

News Hub



January 2024

Headteacher Update



As we settle into the rhythm of the spring term, I am thrilled to share some wonderful updates and achievements from our students at Oak Tree School.

Smooth Transition: After Christmas Break: Our students have returned from the Christmas break with incredible energy and enthusiasm. It warms my heart to see them settling back into their routines, engaging in lessons, and reconnecting with their friends. The positive atmosphere on campus is a testament to the strong sense of community that defines Oak Tree.

Exciting Trips and Activities: Our students have not wasted any time in making the most of their time back in school. Some of our adventurous students have even taken the bus to go swimming, demonstrating independence and a willingness to explore new activities. Additionally, others are developing their road safety skills in proximity to the school, further developing crucial life skills.

Year 7 Dance Group Takes Centre Stage: I am delighted to share the news that our Year 7 students, under the guidance of our specialist dance teacher, have come together to form a vibrant dance group. They are not only learning the art of dance but also collaborating on complete choreography. It's inspiring to witness their creativity and teamwork flourish in this exciting venture.

Year 7 Leading and Mentoring in Cooking Clubs:

The Year 7 students have truly stepped up as leaders within our school community. They have been actively involved in mentoring and guiding our primary students, showcasing a commendable level of responsibility and maturity. The cooking clubs, led by our Year 7s, are fostering a sense of camaraderie and skill development among all participants.

Primary Develops Specialised Teaching Strategies:

Our primary students continue to make strides in their education, following a variety of new specialist teaching strategies, including TEACCH. The dedication of our teaching staff and the hard work of our primary students are evident as they adapt to these approaches, ensuring a well-rounded and inclusive learning environment.

Upcoming Parent Engagement: As we look ahead, we are excited about the prospect of working closely with parents in the coming month. Your involvement is crucial in fostering a supportive learning community, and we look forward to sharing insights, progress, and discussing ways we can collaborate to enhance the educational experience for our students.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to Oak Tree School. Together, we can continue to create a positive and nurturing environment where every student can thrive.

Abi Davis
Headteacher

 **OAK TREE**
SCHOOL



Primary Update

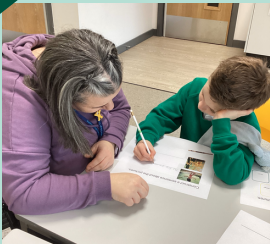
Children in Saplings, Elm and Ash have had a very busy three weeks since returning from Christmas holidays. There has been quite a lot of collaboration between our primary and secondary students which is lovely to see!

Saplings Class: Saplings class have been looking at farm animals as their topic. During my communication, they have been looking at 'Little Red Hen' and have created pigs in muddy puddles, Sheep, barn and a farmhouse. They have also created their own tractors during maths, to help them identify different 2D shapes. Within tuff tray they have explored different textures placed in a farm such as, hay and have been exploring this with tractor, farm animals and diggers. They have also started cooking lessons with year 7 and made their own pizzas!

Elm Class: Elm class have been looking at 'The very hungry caterpillar'. The children were able to explore the different fruit that the caterpillar ate and some of the children tried some too. The class have also enjoyed completing lots of different jungle themed pieces of art.

Ash Class: Ash class have become jungle explorers this half term! We have been singing songs such as Jungle Boogie and The Bare Necessities to understand more about the animals of the jungle and their features. This links to Science and their work on animals and their young and identifying that some baby animals do not look like their parents! In Maths, Ash class have been exploring time. Some are focusing on reading clocks and while others work to secure their understanding of the days of the week, months or the year and seasonal changes.

Pictures Shared From Primary Around the School



Secondary Update

Our secondary classes have enjoyed lots of community trips these past few weeks as well as lots of cooking! The students have come back to school ready and eager to learn.

Beech Class: Beech Class have started a new text for English and students are enjoying the read. For Maths, we continue to focus on shapes and angles and students are demonstrating good understanding. Beech class are now going swimming every week as a part of our weekly community visit and we have been taking the bus to the leisure centre. Students enjoy swimming and continue to develop their problem solving skills when out in the community.

Chestnut Class: Chestnut class have been busy reading their new book 'The Great Foodbank Heist'. In English, we have been understanding characters' thoughts and feelings, writing diaries and monologues. In Maths, we have been continuing our work on multiplication and division and have now moved onto formal methods. In cooking, we are learning skills to make foods from all over the world. Looking at different artists in art, we have been creating portraits in different mediums including fruit and vegetables! In science, our baked beans and biscuits travelled down the digestive system.

Maple Class: Maple class have been exploring historical events and have just started looking at the causes for the start of WWI as well as hygiene within the food tech room and making flapjacks this week. We have been reading our new story 'Brock' within English and analysing how the writer builds tension within the chapters as well as looking at compound sentences. Within Maths the students have overcome lots of boundaries when we have been looking at different angles and triangles. Maple are very much looking forward to their visit to Kimel Cafe next week. Within Dance we are creating our own class sequence that everyone is responding so positively too and is actively engaged. Students have enjoyed cooking club and other lunch clubs.

Willow Class: Willow Class have been extremely productive over the past couple of weeks. In English, we have been reading 'The Great Food Bank Heist', exploring the emotions of the different characters as they experience a shortage of food. The children have developed their empathy, as well as their ability to write in a variety of genres. We have also been working closely with Saplings Class, acting as mentors for the younger children. Our children have shown in this role of responsibility and have shown great maturity, helping Saplings to cross the road and make pizza wraps. We are proud of the attitude and behaviour of our children this week - keep it up!

Pictures Shared From Secondary Around the School



Oak Tree School Minibus (used for trips)



Family Support Worker Update



Dear Families, welcome back to our monthly newsletters, the first of 2024! We are all very proud of how our children have returned to school in a calm manner and ready to learn.

I am in the process of developing links with people in the community to visit our school or for our pupils to visit them where they work. We have had offers for our secondary pupils to visit Wokingham library and Churches in our local Parish. And Wokingham library have offered to come in to school to share stories and rhymes with our primary pupils.

The children are really enjoying their community trips, made even more exciting with the arrival of our new minibus!

I have been keeping in regular contact with families by phone, made even easier now that I have a mobile phone which you can contact me on by text, WhatsApp or a call (07886 182480) during the working day Monday-Thursday. If I am unable to take your call or reply to a message straight away I will get back to you as soon as I can.

As we are still in the season of coughs and sneezes, I have found a really useful document from the Public Health Agency advising what ailments to keep your child off school with and for how long. I hope you find this useful. It will also be featured on the school website under the 'Parents' section.

Do I need to keep my child off school?						HSC Public Health Agency
Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 hours after commencing antibiotics	
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies Until after first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics	
Flu Until recovered	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed			

Building for the Future have some new dates for their Saturday Club! Their contact number and email address is on the flyer below:

Finally, we are really looking forward to welcoming Sapling parents into school for our first Stay & Play afternoon on Tuesday 6th February.

If you have any suggestions of activities or places families from our school community can visit, please let me know and I will happily include this information in future newsletters.

Teresa Crandon
Family support worker



Social Media

If you would like to keep up to date with the progress being made at Oak Tree School, follow us on...

@Oak Tree School

@OakTreeSchool1

@MaidenErleghTrust

@MaidenErleghTrust

Where to find us?

