

News Hub



April 2024

Headteacher Update




We hope this newsletter finds you well and that you've been enjoying the spring season with your loved ones. As we transition through the school year, we wanted to update you on the latest happenings at Oak Tree school since Easter.

Secondary Transitions: One exciting development is the successful transition of our secondary students to their different classes in the afternoon. This initiative aimed to familiarize them with various teachers and subjects, and we're thrilled to report that it has been a resounding success. Not only are students adjusting well to the changes, but they're also forming a diverse array of friendships, enriching their social experiences.

Primary Mix Classes: Similarly, our primary students have embarked on a journey of mixing classes during phonics lessons and some Maths and Communication and language sessions. This approach allows them to interact with peers across different year groups, fostering a sense of community and broadening their social circles.

Progress Analysis: Across the school, we've been diligently analysing the progress of our students, and we're delighted to share that the results have been significant. We're proud to say that every student has shown progress and is projected to continue on this upward trajectory by the end of the academic year. Your children's growth and development remain our top priority, and we're committed to supporting them every step of the way.

Successful Transitions: Transitioning can indeed be a daunting experience, particularly for new students embarking on their educational journey. However, I'm delighted to share that the transitions for incoming students have been smooth and successful. As we eagerly anticipate the next academic year, we look forward to warmly welcoming them into our school community. Our commitment remains steadfast—to provide a nurturing environment that fosters their growth and learning. 

New Staff Members: We're excited to welcome new members to our staff team who have already made a positive impact on the school. Their expertise and dedication enhance our ability to cater to the diverse needs of our students, and we're grateful to have them on board.

As always, we encourage open communication between parents, teachers, and staff members. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. Together, we can ensure the continued success and well-being of our students.

Abi Davis
Headteacher



Staff Update

Introducing Gregg Berry as Assistant Head



Gregg brings with him a wealth of experience, with 12 years of dedicated work with children with Autism. His background in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Primary education, coupled with his proficiency in behaviour management from his previous roles leading on Behaviour & Attitudes, positions him as a valuable addition to our leadership team. Starting his career as a Teaching Assistant, Gregg has diligently worked his way up to Senior Leadership, demonstrating a deep commitment to education and pastoral care. Gregg worked closely with the secondary school and collaborated with them to ensure that the Primary leavers had a smooth transition to Year 7 and beyond. He also collaborated with Abi to successfully open and run their previous school together and we hope to have similar success here at Oak Tree.

Laura Eves as Learning Support Assistant



Laura Hello my name is Laura and I'm very pleased and excited at the opportunity to be joining everyone at Oak Tree. I have over 12 years experience working with individuals who have physical disabilities, mental health and multiple learning difficulties. I am passionate about making a positive impact on those individuals who need some extra support to be as independent, happy and safe as possible. I am really enjoying my teaching assistant role and look forward to continue supporting the children around the school, to develop myself further through experience, learning and work closely with my new colleagues.

Laxmi Kalsi - Receptionist



Laxmi has worked in schools over many years, however more recently she worked at Broadmoor Hospital and is delighted to be back working in Schools. Laxmi is delighted to be part of an amazing school and is looking forward to getting to know staff, parents & students alike.



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: This week Sapling class have been focusing on creating spring decorations ready for the spring parade. Sapling class have also created their very own spring bonnets that they will show at the spring parade. Sapling class have been focusing on traditional tales such as 'Three little pigs' and have created their own houses made out of bricks, sticks and straw.

Elm Class: Elm class have been very busy the last few weeks, they have dived deep into exploring the topic of the term which is under the sea. The class have been enjoying creating different pieces of art linked to this topic. The class have done extremely well with accessing offsite opportunities, they have been visiting a local park and they have explored using the equipment within these settings. The class have also been developing their play skills, showing their ability to share equipment and their space with others.

Ash Class: Ash class have returned after the Spring break with energy and enthusiasm! We have started our new topic of 'Under the Sea' exploring sea creatures in Science and Art. We have looked at the diet of sea animals as well as using food to stamp patterns onto fish. Our book is the Rainbow Fish and we are working on retelling the story and writing our own versions. In My Play and Leisure we are playing two games: hook-a-duck and Go Fishing which we are really enjoying. In Maths we have focused on Geometry and are exploring 2D shapes and how to use a ruler to draw with straight lines. PSHE and RE are focused on expanding our ideas of people across the world and we explored the celebration of Holi by throwing powder paints onto a piece of paper to see how they splatter.

