



OAK LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It only seems a short while ago that we came back to school after Christmas and yet half term is already upon us.

It was lovely to see so many of you at Parents Evening this week and thank you to those of you who came to visit the book stall which our Head Boy and Girl and Deputy Head Boy and Girl helped to run. I hope your children enjoy reading the books you purchased.

Whilst I am on the subject of reading, thank you to those of you who came to the reading meetings run by Mrs Antonova. I am sure you found them informative and that they demonstrated how we foster a love of reading within the school.

Thank you also to everyone who attended the maths workshops at the start of half term. As with the reading work shop, the feedback from those who attended was very positive.

In staffing news we are very pleased to be welcoming back Miss Firkins from her maternity leave after half term. Miss Firkins will be returning part time and will share Badgers class with Mrs Mason. We would like to thank Mrs Thompson for all the hard work she has done with Badgers class.

After half term we will be welcoming two new members of staff to our support team. These are Mrs Butler and Mrs Hanwell. Our Midday supervisor team has grown to include Miss Corper. We hope that they will all be very happy in their new roles.

Wishing you a happy and safe half term break.

Mrs Lowton, Headteacher



SPRING 1 2025

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MOSAIC
SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST

PARKING



We would like to remind parents and carers **not to** park in the staff car park unless specific authorisation has been given.

- ◆ Please park safely in the street and with respect for our neighbours and other road users.
- ◆ Do not park on zigzags during restricted times.
- ◆ Do not park over residents drives or across any dropped kerb.
- ◆ Do not park on corners making it dangerous for people crossing roads.
- ◆ Do not stop outside of school to drop your children off (this upsets other drivers who then become agitated and speed off.)
- ◆ Do not park on the kerbs.
- ◆ Can we remind you of the informal one-way direction at school drop off/pick up times so that you will pass the school on your left.
- ◆ Please allow yourself adequate time to do the drop off/pick up safely without needing to rush.

VOLUNTEER HELPERS NEEDED

Volunteer helpers are a vital artery of the school body and we appreciate them very much, however we do need more helpers across the school. If you are able to help either as an adhoc or on a more regular basis please contact the school office to discuss and begin a DBS application.

- ◆ Reading
- ◆ Library
- ◆ Cookery
- ◆ Gardening

ATTEND AND ACHIEVE!

Please can we remind you the importance of school attendance and that holidays should not be taken during term time.

Therefore, we are unable to authorise any requests for holidays.

It is also important that children arrive at school on time.

Days off = Days of

% attendance in one school year	Number of days learning missed
100%	0 days missed
95%	1 week & 4 days missed
90%	3 weeks & 4 days missed
85%	5 weeks & 3 days missed
80%	7 weeks & 3 days missed
75%	9 weeks & 1 day missed

PUPIL PREMIUM

We are very aware of the financial challenges families are coping with at the moment. Please do contact the school office if you are in receipt of benefits as this could entitle you to free school meals.

It is still worth applying even if your child is in Reception or Key Stage 1 as all pupils who receive free school meals are also subsidised by the school for non-residential educational visits.

MEET THE GOVERNOR'S

"Following on from our spotlight on the Oak Lodge governing body in our last newsletter, Greg Tysall takes the stage to tell us a little about himself and the role he plays in supporting the strategic direction of our school".

Hi all. My name is Gregg Tysall, and I am in my second year as Vice Chair of the Oak Lodge Local Governing Body.

I am a former pupil of Oak Lodge, and the school holds a special place in my educational journey. I went on to secondary school in Cornwall before reading History at Downing College, Cambridge and studying for my MA.

As a governor, I have particular responsibility for supporting Curriculum and EYFS. This means that I get to work closely with a range of leaders and teachers within the school to help quality-assure the planning, teaching and impact of all subjects; I also support the team in Early Years in ensuring their provision is impactful and prepares pupils for KS1.



As a secondary-level Head of History and Curriculum Strategy Lead for History for a Trust, I have a deep interest in curriculum and teaching and learning. Being able to draw upon this experience in supporting Oak Lodge is rewarding and, I hope, particularly supports the school in preparing pupils for their next steps.

Please do stop me to say hi and have a chat when you see me at the next school event!

PASSPORTS TO SUCCESS

Well done to the following children on completing their passports this half term.

