

News Hub



March 2024

Headteacher Update



As we approach the Easter break, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible progress and achievements of our students this past half-term.

In our primary department, I am delighted to share that our students have been flourishing in their phonics development. It's truly remarkable to witness the rapid progress they've made in this area. Moreover, they have been honing their handwriting skills through the 'Handwriting Without Tears' scheme, and I'm pleased to report that they are now confidently and accurately writing letters. Seeing their growth and confidence in these fundamental skills brings me immense joy.

Additionally, our students have been actively participating in various school experiences, such as World Book Day and Red Nose Day. It's heartwarming to see them engage with enthusiasm and creativity in these events, fostering a sense of community and camaraderie within our school.



In our secondary department, our students continue to impress with their increasing independence and initiative. Many of them have been venturing out on class trips, with some now proficiently reading maps and guiding adults to destinations in the nearby community. Furthermore, I am proud to share that some of our secondary students have taken on roles in environmental initiatives, such as litter picking, demonstrating their commitment to supporting and improving our local environment.

Our secondary students have also shown commendable leadership by actively participating in our school council. Their recent decision to implement a house system throughout the school, focusing on inspirational people with SEN, is a testament to their innovative thinking and inclusivity.

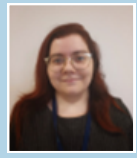
Looking ahead to the summer term, our secondary students will begin transitioning to their specialist classes in preparation for year 8. We will also be welcoming new pupils, and I assure you that Teresa, along with our newest member of the Senior Leadership Team, Gregg, will be dedicated to supporting these transitions. Rest assured, we will ensure that all classes are prepared to welcome any new students who may visit.

As we enter the Easter break, I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable time with your families. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education journey.

Abi Davis
Headteacher



Reception Staff Update



Hi all,
It is with a heavy heart that I announce that today is my last day working at Oak Tree School.

I have had a wonderful experience working here and it has been such a pleasure getting to know the students and staff members of this lovely community. I will leave with nothing but fond memories of my time here. Thank you to everyone for making me feel so welcome and accepted. I will miss you all very much. I wish Oak Tree School all the best. I have deep faith and pride in this school and feel deeply honoured to have made even a small contribution to Oak Tree School.

Michelle Wiggins
Receptionist



Family Support Worker Update



Hello, I hope the March edition of our newsletter finds you all well. We have had another busy half term at school with visits out and about in the community and also visitors to the school.

Saplings, Ash and Elm class all enjoyed another story time visit from Claire and Sarah from Wokingham library.

Stay and Play in Ash and Elm class was a great success. Both parents and children enjoyed the session and we hope to invite primary parents back again next term.

Year 7 students welcomed Sarah from Readifood, Readings foodbank. They were interested to learn more about how this charity helps people in need. The visit inspired the school council to arrange a foodbank drive. Thank you to all of you for your kind donations of items that will help replenish the stocks needed at the foodbank.



I hope you all have a wonderful Easter break and I look forward to seeing you all in the summer term.

Dates for Saturday Club in April:



13th / 27th January
24th February
9th / 23rd March
27th April

11am – 1pm Children with Physical disabilities/Downs
3pm – 5pm Children with ASD and associated conditions
Put the dates in your diaries and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

Any queries email info@ots.org.uk or call 07925692277

No need to book Our House, Tootley Road, Wokingham, RG411QN

Activities available over the Easter holidays:

- Organised by Wokingham charity First Days, families can visit Sandhurst Memorial Park from Friday 29 March to Sunday 14 April and pick up a trail map from Sandhurst Cafe. After following the clues and completing the trail, there will be a sweet treat waiting for families.
- Relaxed performance of Beauty and the Beast at South Hill Park - South Hill Park's Wilde Theatre in Bracknell is showing a relaxed performance of Beauty and the Beast over the Easter holidays. The relaxed performance will include soft lighting with no strobes, quieter music and reduced sound effects. Audience members are also free to enter and leave the auditorium as needed. The performance will take place on Thursday 11 April at 3pm. To book, visit South Hill Park's website.
- Coral Reef Waterworld in Bracknell offer sessions exclusively for customers with disabilities, their families, carers and friends to enjoy the swimming pools and waterslides. These sessions run monthly, with additional sessions running over the Easter holidays on Wednesday 3 April and Wednesday 10 April, from 8 to 9.30am. More details and booking information can be found on the Coral Reef Waterworld website.
- Showcase Cinema in Winnersh, offers autism friendly screenings every Sunday morning at 10:30am. These screenings include soft lighting, lowered film volume and no trailers. Customers can bring their own food and drink and move around the auditorium as needed. More information and a list of upcoming films can be found on the Showcase Cinema website.
- SEN & Autism climbing sessions at Dinton Pastures- Tailor-made for individuals with additional needs, these indoor climbing sessions are conducted in small groups with no background music. Please note the minimum age for the activity is four, and a parent or carer has to be present.

