

# Newsletter

## 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021



**Oakington**  
C of E Primary School

### Message from the Headteacher:

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are well and truly in the Christmas spirit at school now. Our Christmas Tree arrived this week thanks to the PSA and pupils from Oak and Sycamore had a wonderful time decorating it. I'm sure you will agree they did a great job and this always brings about the magical buzz at this time of year.

The children were delighted to be selecting their presents in Santa's Secret Shop today. We hope you enjoy the gifts they have selected. We are very grateful to the PSA for again organising and running this event and to you for your on-going support.

We are very sad to say that, following advice, we have taken the decision to cancel our 'in-person' Nativity, Christmas Service and Christmas Fayre. The Nativity play will instead be recorded and shared with parents and carers.

With cases of COVID-19 being so high at the moment and the emergence of a new variant of concern, Omicron, it would be irresponsible and an unnecessary risk to have large numbers of parents in school just before the Christmas holidays. We are very sad to have to make this decision but would not want to impact people's Christmas holidays.

A raffle for a Christmas Hamper will be taking place and more details can be seen below.

We are looking forward to Christmas Jumper day, which takes place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December, when we will be raising money for Save the Children, and our Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Kind regards,  
Nathan Clark – Headteacher



### Oakington Diary Dates:

**Tuesdays:** Years 5 & 6 swimming  
**1-10 Dec:** Hamper raffle tickets available  
**8 Dec:** Deadline for ordering Christmas lunch  
**Fri 10 Dec:** Christmas Jumper Day  
**Fri 10 Dec:** deadline for Christmas Bells orders  
**Fri 10 Dec:** Christmas Raffle for Hampers  
**Wed 15 Dec:** Christmas Lunch  
**Fri 17 Dec:** Last day of term  
**Tues 4 Jan:** Inset Day  
**Wed 5 Jan:** School re-opens  
**Thurs 10 Feb:** Birch - Cake Sale  
**w/c 14 Feb:** Half Term Holiday  
**Thurs 31 Mar:** Sycamore – cake Sale  
**Fri 1 Apr:** Last day of term



You may have heard about some cheeky elves that have been very mischievous since their arrival this week in several classrooms, even eating chocolate meant for children! I wonder what they will get up to next week...

### Co-op Fundraising

We are delighted to advise that thanks to Stephanie Hall and her work behind the scenes,

we have been successful in securing a place in the Histon Co-op Local Community Fund. This means that when Co-op members purchase Co-op branded products, we receive a percentage of the fund. Please can we encourage you to [become Co-op members](#). The fundraising event will last up to October 2022. All monies raised will be going towards supporting a pupil and staff wellbeing programme.

We will focus on communication skills, emotional resilience, goal setting, anxiety and self-worth, empowering pupils, staff and families to thrive now and in the future.



*"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them..." Romans 12: 4-6*



### Autumn – Collective Worship



The theme for our assembly this half term

Peace

### School Car Park

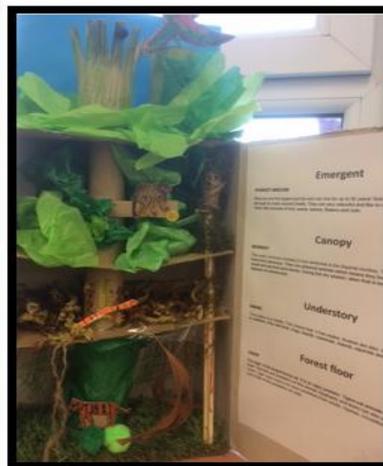
Please can we remind parents and carers that the car park is for staff use only. There is a car park at the Recreation Ground that can be used and is only a few minutes walk away.

### Chestnut Class Update

Chestnut Class have been busy building and designing their own creative and colourful small world, transporting the observer to the Amazon jungle. These creations have been inspired by Katherine Randell's book 'The Explorer'. Through these models we are encouraged to explore the biodiversity of this complex environment. Each one perfectly showcasing the different foliage and species that thrive in the rainforest.

They are absolutely stunning!

Mrs Edwards



### Behaviour and Expectations

During the Senior Leader observations this week it has been so encouraging to see how well the children are conducting themselves around school and in the classroom. Do ask your child about tracking the speaker as this is something we have been paying particular attention to.

<b>SLANT</b> - To make sure we use every opportunity to learn.		<b>STEPS</b> - To show respect to members of our school community and speak politely.		<b>SHAPE</b> - To make sure we communicate clearly and confidently.	
<b>S</b>	Sit Up	<b>S</b>	Smile	<b>S</b>	Full Sentences
<b>L</b>	Listen	<b>T</b>	Thank You	<b>H</b>	Hand Away From Mouth
<b>A</b>	Ask/Answer Questions	<b>E</b>	Excuse Me	<b>A</b>	Articulate
<b>N</b>	Never Interrupt	<b>P</b>	Please	<b>P</b>	Project Our Voice
<b>T</b>	Track the Speaker	<b>S</b>	Sorry	<b>E</b>	Eye Contact

C.A.R.E. is at the heart of our school

CONFIDENCE

ACHIEVEMENT

RESPECT

ENVIRONMENT



### Note from the PSA

Due to the ever changing situation with COVID, after much discussion we have made the very hard decision to cancel the Christmas Fair and cake sale at the end of term.

The Class Christmas Hamper Raffle will still be going ahead and will be carried out by the class teachers and children before they are dismissed on the 10th. There will be a hamper per year group.

