Oakwood Primary School Newsletter

Friday 6th November 2026

Dear Oakwood Community,

We hope you and your families had a lovely half-term break.

It was wonderful to see so many families attending our recent Parent Consultation Evening before half term. Thank you to all parents and carers for taking the time to meet with teachers and for your continued support.

EYFS Workshop

The Acorns took part in a wonderful workshop called "Little City". This workshop separated the hall into 10 sections, each section representing a real-life place such as a vet's office and a police station. The children explored the areas, acting out different scenarios and characters, building their knowledge and vocabulary. See the last page of this newsletter for some lovely pictures of the children enjoying the workshop.

LKS2 Diversity Workshop

Our Lower Key Stage 2 pupils thoroughly enjoyed an engaging and interactive Diversity Workshop. Through drama, discussion and practical activities, the children explored the lives of five remarkable but often overlooked figures from Black history. They were fascinated to learn about the lasting impact these individuals have had on society in the United Kingdom and were keen to celebrate their achievements and contributions. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, curiosity and thoughtful reflection throughout the day.

Year 6 Residential Visit

Our Year 6 students have embarked on their much-anticipated residential visit to Dorset. We have heard that highlights have included high ropes, rifles, warm cabins, the silent disco and the salad bar! We look forward to hearing more about their adventures upon their return this evening.

Staffing updates

This week we have welcomed two new Teaching Assistants: Miss Holness to LKS2 and Miss Dayman to KS1.

Governor visit

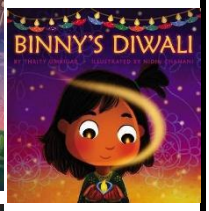
Our governors visited the school this week to introduce themselves to children in assembly and to meet our School Council. The School Council asked the governors some excellent questions and also shared the views they had gathered from the children in their classes. Watch this space for further updates!

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 Bonfire Night and Diwali.

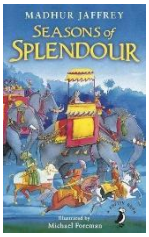




Reception
The Quiet Little Firework
By Nicola Coppack



Key Stage 1
Binny's Diwali
by Thrity Umrigar



Lower Key Stage 2
The Gunpowder Plot
By Rob Lloyd Jones

Upper Key Stage 2
Seasons of Splendour
By Madhur Jaffrey

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 9th November	KS1 History off the Page Great Fire of London Workshop
Wednesday 11th November	Acorns Parents Phonics Meeting 9.00am - 9:30am
Friday 13th November	PTA Disco after school
Tuesday 17th November 2:20-3:00pm	Rowan Learning Showcase
Wednesday 18th November 2:20pm - 3:00pm	Sycamore Learning Showcase
Thursday 19th November 2:20pm - 3:00pm	Willow Learning Showcase
Thursday 19th November 9:00am - 9:30am	Parent information event - Anti-Bullying



Work of the week!

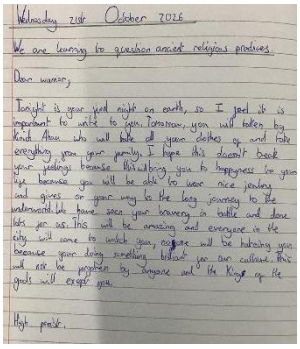
Jason in Cherry

Cherry Class have been reading the story *Stanley's Stick*. They went into the brambles and found their own sticks, they then pretended that they were something different. Jason pretended his was a magical broomstick. He wrote a creative story including capital letters, full stops and a range of vocabulary.



Learning around Oakwood: Rowan

This half term, Year 5 have been immersing themselves in the fascinating world of the Ancient Maya. In History, the children have explored Maya beliefs and customs, using their knowledge to write letters from the perspective of a Maya soldier. Writing to an Aztec warrior who was to be sacrificed, they carefully considered the importance of the Maya gods and their belief that sacrifices helped ensure the sun would rise and crops would continue to grow. The children demonstrated fantastic historical understanding, empathy and creativity through their thoughtful and persuasive writing


Wednesday 21st October 2026

We are learning to question ancient religious practices.

Dear Warrior,

Tonight is your final night on earth, so I feel it is important to write to you. Tomorrow, when the sun is high you will be sacrificed and be gifted to the sun god. He is our most powerful god and we believe the sun god will give a you power in the underworld. We believe he deserves the greatest honour and that is you.

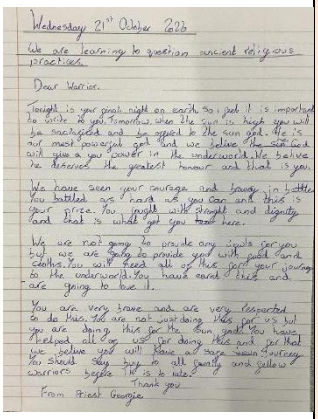
We have seen your courage and bravery in battle. You battled as hard as you can and this is your prize. You fought with strength and dignity and that is what got you here.

We are not going to provide any goods for you but we are going to provide you with gold and clothing. You will need all of this for your journey to the underworld. You have earnt this and are going to love it.

You are very brave and are very respected so do this. We are not just doing this for us but you are doing this for the sun, and for you have helped all of us. For doing this and for that we believe you will have a safe journey. You should stay true to all family and fellow warriors. Sizzle. It is to rise.

Thank you

From Priest Georgia.


