

Oakwood Primary School Newsletter

Monday 13th July 2026



Dear Oakwood Community,

This last newsletter of the year is a great opportunity to reflect on what has been a fantastic fortnight at Oakwood.

Our Year 6 children have been working tremendously hard rehearsing for their end-of-year production. We are all looking forward to seeing the results of their dedication and enthusiasm. Alongside their preparations for the play, they have also taken part in Bikeability training, developing important cycling skills and road safety awareness.

Year 4 enjoyed a wonderful visit to St Albans School for a *Fitness and Fun* event. It was a great opportunity for the children to challenge themselves, work collaboratively and enjoy a range of sporting activities.

Our Acorns children delighted families and staff alike during their Learning Showcases. From fabulous maths songs to a host of other talents and achievements, the children spoke and performed with such confidence and pride. It was wonderful to celebrate their learning together.

Sports Day

We were extremely pleased that our postponed Sports Day was able to go ahead. Thank you to everyone who came along to support. The children's behaviour, teamwork and resilience throughout the event were outstanding and a real credit to both themselves and our school community. We were hugely impressed by their positive attitudes and enthusiasm.

OPAL Parent Play Day

A big thank you, too, to all the families who joined us for our OPAL Parent Play Day last Monday. It was lovely to welcome so many of you onto the playground and share our happy, creative playtimes. We have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback you have shared and are delighted that you enjoyed seeing OPAL in action.

Transition Morning

Thursday's transition morning was another great success. The school was buzzing with excitement as children spent time with their new teachers and classmates. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and hear children talking enthusiastically about the year ahead.

Staffing updates

We would like to wish Mrs Leeson (EYFS TA) all the best for her maternity leave in September, and we look forward to meeting her twins next term!

If you attended Oakfest on Saturday, we hope you had a wonderful time!

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 transition, change and new experiences!

Reception

All Are Welcome!

By Alexandra Penfold

Key Stage 1

The Koala Who Could

By Rachel Bright

Lower Key Stage 2

The Boy Who Grew Dragons

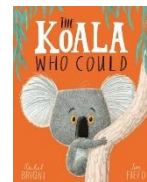
By Andy Shepherd

Upper Key Stage 2

The Final Year

By Matt Goodfellow

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 14th July	Year 6 & Beaumont Year 7 Lunch
Tuesday 14th July 2:30pm - 4:30pm	Year 3 at Beaumont for rehearsal and concert
Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th July 6pm	Year 6 performance to parents
Wednesday 15th July 9:00am - 9:15am	Choir performance to parents
Thursday 16th July	Last Year 3 swimming
Tuesday 21st July	Last day of school year Early finishes detailed below: EYFS (Acorns) 1:50pm KS1 1:55pm KS2 2:00pm

Congratulations to everyone who ran in the St Albans half marathon!



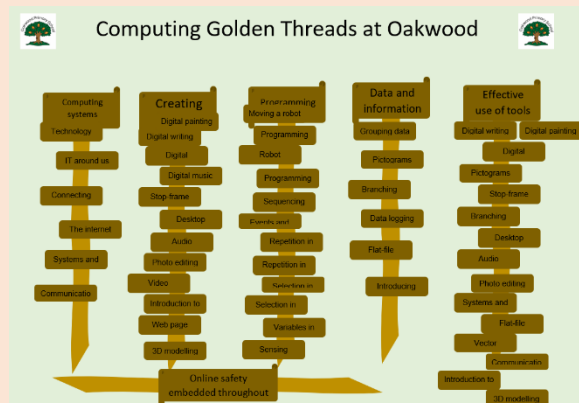
Our school website address: www.oakwood.herts.sch.uk
School contact details: admin@oakwood.herts.sch.uk
01727 753930