Check the dates online and book soon as there are only a few spaces left!

Save the Dates!

- **02.05.24 9:15-10:15am** Secondary-Talk with Pippa, our OT around sensory regulation at home.
- **02.05.24 2-3pm** Primary- Talk with Pippa, our OT around supporting functional skills at home.

These training sessions will be question led. You will be given the opportunity to book your place and submit questions nearer the time. We need a minimum of five parents attending for this training to be held. More information to follow.

- **15.7.24 2-3pm** Primary School end of year celebration- 'Bear Hunt' trail-more information to follow.
- **20.6.24 11:30am-4:00pm** Lions' Funfest - Welcome (lions-funfest.org.uk).

Teresa Crandon
Family support worker



www.oaktreeschool.org



0118 216 0040



OTS@maidenerlegtrust.org

ASSIST Parent & Carer Sessions

January – July 2024

at

Woodley Airfield Centre (address below)

Supporting Wokingham families that include a child (up to 18yrs old) with a diagnosis (or on the pathway for an assessment) of autism

MONTH	DAY	TIME & VENUE
January	Tuesday 16th	10.00am – 12.00 noon Woodley Airfield
February	Tuesday 20th	10.00am – 12.00 noon Woodley Airfield
March	Tuesday 19th	12.30pm – 2.30pm Woodley Airfield
April	Tuesday 16th	10.00am – 12.00 noon Woodley Airfield
May	Tuesday 21st	10.00 – 12.00 noon Woodley Airfield
June	Tuesday 18th	12.30pm – 2.30pm Woodley Airfield
July	Tuesday 16th	10.00 – 12 noon Woodley Airfield

Come and join the ASSIST team alongside parents & carers to chat, share ideas & problem solve. We also offer 1:1 appointments within these sessions and if you would like to arrange an appointment please contact assist@wokingham.gov.uk The above sessions are based at [The Woodley Airfield Centre, Hurricane Way, Woodley, RG5 4UX.](#)

For further information please contact:
The ASSIST Team
ASSIST (Autism Spectrum Service for Information,
Support & Training)
Email: assist@wokingham.gov.uk



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

THE PARISH OF
Winnersh

Free Entry!

Spring FAYRE

Stalls • Plants • Raffle • Tombola • BBQ & more!

AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHURCH CLOSE, WINNERSH

18TH MAY 2024 | 11AM - 3:30PM

Please support our fundraising event for the parish

We look forward to seeing you there!



Primary Update

Children in Saplings, Elm and Ash classes have had a very busy month! They have had visits from the local library and the classes have all begun to go on little trips after practicing their road safety outside. Our primary students have spent this last week participating in fun Easter activities!

Saplings Class: Saplings class have been looking at minibeasts and their environments. We have gone on walks identifying different minibeasts during our community visit lessons. To start off the Easter celebrations, Sapling class have started making Easter nests and cakes.

Elm Class: The last few weeks the children in Elm class have been working on recognising the different weather that we can experience and the things we need to wear in the different climates. The children have seemed to enjoy exploring this topic this term. This week we have begun to complete some Easter themed art which all the class have engaged in and completed some lovely pieces of work

Ash Class: Our topic this half term has been the weather. We have been recording the weather in class and developing our understanding of the seasons. We have linked this to English by exploring adjectives to write and read descriptive words and sentences about settings. In addition, our Art has been focused on the weather and seasons, also understanding the order of the colours of the rainbow. Some of our students have been recording scientific observations based on waterproof materials and sharing their results, and in Maths they have worked on calculation: adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing.

Pictures Shared From Primary Around the School



Secondary Update

Our secondary classes have had an incredibly productive March! They have been going out on trips and honing their life skills through various community visits. Our Year 7 students have been very active in various sporting activities this month and they have done lots of delicious cooking! It has been a hard-working and rewarding term for our secondary students.

Beech Class: Beech class had a great time exploring their community with a visit to the local church, where they were full of curiosity, asking lots of questions and discovering interesting facts about World War 2! With our novel "Brock" now finished, we're getting ready to switch gears and dive into poetry next term. The class is excited to impress their parents with a spring meal they'll be hosting, showing off the cooking skills they've been working on. Beech class adeptly maneuvered through the local area using Google Maps, showcasing a solid grasp of road safety and directional skills.