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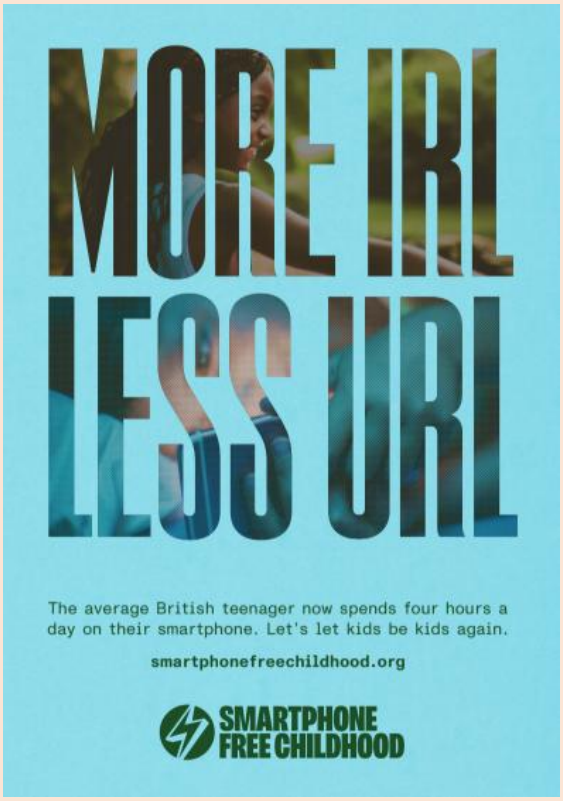
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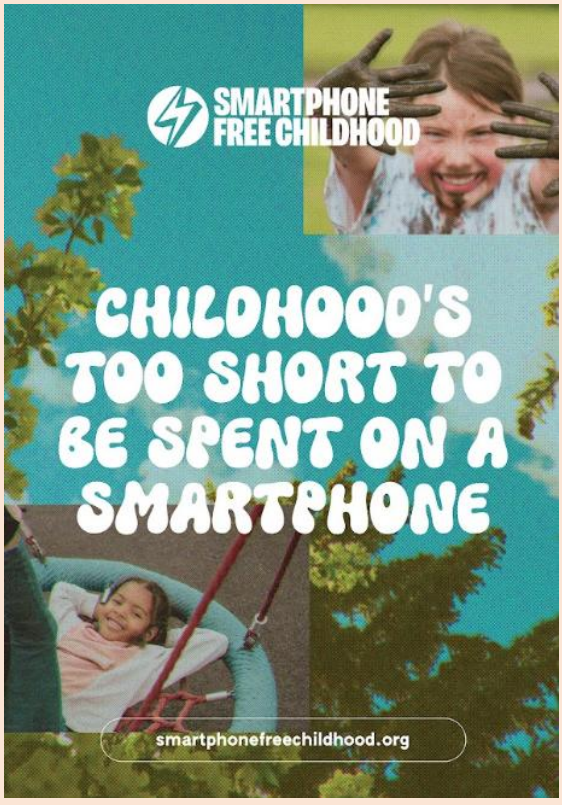
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From Priest Georgia.

In Science, Year 5 have been investigating which materials make the best insulators. The class placed ice cubes in cups covered with different materials and measured how much the ice had melted at five-minute intervals. After analysing their results, they discovered that the ice cube in the bubble wrap-covered cup melted the most, while the ice cube in the paper-covered cup melted the least. The children enjoyed acting as scientists, making careful observations and drawing conclusions from the evidence they collected. Year 5 have shown great enthusiasm for their learning and should be proud of all they have achieved this half term.

Smart Phone Free Childhood





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: Lime

We have had a busy, learning-filled first week back in Lime. The children have worked hard to display the Oakwood values both inside and outside the classroom. Some learning highlights have included:

MATHS

We have been exploring **addition and subtraction,** including adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers from a 3 digit number. We have gone outside to explore this by using chalks on the playground and have also extended our learning by writing our own word problems to solve.

HIDDEN HEROES

We started this week with a fantastic, inspiring **HIDDEN FIGURES** workshop where the children learnt about a range of figures from Black History such as Ivory Bangle Lady whose skeleton tells us that she belonged to an important family in the Roman times. We also listened to the music of Ignatius Sancho who was a famous composer and activist. The children made posters of the historical people who had most inspired them.

ENGLISH

We have started a new unit exploring some of Rachel Bright's picture books starting with ***The Lion Inside***. We made predictions based on the illustrations before exploring the story, making puppets, acting out the story using our best lion and mouse voices and then writing our own versions of the story. We enjoyed acting out the story whose moral is… you don't need to be big to be brave!



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	Ash & Maple
	Golden Clock' for the class with the best attendance and punctuality	Ash & Ash
	'Golden Knife and Fork' for the best manners in the hall at lunchtime	Ash & Rowan & Sycamore
	The 'Golden Toilet' for the cleanest and most looked after class toilets	Rowan & Beech
	The 'Golden Star' for all round positive classroom behaviour	Cherry
	The bear for the class with the best sitting and listening during Assemblies.	Rowan & Cherry

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

Acorns 1 – Hugo & Aariz
Acorns 2 – Olivia & Ilias
Ash – Victoria & Makai
Beech – Beau & Maya H
Cherry – Dora & Joshua
Lime – Nikita & Edith
Maple – Elodie & Asya
Poplar – Olivier & Nico
Rowan – Jessie & Max
Sycamore – Lizzie
Willow – Izzy



Acorns Little City Workshop

Before the holidays Acorns 1&2 participated in a Little City Workshop. This was a roleplay workshop that split the hall into 10 sections. Each section represented a real-life place for example a police station and a café. The children could move freely between the areas, acting out different scenarios and characters.

























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!