Benjamin in Lime

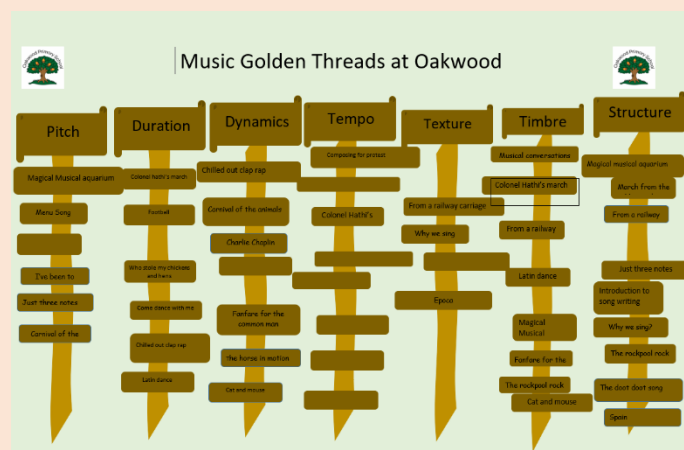
[illegible]

We have also been exploring the animals and biomes of the Grand Canyon. Using our computing knowledge of searching and systems, we created detailed fact files about the wildlife found at the bottom of the canyon. Year 6 have especially enjoyed rehearsing for their end-of-year play, and it is evident that the children have been working hard to develop their performance skills, including voice projection and expression. They have also embraced the creative side of the production, helping to design and paint props and scenery. Applying their understanding of colour mixing and shading, they have worked collaboratively to create an impressive stage setting that will bring the performance to life.

At Oakwood this year, we have continued to develop our curriculum through implementing our Golden Threads and some new curriculums. As you may know, we have been developing Golden Threads so that children build schemas of understanding across the Oakwood curriculum rather than seeing curriculum units in isolation. This year, we have developed these Golden Threads in Art, Music and Computing. Alongside this, Miss Bowden has done a wonderful job introducing a new music curriculum through the Sing Up scheme which we are very excited about.



Across the year, all teachers have led staff training for their subject area, spoken to children about their learning and visited colleagues' lessons to develop pedagogy. We have seen wonderful impact from this.



Next year, we will implement Golden Threads in Science, MFL, RE and PE alongside the continual development of our curriculum and provision for children.

**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: Willow

Year 6 have been busy preparing for their end-of-year production, *Ye-Ha!* and are eagerly looking forward to performing it for the school and their families very soon. Throughout rehearsals, the children have impressed us with their enthusiasm, confidence and commitment, showcasing some fantastic singing, acting and stage presence. We can't wait to see all of their hard work come together in what promises to be a wonderful performance!

Year 6 recently took part in Bikeability training and represented the school brilliantly throughout the course. The instructors praised the children for their positive attitudes, excellent behaviour and willingness to challenge themselves. During the sessions, pupils learned a range of important cycling skills, including signalling, road awareness and safe riding techniques. They then put these skills into practice on the roads surrounding the school, growing in confidence with every ride. We were incredibly proud of how well they performed, and the children impressed the instructors once again by successfully demonstrating their skills in the assessment at the end of the course. Well done, Year 6!

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 –

Ash & Poplar



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



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



The 'Golden Toilet' for the cleanest and most looked after class toilets – Sycamore & Acorns 2

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

Acorns 1 – Charlotte & Oscar
Acorns 2 – Victoria & Olivia H
Ash – Emilia & Rory
Beech – Poppy & Julieo
Cherry – Asya & Arlen
Lime – Hannah & Charlotte
Maple – Rex & Lyla B
Poplar – Hawa & Georgie
Rowan – Olivia & Natalie
Sycamore – Cameron & Max
Willow – Hazel & Seren



For eligible year 6 leavers Beezee Families are offering a fantastic summer programme called 'Step up to Secondary' taking place face to face in Hatfield, or online, with limited spaces for children and one adult to join. See [our Step up to Secondary page](#) and the attached flyer for more details.

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!

Sports Day

We had another wonderful Sports Day! Well done to all of the children, we saw our school values shine through in the children's determination and support for each other. Thank you to Mr Stanway for organising the fantastic day!



Sports day results!

