done to all the children who took part! Yesterday, Julius from Herts Music Service organised a guitar, keyboards and drum performance where we were privileged to see the range of talent that is being nurtured at Oakwood. Also yesterday was the Y3 music workshop with Beaumont School, the children sang with enthusiasm and loved Sam's electric guitar!

Governor visit

This week, our school governors visited to talk about upcoming changes to our behaviour policy following the stakeholder surveys. We all agreed that behaviour will be a focus on our upcoming School Development Plan. We will be finalising our School Development Plan ahead of the new academic year and will update you in September. Governors also met with our English Lead, Mrs Cooper to talk about progress and next steps in writing at Oakwood. We will share a message from Jacky Elliot, chair of governors, in our next newsletter. 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 poetry.

Reception

A Poem in the Sky

By Benjamin Zephaniah

Key Stage 1

I am a Potato

By John Hegley

Lower Key Stage 2

Stars with Flaming Tails

By Valerie Bloom

Upper Key Stage 2

Under the Moon and Over the Sea

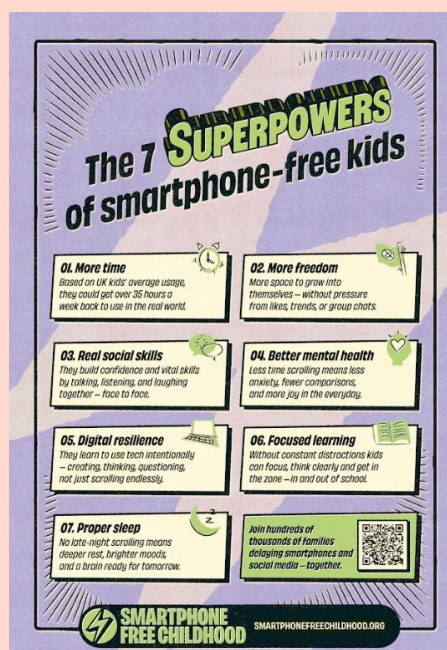
By John Agard and Grace Nichols

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 29 th June- Friday 3 rd July	Yr6 Bikeability
Monday 29 th June	Y4 Fitness and Fun
Tuesday 30 th June at 2:40pm	Acorns 1 sharing assembly for parents
Thursday 2 nd July at 2:40pm	Acorns 2 sharing assembly for parents
Monday 6 th July 12pm-1pm	OPAL parent play day
Thursday 9 th July	Transition Day
Saturday 11 th July	Oakfest



Our school website address: www.oakwood.herts.sch.uk
 School contact details: admin@oakwood.herts.sch.uk
 01727 753930

Work of the week!

Aarya in Acorns 2

As part of our minibeast unit Acorns have been writing about bees. Aarya's writing included well formed letters, finger spaces and she used her phonics knowledge to aid her spelling.



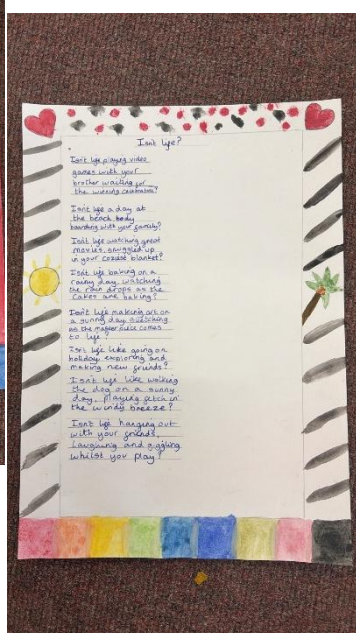
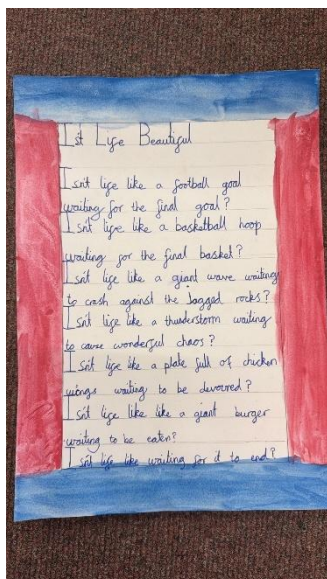
Jason in Ash

Ash have been writing sentences about Florence Nightingale. Jason has used full stops, capital letters and finger spaces with super letter formation.