Chance	Primrose	Silver	Harper	Kingfishers	Bronze
Mya	Owls	Bronze	Dexter	Owls	Bronze
Imogen	Owls	Bronze	Thomas	Owls	Bronze
Finn	Owls	Bronze	Verity	Owls	Bronze
Monica	Owls	Bronze	Martin	Primrose	Silver
Kayci	Snowdrop	Bronze	Julie	Primrose	Silver
Evie	Snowdrop	Silver	Ava	Bracken	Silver
Maliah	Snowdrop	Silver	Joseph	Bracken	Silver
Arlo	Bracken	Silver	Mahi	Holly	Silver
Hugo	Holly	Silver	Ester	Ash	Silver
James	Elm	Silver	Megan	Ash	Silver
Tawana	Willow	Silver	Chris	Willow	Silver
Melina	Owls	Bronze	Emily	Ash	Bronze
Amelia	Owls	Bronze	Lainey	Ash	Bronze
Mason	Owls	Bronze	Riley	Elm	Silver
Milo	Owls	Bronze	Archie	Willow	Silver
Siena	Snowdrop	Silver	Maisie	Fir	Gold
Bobby	Snowdrop	Platinum	Arianne	Pine	Diamond



SPORTS REPORT



On the 5th December the girls fought a close battle with The Highway, unfortunately losing 2-0 but Connie saved a penalty in her player of the match display. They did, however, manage to win their first match of the season in the girls' Bromley Games Football tournament at the Kent County Ground, Beckenham thanks to a goal from Victoria in a 1-0 win over Bromley High B team. They also managed a 0-0 draw against Parish, whilst coming out second against St Marys, Balgowan and Southborough.

The tournament was extremely fun, although the competition was tough, we still won a game 1-0. Our captain, Victoria was incredibly supportive of us and the team. Even though we lost some games, we still stayed strong! It was really interesting to see how other schools set up their teams.

***A big thank you to Mr Grice and Mrs Brown who helped train.
Arianne and Charlotte***

Pine:

The boys are still unbeaten and have upcoming games in the "Cup" league (dates to be announced) and a quarter final to look forward to against Parish at Oak Lodge on Friday 27th February thanks to their 3-1 win over Raglan on Friday 17th January. Goals from Connor, Elliot and Gabe.

KURLING



Children from Year 3 and 4 represented Oak Lodge at an exciting Kurling event earlier this half term. Mrs Walsh and Mrs Barnes accompanied the children to the event and they commented on how well behaved the children were and how excited they were to be trying a new sport!

Mrs Stockton



LONDON YOUTH GAMES

Last half term an athletics team from Year 5 and 6 won a tournament against other schools in Bromley which resulted in them going to represent Bromley at the London Youth Games Final.

They were met by other champions of their boroughs and the competition was extremely competitive.

The children from Oak Lodge demonstrated fantastic team work and resilience throughout the whole event.

Myself and Mrs Brown were so proud of them and the dedication they demonstrated.

The host of the event even picked our school to model an activity as he was so impressed by their attitude.

Mrs Stockton

"We enjoyed the level of competition we went up against, we tried and gave it our all. We came fifth (two teams tied for second) and we were happy with the results. We won some and we lost some, but we still had fun! Everyone on the team had a great time and there were even some funny moments along the way."

The individual events went well and the girls won the 2+2 and the by 4 by 1 relays! It was gripping; they pulled it off and everyone was ecstatic! The field events included: medicine ball, standing long jump, javelin, vertical jump and triple jump. Our two captains, Azah and Alon were extremely supportive and great leaders."
Josh and Ethan, Pine.



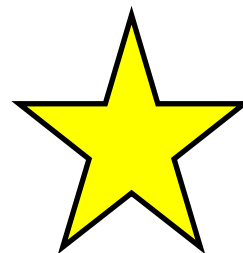
BIKEABILITY



This half term some children from Year 6 signed up to Bikeability. They had a fantastic time and showed great progression over the two training days. Most of the children said that they feel far more confident on their bikes now.



SPORTS AWARDS



Ben, Maddie, Connor, Annabelle, Victoria and Arianne were all awarded medals for their efforts in netball. They are fantastic members of the clubs and really encourage others to develop their skills. I am really proud of the passion they show towards the sport and I hope they continue to enjoy it.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

At the start of this half term Year 6 visited the Imperial War Museum to support their learning of our Key Question: 'Who were the hidden heroes of WW2?'. They had a fantastic time and really engaged with the varied exhibits and exploring first hand stories from the war. Mrs Stockton and Mr Grice.



As a school trip, to link our topic in history, we went to the Imperial War Museum (IWM). It was a fun and informative trip. We visited many fantastic exhibitions where we found various artefacts. Some of the exhibitions were: Anderson Shelter, The Enigma Machine, the fashion of that time and a tank! Many of the artefacts we saw there were real, but some of them were either destroyed or too valuable to put on display.

We liked all the exhibits and artefacts that could connect us to the past. It was an amazing experience and has really helped with our learning in history. This trip teaches us about the past, telling us how life was back then and learn not to make the same mistakes in any future wars.

Amber and Dharshan

Head Girl and Head Boy

PARLIAMENT



On Friday 24th January, our School Parliament met Liam Conlon, MP for Beckenham and Penge. They had prepared a very long list of thoughtful questions and thoroughly grilled him! They made us extremely proud with their understanding of democracy and hopes for the world, showing themselves to be community-minded, financially and environmentally aware.