Secondary Update

Chestnut Class: Chestnut class have had a busy start to the term. In English, we have started our new book 'The Journey'. We have been linking the characters' emotions to ours, as well as beginning to write a descriptive piece of writing about a setting. In maths, we are continuing with our topic on fractions and learning to add and subtract fractions. In science, we have been looking at properties of materials. We have set up investigations to find the best materials that are thermally conductive and insulating. We began transitions this week and the children have been independently moving to and from different classrooms, along with learning to interact and communicate with other adults and pupils from across Year 7.

Beech Class: Beech class has been diving into the world of poetry, particularly exploring Haiku, and they've been producing some impressive work! Meanwhile, math lessons continue to focus on fractions and percentages. In geography, the focus is on weather and climate this term, providing students with insights into Britain's changing climate patterns. Transition afternoons have commenced and students have been transitioning smoothly to their lessons. . Lastly, the spring meal was successful and the students were proud of themselves for organising it.

Maple Class: Maple class have also been looking into poetry and have been doing so well! We have been so impressed with how well the students have transitioned. They have particularly enjoyed getting to know the other teachers and working well with different students continuing to challenge them,

Willow Class: Willow Class have been working incredibly hard recently and have coped exceptionally with the changes as they move into their new afternoon transition groups. In English, the children have been getting to grips with a tricky text 'The One Thousand Year Old Boy', while in science we have begun exploring materials and their properties. We have navigated supermarket aisles and posted a letter on our community visits, while in life skills we have practiced washing the car. Our Spring Meal was a great success and the children worked really hard to prepare food and decorations. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Last Thursday we were lucky enough to be visited by **Nerys Pearce**, a very successful athlete who has represented Great Britain at the Invictus and Commonwealth games and obtained a large number of world records! Nerys led a hugely inspirational assembly with our secondary children where she spoke about the accident which left her paralysed from the waist down. She spoke about the determination, resilience and mental strength she needed to bounce back and overcome this set back. Nerys has a fantastic attitude and outlook on life and this definitely inspired our students. Nerys also led an upbeat exercise circuit which put all of the children, primary and secondary, through their paces! As a result of your generous sponsorship, we have raised a grand total of over £750, 60% of which will go directly to providing new equipment and active learning opportunities for our pupils - thank you!

Pictures Shared From Primary Around the School



Pictures Shared From Secondary Around the School



Family Support Worker Update



Dear Parents/Carers,

welcome to our April edition of Oak Tree School's newsletter. I hope you all had a good break over the Easter holidays despite the unsettled weather.

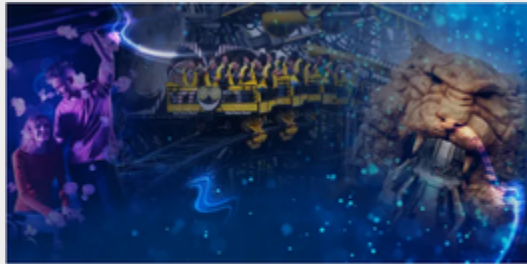
With the weather in mind and longer days approaching I thought I would have an 'Out and About' focus in this newsletter. Thank you to the parents in Saplings class for sharing ideas (tried and tested) of places to visit and the links to the various websites.

If you have any recommendations of places to visit please email me at the usual place t.crandon@maidenerlegtrust.org and I will happily add them to future newsletters.