Tickets will only be available until 9am on the 10th December. From the 2nd December you can buy raffle tickets in the playground and tickets will be £1 per ticket or £3 for 5.

Tickets are available from:

- Steph Hall and Angela Barber - KS1 playground
- Vicky McHugh, Helen Bullen and Amy Hilton - KS2 playground

We will be having three prizes per year group as we will not be hosting the water and wine stall with first prize being the Hamper.

In addition, don't forget that it's not too late to order your Christmas Jingle Bells from the PSA and additional order forms are available from the school office.

Thank you for your on-going support and good luck with the raffle.



Chess Club and Spanish Club  
have now finished for  
this term.

**Chess Club** finished on Thursday for this half term with certificates being given out by Ranko to club members. Well done everyone and we look forward to seeing you in January.





### COVID – Important Attendance Update

In response to the government's announcement over the weekend, Cambridgeshire County Council have issued new guidelines with regard to attendance in school. With immediate effect, the following updates have been brought in.

**Any close contact with an Omicron variant will require a 10 day isolation period. NHS test and trace will notify those following the outcome of a PCR test.**

#### ***Does a pupil have to self-isolate if they are a close contact of someone who has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19?***

No, they do not need to self-isolate. They should instead get a PCR test, and should only self-isolate if they test positive. We would ask that you do not send your child to school until you receive the results and if negative, the child is expected to return to school immediately. Results are generally received the next day. In these instances the register will be marked with a C and the child will be marked as an authorised absence. Please be aware that choosing to authorise or unauthorise this absence during the isolation period remains at the Headteacher's discretion until the result is received.

#### ***What do I do if we are unable to return to the UK following a trip overseas?***

Please let the school know at the earliest opportunity and provide evidence for the reason for the delay in starting school. We will then be able to keep your child on roll.

#### ***What do I do if a child is required to quarantine after returning from or through a red list country in the previous 10 days before arrival in the UK?***

Please let the school know at the earliest opportunity and provide evidence for the reason for the delay in starting school.

From 4am Sunday 28 November 2021, you will only be allowed to enter the UK if you are a British or Irish national or you have residence rights in the UK. Before you travel to England, you must:

- take a pre-departure COVID-19 test – to be taken in the 3 days before you travel to England
- book a quarantine hotel package, including 2 COVID-19 tests
- complete your passenger locator form – any time in the 48 hours before you arrive in England
- when you arrive in England, you must quarantine in a managed hotel, including 2 COVID-19 tests.

We will provide remote learning via Class Dojo or Tapestry for your child to access.

If you would like any help or guidance with the above, please do get in touch.

### Lego Bricks & Pieces

With huge thanks to Mrs Godfrey for prompting us to enter a Lego competition. We received this wonderful delivery this week!



### Can you help?

We would like to paint a hopscotch game and alphabet and number markings on our Early Years playground. If you are a willing volunteer and would be able to help us with this please get in touch with us, we'd love to hear from you.



We thank you then our Father, for all things bright and good,  
The seasons and the earth, our life, our health, our food.

Accept the prayers we offer, for all your love imparts,  
And, what you most desire,  
Our loving, thankful hearts.

Amen



### COVID UPDATE: September 2021

**What do I do if a member of my family has symptoms of COVID?** – if a pupil, parent or staff member has symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive with a lateral flow test, they must arrange to have a PCR test and isolate at home until they receive the results. Symptoms of COVID include high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

**What do I do if the PCR is positive?** – The person with the positive PCR test will need to self-isolate for 10 days. If it is negative, that person can return to their normal day to day activities. NHS Test and Trace will advise what course of action to take.

**Do I need to self-isolate if I am a close contact?** As per Step 4 of the Government's road map, from 16<sup>th</sup> August the guidelines are as follows:

- Those adults not fully vaccinated will still need to isolate if they are contacts.
- Children under 18 years old will no longer need to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. However, they will be requested to take a PCR test.
- Adults who have received full vaccination (from 14 days after the second dose for two-dose vaccine) will not be required to self-isolate. However, NHS Test and Trace will advise adults to take a PCR test as soon as possible.
- Please refer to the updated note earlier in the Newsletter.

Anyone who tests positive or develops symptoms will still need to self-isolate, regardless of their vaccination status. In all cases, NHS Test and Trace will advise what course of action to take.

### Will my child still have access to remote learning if they are self-isolating?

If your child has tested positive for Coronavirus and are therefore self-isolating, they are categorised as been absent through illness. Therefore, there is no expectation for them to complete school work. However, if you feel your child is well enough and you would like them to access learning, please contact the class teacher who will provide work for English and maths.

We will continue to update our risk assessments and keep you up to date as further information is released by the Government. If you have any concerns or wish to talk something over relating to this, we are always happy to help.

### Safeguarding at Oakington

**Mr Nathan Clark and Mrs Alicia Lloyd** are the designated safeguarding leads at Oakington.

If you have a concern about a child, be it around their health, physical safety or emotional wellbeing, please inform **any** member of staff.

If you think a child is at immediate risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/safeguarding-children-and-child-protection/>

#### Contact Us!

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Follow us on Twitter: @OakPrimary  
#OakingtonPrimary

*Privacy Notice: For more information on GDPR and data held by the school please visit - [demat.org.uk/gdpr](http://demat.org.uk/gdpr)*

#### Attendance

We are continuing to monitor attendance closely and writing to parents of children with attendance below 96% (classed as persistent absenteeism).

Please do get in touch if you are having particular difficulties in getting your child to school and would like to discuss this.