



Message from the Head Teacher:

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! The second half of the Autumn term is usually a very busy and exciting time in the school year as we lead up to Christmas. As you will understand this year things are going to be slightly different with a second lockdown, however we are looking to do some sort of Christmas play and Santa's Secret Shop again. We would like to ask anyone able to help organise this to contact the school office by Friday 13th November.

Over the half-term break, we had three new interactive whiteboards installed in (Elm, Birch and Chestnut). These replaced old and temperamental boards which regularly needed projector bulbs replacing. The children (and teachers!) have already had a lot of fun using the interactive resources.

The Oakington Traffic Action Group (TAG) have asked the school if we would be able to install their Pollution Monitor on the school grounds to observe pollution trends in the village. Data from this can be viewed at:
www.purpleair.com/map?mylocation

We would like to thank all parents and carers for your patience and understanding during the recent Zoom parent/teacher consultations. We felt that given the circumstances they were a huge success and the changed format worked well.

Nathan Clark - Headteacher

Oakington Diary Dates:

- w/c 2nd Nov:** parent/teacher consultations
- 13th Nov:** Children in Need day – come dressed in sports gear or spots!
- 16th Nov:** Come to school in odd socks
- 23rd Nov:** Years 1 & 2 taking part in virtual Great Fire of London workshops
- 27th Nov:** Flu immunisation
- 30th Nov-3rd Dec:** Yrs 5 & 6 Bikeability
- 11th Dec:** Christmas Jumper Day
- 16th Dec:** Christmas Lunch
- 18th Dec:** Last day of school
- 4th Jan:** Inset Day
- 5th Jan:** School opens

Reading Corner.....

At the moment Mrs Giles is reading Daphne du Maurier's Frenchman's Creek. Mrs Giles told us "I enjoy her books as they are all set in Cornwall and when I'm reading the book I lose myself in the story. As a child I loved The Magic Faraway Tree books written by Enid Blyton. I loved the characters in the book and always wondered what adventures they would get up to next".





The theme for our assembly this half term:

Courage

Courage involves making good choices in the face of fear or obstacles. It means we do not let fear hold us back from exploring new opportunities, developing our skills, and doing what is right.

With the nights now drawing in



A Day in the Life of Birch Class...

So, what do we get up to in Birch Class? The day starts with a good book and some guided reading, currently that is 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. We then turn investigators in English, trying to solve a crime whereby some frogs had taken over a village! In maths, we role play column addition using equipment to help us, Mr. Hundred, Mrs. Ten and Little Miss Unit are the characters you can see in the photo. After a candle-lit lunch, you will find us outdoors playing some games in PE or in the nature reserve climbing trees and hunting for clues. To calm us down before we venture off home, we have story time where we are currently enjoying Roald Dahl's 'Danny the Champion of the World'.



Welcome to our new member of staff



We would like to introduce Ms Paula Carter to you as our new Teaching Assistant.

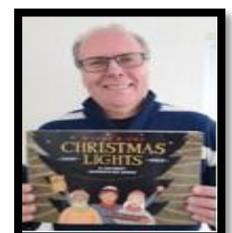
Ms Carter brings with her a wealth of experience of working in schools and she will primarily be based in KS2. We are delighted to have her join the team and if you have the opportunity, please do say hello and give her our usual warm Oakington welcome.

Author Update

Last year we were very fortunate to have John Barnett come into school to read his Christmas book 'Windy B – The Christmas Lights' to some of our pupils. We are delighted to hear that his book has now been published!

John has very kindly sent us several complimentary copies of his book to share with the children in school including book markers.

We are hoping that John will be able to come back into school at the end of next year to read his second instalment – watch this space!





Outdoor Classroom Day

Our classes celebrated this winter's Outdoor Classroom Day by spending time in our Nature Reserve and we hope you enjoy looking at the pictures below.

This movement came about as children are spending less time outdoors than ever before and spending time outdoors helps to make the children happier and healthier, as well as helping them to appreciate and love the natural world.



Acorn - drinking hot chocolate / standing on a log



Elm - war paint / swinging on the rope swing



Maple - climbing trees / striking the flint to light the cotton wool to start a fire





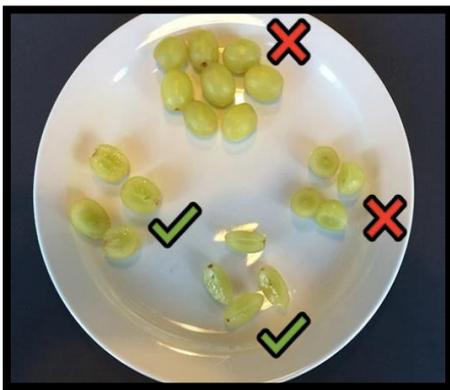
Remembrance Day



This year each class will be producing a piece of work that we will be sharing with Midfield Lodge Care Home and some of the classes have started work on their displays, poems and pictures already. On Wednesday we are hoping to be able to hold a whole school assembly on the field for Armistice Day.

