



OAK LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Oak Lodge Cross Country event in March. This event is traditionally held in the Autumn Term and in all of the years I have worked at Oak Lodge I can't remember it being postponed due to the weather. However, as you will remember the week we planned it for in October had extremely heavy rain and storms. In contrast on the rearranged date, the weather couldn't have been more perfect. It was wonderful to see the children and staff running in the event and so many of you cheering on the children. Thank you to everyone who volunteered on the day, we couldn't have done it without you! I would also like to give a special thank you to Mr Grice, Miss Stockton and Mrs Brown for arranging this hugely successful event.

Some of the Year 3/4 children also competed in the Crystal Palace event on 15th March and we were very proud of them all. You can find more information on other sporting events that have taken place over the half term later in the newsletter.

Year 2 and Year 4 were lucky enough to be selected to visit the Barbican for a music concert. This is an event that schools apply for and go into a ballot for tickets. We were absolutely delighted to be selected this year after several failed attempts. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to experience a live orchestra at such an impressive venue.

Year 1 really enjoyed a science workshop that they took part in based on Materials. There was lots of learning and fun taking place in the session.

Crystal Palace for Life Foundation came in to work with Year 6 for a morning and their focus was on wellbeing. This is an important topic for the children and we are grateful to the Foundation for providing this free workshop.

Our final trip of the half term is the Year 5 trip to Hastings. At the time of writing this newsletter the trip had not taken place so you will have to wait for the photographs until next half term.

At Oak Lodge we feel the trips and events we plan really do help to embed the learning, make it fun and build a range of different skills. I would like to thank the FSA for giving each year group £1050 to subsidise these visits and enable us to bring down the costs and also those of you who help on the trips – we couldn't do it without your support. Finally, the staff who are constantly looking at different venues and events to bring learning alive.

Mrs Jackson, who is our Treetops Manager, will be leaving this post as of 24th April. We would like to thank her for all the hard work when she took up the position. Mrs Jackson will continue her work in school as Family Worker and SEN support.

As the half term draws to a close, I would like to wish you all a very happy Easter break and look forward to seeing the children return for the summer term.

Mrs Lowton, Headteacher



Spring 2 2025

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MOSAIC
SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Water bottles—Please can all children to bring a water bottle into school every day. The Office are giving out an increasing number of cups to children every day and this is very disruptive.

Parking—Please do not park across the drives of local residents, on the zigzags outside school or on corners of the roads. Despite the regular reminders we send out this is continuing to be an issue.

Arbor- Please could we ask all parents and carers to check their personal information and address on Arbor over the Easter holidays. Thank you.



Treetops— Please ensure you book in advance whenever possible for Treetops bookings. We are unable to always guarantee a place for your child unless this has been requested in advance.

ANIMAL UPDATES

Stick insects

In Ash class, our stick insect eggs have been hatching out and the children have really enjoyed looking after them. If anyone would like to rehome some stick insects, please come round to see Mr McCloskey in Year 5 after school on a Thursday or Friday. You will just need a suitable container to keep them in and ivy or privet for them to eat. Butterfly nets are a good housing option. Indian stick insects are really easy to keep and great fun for children to watch and handle.



Our pond

As the weather has warmed, our pond has really come to life. The fish are breeding and we think there are about 50 in there! We have also had 10 clumps of frogspawn this year. We have taken these out and are going to look after the tadpoles in big containers. This will be a fascinating opportunity for children to learn about their life cycle and it will keep the tadpoles safe from the fish until they've turned into froglets.



Henny Penny and Chicken Licken

The hens are very happy and are now so fluffy and confident! Lots of children have been involved with them and they have a lot of fans! As you can see, they even like to help supervise some of the lunchtime clubs!



SUMMER UNIFORM

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school in summer uniform.

Grey tailored trousers

Grey tailored shorts

Green checked or striped dress

Grey skirt or pinafore

Short sleeved polo shirt

(Year 3-6 may also chose to wear a white blouse/shirt worn open-necked)

Grey socks

White socks (ankle or knee length)

Black shoes or sensible 'closed' sandals

SCHOOL PACKED LUNCHES FOR TRIPS

With effect from the Summer term, as lunches are provided free for all children, they will now be provided with a school packed lunch for trips unless you have informed the teacher that you will not be taking up this offer.