Learning around Oakwood: Sycamore

This term, Sycamore class have enjoyed learning about free verse poetry. In our English unit, we explored the text *Cloud Busting* by Malorie Blackman. Using the final poem from the book, the children created their own free verse poems to express individuality and celebrate what makes life wonderful.

We have also been exploring the animals and biomes of the Grand Canyon. Year 5 have been working especially hard in their French lessons, where they have developed their skills by talking about real-life events, such as the World Cup.



Curriculum celebration: Art

This year at Oakwood, we have introduced Golden Threads across the Art curriculum.

Golden Threads are the key artistic concepts and skills that run throughout pupils' learning, helping them make connections between different techniques, materials and artistic experiences.

In Art, the Golden Threads are Line, Shape, Form, Colour, Texture, Pattern and Tone. These concepts are revisited regularly through a range of projects and media, enabling pupils to deepen their understanding and apply their knowledge in different contexts. They are not only woven throughout the curriculum but are also carefully sequenced to demonstrate clear progression, allowing children to build increasingly sophisticated artistic skills and understanding as they move through the school.



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: Cherry

Cherry class have had a very busy and exciting few weeks. One of the highlights was our Florence Nightingale workshop, where the children had the opportunity to immerse themselves in history through a range of engaging activities. They used their creativity, imagination and learning skills to create a variety of projects, solve problems and take part in role-play activities inspired by Florence Nightingale's life and work.

The workshop provided a fantastic hands-on learning experience, allowing the children to develop their understanding while working collaboratively with their peers. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm, confidence and curiosity as they explored new ideas and brought their learning to life. This was a great opportunity for all children to get involved, and they thoroughly enjoyed taking part. It was a fun, memorable and enriching experience for everyone!

In Maths, we have been learning all about fractions and exploring them through a range of practical, real-life experiences. To help develop our understanding, we used hands-on activities such as slicing pizzas and sharing objects into equal groups. These activities helped the children see how fractions are used in everyday life and made learning both meaningful and enjoyable.

We also have some more caterpillars which we are excited to watch grow into butterflies!



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'
tidiest classroom –
Rowan & Maple



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



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



The 'Golden Toilet' for the cleanest
and most looked after class toilets – Acorns 1 &
Ash

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

Acorns 1 – Uthman & Carter
Acorns 2 – Saoirse & Tommie
Ash – Lilaiya & Ahmed
Beech – Eddie & Erin
Cherry – Thomas & Jake
Lime – Lila & Elodie
Maple – Monica & Lila
Poplar – George & Olivia
Rowan – Chloe & Harriet
Sycamore – Arber & Evie Goh
Willow – Johnny & Mondira



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!

Vikings Workshop

On Wednesday 17th June History Off The Page visited LKS2 for a **Vikings Workshop** in the hall. We spent the morning visiting stations manned by our fantastic parent volunteers. They helped us to make clay gods, amulets, candles and runic patterns. We made sure the soup kept being stirred and we guarded the doors against any sneaky Anglo-Saxon spies! When our animals started dying we blamed a witch even though it wasn't her fault! In the afternoon we were archaeologists and we found a range of artefacts including chess pieces, bracelets, pottery and crockery. It was a lot of fun and we enjoyed dressing up as Vikings. We found out facts such as Vikings didn't actually have horns on their helmets and they all drank beer with honey. Thank you to Mrs Visegradi for organising this for us and to all our wonderful volunteers.