Grapes in School

Whole grapes can cause a choking hazard for young children so can we kindly request that when sending grapes in as a snack or part of your child's lunch, the grapes are cut lengthways.



Face Masks

Thank you to everyone who has been wearing a face mask at drop off and collection times. We



strongly recommend that all parents/carers coming to the school site now wear a mask even when not actually entering the premises as a sensible precaution to help prevent the spread of the COVID virus.

Anti-bullying Week- 16th-20th November



This year the theme of Anti-bullying Week is 'United Against Bullying.'

As part of this we will be taking part in 'Odd Socks Day' on **Monday 16th November**, to celebrate Anti-bullying Week in a positive way, where children will be encouraged to wear odd socks to school.

Children will also be thinking about friendship and anti-bullying in their PSHE lessons throughout this half term. So do encourage your children to have conversations about what they've learnt in school about this important topic.



Children In Need & the 'Big Morning Move'

We are delighted to again be supporting Children in Need in school on Friday 13th November. This year the fundraising challenge has received an exciting boost from Joe Wicks, The Body Coach, who has joined as Schools Ambassador. Joe will be taking part in an epic 24 hour PE challenge starting at 9.25am on Thursday 12th November and we, along with many other schools nationally, will be joining him and taking part in the final 20 minutes of his workout on Friday 13th November.

By donating £1, children can raise money whilst getting active (we will quarantine the coins before banking them!)

To be prepared for the 'Big Morning Move', children can come to school on Friday 13th November in sports gear, non-uniform, spots or dressed up as they prefer.

Please look online for many fun resources and fundraising activities associated with this year's campaign:

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>





Safeguarding at Oakington

Safeguarding Leads

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/>

COVID-19

Please see the 'Quick Guide for Parents' at the end of the Newsletter for an easy reference for what you should do if unsure.

Following the government's update:

Just a reminder to parents/carers to say goodbye at the school gates of a morning. It is really helpful if you can arrive on time, rather than too early, to prevent a build up of people.

Can we also remind our families that they should leave the school site immediately at the end of the school day. Children are not allowed to play on the field. In addition, parents/carers should not walk around the back of the school to collect siblings.

We would encourage all persons over 16 to download the new NHS COVID 19 App onto smartphones and to use the new contact tracing system.

Contact Us!

Telephone: 01223 232328

Email: office@oakington.cambs.sch.uk

www.oakingtonprimary.co.uk

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

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.



Covid-19 Related Absence – a Quick Guide for Parents

What should I do if?	Action needed ...
<p>My child is feeling ill with Covid-19 symptoms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a high temperature – this means your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back • a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours • a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means your child cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal. <p>Most children with Covid-19 have at least one of these symptoms.</p>	<p>DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO THEIR SETTING/S</p> <p>The whole household must self-isolate. Your child will need to isolate for 10 days from the start of symptoms; the rest of the household should isolate for 14 days.</p> <p>You should book a test for your child using this link here, or by phoning 119.</p> <p>Please note - <u>only</u> the person with symptoms should be tested and there is no need for others in the household to have a test, unless they also have any of the symptoms mentioned.</p> <p>Make sure you tell the setting/s immediately about the result of the test.</p>
<p>My child is feeling ill with other symptoms such as a sore throat, runny nose or a headache.</p>	<p>You should act in the same way as you would have done before the pandemic. This may involve sending your child to their care setting or keeping them at home, depending on the nature and severity of symptoms. Of course you should seek medical advice via your GP or NHS direct on 111 if you would normally do so.</p> <p>Please note – if your child has sickness or diarrhoea they should not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout of this, as is normal policy.</p>
<p>Someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms</p>	<p>DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO THEIR SETTING/S.</p> <p>The whole household must self-isolate and the person with symptoms should book a test using this link here, or by phoning 119.</p>
<p>Someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19</p>	<p>DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO THEIR SETTING/S.</p> <p>The whole household should isolate for 14 days. The person who has tested positive must isolate for 10 days from the start of symptoms, and until there is no fever for 48 hours.</p>
<p>Someone in my household with symptoms tests negative for Covid-19</p>	<p>Your child can return to their setting, assuming they are well, and no one in the household or support bubble has any further Covid-19 symptoms.</p>
<p>My child tests positive for Covid-19</p>	<p>DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO THEIR SETTING.</p> <p>Your child must isolate for 10 days from the start of symptoms, and until there is no fever for 48 hours. The rest of the household should isolate for 14 days.</p>
<p>My child tests negative for Covid-19 (test done when the child had symptoms)</p>	<p>Your child can return to their setting, assuming they are well, and no one in the household or support bubble has any Covid-19 symptoms.</p>