The children will choose in class their choice of sandwich etc. Please note that you would still need to provide a drink for the children.

Thank you

PASSPORTS TO SUCCESS

Well done to the following children on completing their passports this half term and have had their Head Teacher's lunch.

Charlie	Kingfishers	Bronze	Rilee	Bracken	Gold
Harper	Owls	Bronze	Theo	Bracken	Silver
Florence	Owls	Bronze	Mayra	Bracken	Silver
Kade	Snowdrop	Silver	Nihat	Bracken	Gold
Ruby	Snowdrop	Silver	Duncan	Elm	Silver
Rayhan	Snowdrop	Silver	Arthur	Snowdrop	Silver
Tasia	Bracken	Silver	Rory	Bracken	Gold
Joshua	Bracken	Silver	Lily	Owls	Bronze
Ollie	Holly	Gold	Millie	Owls	Bronze
Audery	Ash	Bronze	Matthew	Bluebells	Silver
Lewis	Ash	Bronze	Jack	Snowdrop	Platinum
Oscar	Elm	Silver	Faith	Kingfishers	Bronze



MEET THE GOVERNORS

Our next Oak Lodge governing body member taking the hot seat is James Ashforth, telling us a little about himself and the role he plays in supporting the strategic direction of our school.

"Hi everyone, I'm James Ashforth and I'm the Chair of Governors at Oak Lodge. I've been in the role for 3 years and work closely with the school leaders and teachers to support and challenge to ensure the school's strategy is being delivered. We have a strong and committed governing body, and the role of the Chair is to lead the governing body overall, together with ensuring there are governors in place with the right skills to support the school. Each governor also has a specific area of responsibility: mine are safeguarding and attendance. These are really important areas for any school, and my role is to ensure the whole Oak Lodge team is doing everything it needs to in order to keep every child safe and in school.



A bit about me...I grew up in Kent before studying Geography at the University of Reading and have then spent my career in various business roles across supply chain, buying and eCommerce. I currently lead the eCommerce business at AS Watson, which is a global health & beauty retailer that has a few brands across Europe, including Superdrug, Savers and The Perfume Shop in the UK.

I have two children, one mid-way through the school and a second who will start at Oak Lodge in September. I initially joined the governing body as I wanted to be a part of the school and contributing to its success. The role of a governor is strategic rather than being involved in day-to-day operations, so I'm able to bring my experiences from throughout my career into the role and give an outside viewpoint. I love being in the school and seeing the success in action, which I find very rewarding."

MEET THE TEACHER

I am Miss Crawford and currently teach in year 1. This year I lead the School Parliament and Eco Club, which have been a pleasure to run as the children are extremely enthusiastic and take their roles very seriously.

So far this year, we have worked on a number of projects. For School Parliament these have included creating 'positivity stations' dotted around school corridors and planning a Red Nose Day activity to raise money for Children in Need. School Parliament also had the opportunity to have their questions answered by Liam Conlon, our local MP. We were then invited on a tour of the Houses of Parliament, which the children are looking forward to.



School Parliament meet every other week to discuss issues and provide solutions to problems that may arise. This month, we have been looking at how to improve road safety around the school. This is something that Eco Club are also extremely passionate about, as it affects the environment. Eco Club joined us for these meetings in which our global themes 'look after the world and each other' were discussed. From this, the children have created some Road Safety and Awareness posters, which you can see in this newsletter. They ask us all to do our part in keeping the road/s outside our school safe.

Eco Club have created Global Warming awareness and Litter Pick displays, which can be seen in our school corridors. Eco Club are also working on receiving an 'Eco Green Flag' plaque to go outside our school entrance, letting all know that Oak Lodge is an Eco-aware school. If you would like to do a litter pick with your child/ren then we are looking at loaning our litter pickers out for you to use on weekends. This is something the children are looking forward to undertaking outside of school hours.

Miss Crawford.



RED NOSE DAY

Thank you to everyone who donated towards red nose day. As a school we raised £233 . The jokes that the children told definitely brightened up our Friday!



Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

As we come towards the end of the holy month of Ramadan, it is time to wish all our Muslim families, colleagues and friends 'Eid Mubarak'.

As part of our RE curriculum we are learning more about the Muslim festival of Eid, what it means and the different ways it is celebrated in our school community and in countries across the world.