National Disability Card UK | Easy Online Application
Easily show that you have a disability. Apply for your Disability ID card now to get priority access, discounts and more.
[Disability /Carer ID](#)

[This is the link for the Complimentary Carer Passes for the access card for merlin](#)



Passholder Accessibility | Merlin Annual Pass
Here you will find all the information you need regarding accessing our attractions for Passholders who have additional needs.
merlinannualpass.co.uk

Link for free karting every Saturday morning - absolutely karting at Maidenhead track for all Disabilities
Red kangaroo - kanga calm SEN sessions that is on twice a week

Link for the access card

Link for the Disabled Persons Railcard

Link for Virtue gymnastics - Neuro diverse

Link for coral reef accessible for everyone sessions

Link for ozone ice rink SEN inclusive skating group

Dates for Saturday Club in 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 jenna@hftf.org.uk or call 07925692277
No need to book Our House, Toutley Road, Wokingham. RG411QN

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 \(lions-funfest.org.uk\)](http://lions-funfest.org.uk)

Teresa Crandon
Family support worker



West Berkshire Parents & Carers Together

Presents our Special Needs
to Age 11

SEN Kids Summer Party

On Saturday May 25th from 10am to 1pm.

At Thames Valley Adventure Playground, Bath Road, Taplow,
Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 OPR.

If navigating by a Sat Nav, please use the postcode SL6 0EF.



thames valley adventure playground

supporting children & adults with special needs and their families

Registered Charity Number 1201388



Profits from this party will go towards funding future WBPCT events.

Children under 2yrs go free if accompanied by an older paying sibling.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rg31-4ef>

Free snacks Teddy Bears Picnic Giveaways Popcorn Machine
Outdoor Disco Water Play Adventure Zones Soft Play
Sand Play Free Squash
Giant Bubbles Hamper Raffle Candy Floss Sensory Room
Tombola Raffle

Our ticket shop



TVAP Website



WBPCT Facebook Page



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!



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



Dear Parents / Guardians,

It is great to see all the children back for the summer term. I look forward to continuing to support our students and help them in class.

This term, we have an NHS CYPIT Speech and Language Therapist join us. They are in one day a week and will be focusing on supporting the secondary school.

Please do continue to direct all therapy correspondence to myself (c.jenner@maidenerleghtrust.org), as I will be liaising with the NHS therapist to ensure there is a coordinated approach to the Speech and Language Therapy provision here at Oak Tree School.

Best wishes,
Chloe



Chloe Jenner
Speech and Language Therapist



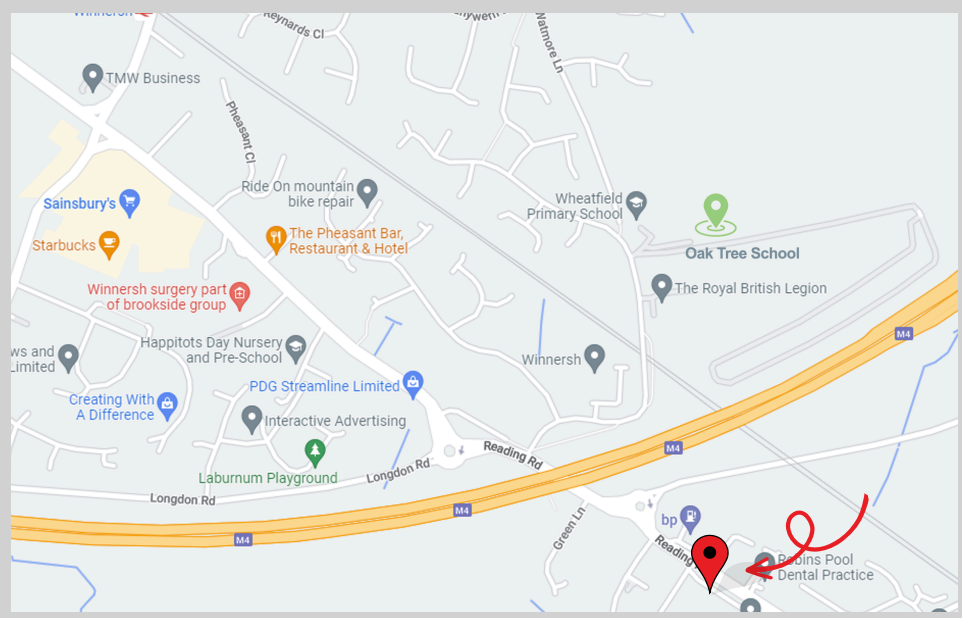
- @OakTreeSchool
- @OakTreeSchool1
- @MaidenErleghTrust
- @MaidenErleghTrust

Social Media

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



Where to find us?



Oak Tree School
Woodard Close,
Winnersh, RG41 5LP