1 st	Green
2 nd	Yellow
3 rd	Red
4 th	White
5 th	Blue

Please find below a link to the latest digital issue of *Families Hertfordshire Magazine*

https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/families_hertfordshire_july_august_2026?fr=sNWQyMjkyNTMzNzQ

The summer issue is packed with great ideas for things to do over the coming weeks, as well as the usual features covering education and parenting. Enjoy!

Mad Science Summer Camps



Mad SCIENCE CAMPS
hands-on holiday fun!

WHERE

- Hitchin
- Welwyn GC
- Watford • St Albans
- Harpenden
- Barnet • Tring
- Bedford *NEW*
- Berkhamsted *NEW*
- Enfield *NEW*
- Cambridge *NEW*

AGES
4 to 11 year olds

TIMES
9:30am to 4pm

COST
£230/week
£52/day
EARLYBIRD - ends July 1
£230/week
£52/day

BOOK NOW
HERTSBEDS.MADSCIENCE.ORG

WHAT'S ON THIS SUMMER

- RADICAL REACTIONS**
Crystals, chemistry, molecules
- JUNIOR INVESTIGATORS**
Physics, forensics, flying things
- EARTH EXPLORERS**
Archaeology, geology, weather
- COOL CHEMISTRY**
Bubbles, laboratories, acids
- FUN PHYSICS**
Sounds, electricity, motion

27TH JULY – 28TH AUGUST
Check out our website for topics, dates & locations!
@MadScienceHerts



Mad SCIENCE CAMPS
hands-on holiday fun!

WHERE

- Broxbourne
- Hertford
- Hitchin
- Potters Bar
- Royston
- St Albans
- Watford (North & South)
- Welwyn GC

AGES
5 to 11 year olds

TIMES
10am to 3pm

FREE SPACES
For children eligible for benefits-related free school meals
Hertfordshire's Holiday Activity Programme
HAPPY

BOOKING INFO
HERTSBEDS.MADSCIENCE.ORG

WHAT'S ON THIS SUMMER

- RADICAL REACTIONS**
Crystals, chemistry, molecules
- JUNIOR INVESTIGATORS**
Physics, forensics, flying things
- EARTH EXPLORERS**
Archaeology, geology, weather

27TH JULY – 28TH AUGUST
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@MadScienceHerts

A message from the Paul Davis Fencing Academy

Well done to the Year 5 and 6 pupils who completed in the School Fencing Summer Championships

“Congratulations to all of our medal winners and to every athlete who competed. While the results celebrated success on the piste, the day also showcased the character, resilience and sportsmanship that our school fencing programme strives to develop in every participant. A huge thank you goes to our coaches, referees, volunteers and families whose support helped make the championships such a success. Our referees also shared their inspiring journeys with the athletes and families. Having all started fencing as young school children, they have each progressed through the Paul Davis Fencing Academy pathway and, at just 17 years of age, have been selected to represent Team GB at the Senior World Championships. Their stories highlighted not only the opportunities that fencing can offer, but also what can be achieved through dedication, perseverance and being part of the Paul Davis Fencing Academy.

We are incredibly proud of every athlete who represented their school and look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting year of school fencing from September.”



A message from the Governors

Governors recently enjoyed a visit to the school as part of their termly schedule of visits. The focus this time was on reviewing the School Development Plan, Behaviour and a look at writing across the school.

Governors had the opportunity to review the main elements of the School Development Plan ahead of the full governing body meeting later in the afternoon. It was agreed that behaviour will be a focus in the updated School Development Plan. Miss Bird joined the meeting to discuss with governors the draft Relationships and Behaviour Policy.

Mrs Cooper, the English subject leader, met with governors and shared a poem with governors that had recently been written by one of the children. Governors were impressed with this piece of work. Mrs Cooper talked about progress and next steps in writing as well as updating governors on the “Essentials” writing scheme. She said the parent session on writing had been well attended.

During their visit, Governors also had the opportunity to meet with members of staff informally ahead of their full governing body meeting. Staff conversations were animated and morale was very positive, and governors recognised that staff are supported well by leaders.

Governors would like to extend their thanks to Mrs Thompson, Miss Bird and Mrs Cooper for giving up their valuable time to provide us with insights into some of the important areas of the school.