Mr Conlon answered every single question and even asked the children a few of his own questions! Here are some of the changes our children would make if they became MPs:

- Build more houses so that nobody has to be homeless
- Stop all smoking and vaping
- Make people stop littering and polluting the world and killing nature
- Tell people all about our global values so they look after the world too
- Bring down the cost of living to make it more affordable for everybody
- Make people drive more slowly so it's safer for us to cross the road
- Have more slopes so it is fair for disabled people or families with buggies

Mr Conlon felt that we have lots of budding MPs and journalists of the future!

He has invited our School Parliament members to join him for a tour of the real Parliament.



EGG-STRA NEWS: HENNY PENNY AND CHICKEN LICKEN'S UPDATE!



The chickens have settled in really well and are now looking beautifully fluffy in their winter feathers.

They get lots of attention and lots of treats! Many of the children have enjoyed visiting the hens and feeding them in small groups.

As the weather warms up, we will be introducing a chicken rota so that different classes can take responsibility for some of Chicken Licken's and Henny Penny's care, from feeding them to collecting their delicious eggs.

STICK INSECTS AND FROGS

We have also had lots of baby stick insects hatch in Year 5, and they are keeping their eyes peeled for the arrival of frogspawn in the pond soon.



FSA NEWS

FSA - Friends of the School Association

As we break for half term, the FSA would like to update you that an amazing £470 was recently raised on 'Straight from Bed PJ Day'. The children clearly had fun as did the teaching staff, some of whom went to great lengths! Monies raised go towards the FSA's yearly committed spending that includes:

- *Life Bus £1,350
- *Library Books £1,000
- *School Trips/Visits £7,000 (£1,000 per year group)
- *Class Christmas Gifts (£25 per class)

The school's chickens, Henny Penny & Chicken Licken, recently benefited from a new chicken coup! They clearly enjoy spending their days foraging and exploring their environment. We are currently in discussion with the school regarding the next big exciting project... all to be revealed in due course!

THE 'V' WORD

As local authority school budgets further tighten, schools look towards ways their PTA's can help to raise funds to benefit its children. Throughout the year, the FSA runs a variety of events including an Easter Egg Hunt, Raffles, Own Clothes Days, Quiz Night, preloved school uniform sales, Winter Wreath Making Workshop, Summer Fete and Christmas Fair, etc. Prepping and running such events takes time and requires volunteers. Our committee members have varying occupations and personal commitments that are limiting the time they can give.

YOUR FSA NEEDS DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS TO SHARE THE LOVE & HELP MAINTAIN ENRICHMENT FOR THE CHILDREN. If you are a Parent, Guardian, Grandparent or a Family Member who can give as much or as little of your time to help collect donations, tidy our preloved uniform cupboard, run stalls or run coffee mornings in support of school workshops etc, then the FSA want to hear from you!

We are also looking for parents to join our FSA executive team. Please contact us at OakLodgeFSA@gmail.com for more info.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 'Step into Spring' Rainbow Raffle Donation Day - 28th February
- Cross Country - 7th March
- Preloved School Uniform Sale - 20th March
- Easter Egg Hunt & Rainbow Raffle Draw - 2nd April
- Own Clothes Day - 22nd May & 12th June
- Summer Fete - 21st June
- Sports Day - 3rd July
- School Discos (R-yr5) - 10th July
- Yr 6 Forest Fest - 11th July





DIARY DATES

24th February	Children return to school
26th February	Year 4 Egyptian Day
28th February	FSA Rainbow Raffle Day
4th & 5th March	Height & Vision—Year R & Year 6
7th March	Cross Country event in school
14th March	Primrose Class Assembly—3.00 pm
20th March	FSA Pre- Loved Sale (Summer wear)
21st March	Kingfishers Class Assembly
24th March	Year 2 Barbican Performance
2nd April	Easter Egg hunt and Rainbow Raffle Draw
28th March	Owls Class Assembly
31st March	Year 4 Barbican Performance
3rd April	Year 5 visit to Hastings
4th April	Robins Class Assembly
4th April	Last day of term
22nd April	Children return to school

TERM DATES

2023/2024

Autumn Term 2024

Mon 2 Sept–Fri 18 Oct
Half Term : 21 Oct—1 Nov
Mon 4 Nov—Fri 20 Dec

Spring Term 2025

Tues 7 Jan—Fri 14 Feb
Half Term : 17–21 Feb
Mon 24 Feb—Fri 4 Apr

Summer 2025

Tues 22 Apr–Fri 23 May
Half Term : 26 May—30 May
Mon 2 June—Wed 23 July
Bank holiday Mon 5 May

These are the dates children are expected to be in school.

Any staff Inset days will fall outside of these dates.

We ask that all holidays are taken in the school holidays and not during term time.

Thank You