Chestnut Class: Chestnut class have had a busy month. In English, we became the head of innovation at our favourite food company. We then wrote some egg-cellent newspaper reports about the mysterious Easter egg that appeared in the playground. In maths, we finished our topic on time and have moved onto fractions. We had our first whole class trip to TVAP, which was a success. Half the class recently had a bocchia and Kurling match against Radstock and we won some of the games!

Maple Class: Maple class have had a brilliant half term. We have been on many community visits including the post office, local church, Aldi, library and our reward swimming trip. Students have embraced all learning opportunities and explored, angles, 'Brock' text, atoms, molecules, periodic table, World War Two, spreadsheets, budgeting and expressing emotions through drama and art as well as following a variety of recipes to produce some yummy treats! We are looking forward to an exciting summer term.

Willow Class: Recently, Willow Class have got stuck in with a whole range of learning opportunities. We have learned lots about future job opportunities with a visit to Kimel Cafe, as well as a visit from an air hostess and worker from the recycling centre. In addition, we have cooked up many exciting treats including chicken tenders, cheesy garlic bread and mini egg cheesecakes, developing skills such as weighing accurately, chopping with control and using the oven safely. We also ventured into Wokingham town centre for the first time using public transport, completing a treasure hunt with the Wokingham shops after a smooth train journey and visiting Carnival Pool by bus to work on our swimming skills. There has been a general focus on recycling and we have continued to explore the concepts of reduce, re-use and recycling. We hope you all have a well-deserved rest!

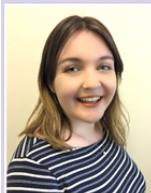
Pictures Shared From Secondary Around the School



Primary and Secondary student interacting



Speech and Language Therapist Update



Dear parents/carers,

What another great term it has been at Oak Tree School. It has been lovely to be in class and I am very proud of how far all of the children have come with their speech and language development.

In the primary school, there has been a big focus on ensuring we are using Proloquo2go to encourage communication. In Sapling class we have been helping students develop their confidence in requesting and asking for help, the devices been very helpful especially during snack time when the children want items of food opened! In Elm class, students have been supported to develop their play, with some children communicating they want 'go' and 'chase'!



Ash class have been working on integrating their use of Proloquo2go to support their students in their Literacy lessons. In one instance, after writing their family member's names, the children then used the device to facilitate talking about who each family member was to them (e.g., mum, dad), if they lived with them and if they liked them (rest assured, all the children said they liked their families!).



In the secondary school, students have been receiving weekly 'All About Emotions' lessons where they have been developing their understanding of emotions and learning what strategies help them feel better. Students has fun trying out the different strategies they could use and have formed their own toolkits! The school is in the process of forming these so that each child has their own box of items that help them and they can use throughout the day, as and when needed.



Chestnut class have also finished their adventurous saga called 'Tower of Teamwork', where they have been learning to work together using skills such as communication, cooperation and empathy. There were lots of big smiles when they received their certificates of completion - well done Chestnut class!



I hope everyone has a restful Easter break and I look forward to what Summer term brings!

Best wishes,
Chloe

Chloe Jenner
Speech and Language Therapist



Social Media

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

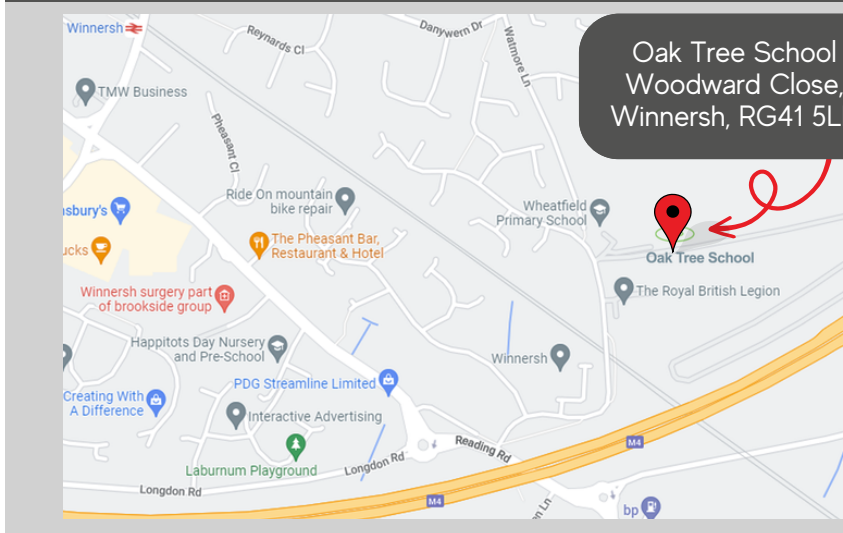
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Where to find us?



www.oaktreeschool.org



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OTS@maidenerleghtrust.org