#WAKE UP WEDNESDAY



#wakeupwednesday

The world's most comprehensive collection of guides for educators, parents and children – covering topics such as online safety, mental health, wellbeing and climate change

Find it on  and  (search wake.up.wednesday)

We believe that all parents, carers and trusted adults should be empowered with all the information needed to have informed and age-appropriate conversations about online safety with children. For this reason, we will be taking part in National College's Online Safety 'Wake Up Wednesday' campaign. Each Wednesday, National College produce practical, colourful, easy to follow and insightful guides to an aspect of the digital universe that's causing concern. The guides outline the related risks and suggest ways to help children avoid them. It could be a video game, an internet enabled device or an app.

Wake Up Wednesday, has been running since 2022. Every guide is compiled with input from some of the most respected professionals and organisations in their field: Leicestershire and Greater Manchester Police, for instance, plus experts from the spheres of mental health, education, technology, gaming and more.

We will post on the school website the new guides produced by the National College Wake up Wednesday campaign. A huge number of guides have already been produced and we have put some of these on our school website.

You will find them here: <https://www.oaklodgeprimaryschool.org/page/?title=Useful+Links+%2D+Support+and+Guidance+for+Parents&pid=71>

Scroll down till you reach E-safety. Here is an example of a Roblox guide. To view it in more detail, follow the link above.



Ancient Egyptian Exploration workshop – A Thrilling Adventure for Year 4!

Year 4 had an unforgettable journey back in time as they stepped into the world of Ancient Egypt! Our visiting performers brought history to life with an exciting interactive show, where the children joined a daring Tour Guide on a mission to unlock the secrets of an ancient tomb. Along the way, they met fascinating characters, including a skilled stonemason, the mighty Pharaoh Tutankhamun, and even the god of the dead, Anubis! Through engaging activities and problem-solving challenges, the children worked together to lift the curse and escape the tomb unscathed. This immersive experience was not only thrilling but also a fantastic way to deepen our understanding of Ancient Egyptian history. Well done to all our young explorers for their bravery and teamwork!



A fantastic information sheet made by Harry from Bracken with all of his learning from this topic.

Year 1– Materials Workshop

During this half term, Year 1 have been finding out about materials in their science lessons. Last week they had a visit from a Professor who did a materials workshop with them. They thoroughly enjoyed deepening their science learning by having lots of fun with dressing up and exploring new objects such as snakes skin, antlers, shells and coral.



Year 2 and Year 4—TRIP TO BARBICAN

On Monday we went to the Barbican. First we went on a coach. We watched an orchestra and the music was based on a book called “The pirates are coming”. It was really fun!

Mya from Owls

On Monday we went to the Barbican. We had a very long journey. We finally got there and there was a harp, violins, drums, trombones and flutes. We were asked to say things, it was based on the book “The pirates are coming”.

Ishaan from Owls

We went to London, we had a long journey. We listened to “The pirates are coming”.

My favourite bit was “Heave Ho” which was a song.

Finn from Owls

At the Barbican trip, we went to see “The Pirates are coming”. We listened to the orchestra play and we joined in with songs. My favourite part was when we got to shout.

Ricky from Kingfishers

We went to the Barbican and we went on a coach all the way there and we watched a show called “The Pirates are coming”. The Barbican is in London. When the show ended we had lunch, we had such a lovely day.

Hena from Kingfishers



WHOLE SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

This half term all year groups participated in our annual cross country event, an event that has been a popular event for Oak Lodge for over two decades! It was an unforgettable day filled with energy, perseverance, and teamwork. Children from all year groups took on the challenge, pushing themselves to achieve personal bests while cheering each other on.

As always, this was organised superbly by the PE team allowing the event to run smoothly and successfully on the day. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who gave up their space time to help hare the races.

Spectators, including teachers, parents, and fellow children, lined the course, offering enthusiastic support and encouragement. The spirit of camaraderie was truly evident as runners helped one another through the tougher sections and celebrated their achievements at the finish line.

A massive well done to all of the Year 6 sports leaders who marshalled the course and warmed the children up before their races. They showed great thoughtfulness and adaptability on the day.

This event was a testament to resilience, participation, and the sense of community at Oak Lodge.

Medals have been presented in key stage assemblies for the children who came first, second or third in each of the races. Well done to all who took part!



SPORTS REPORTS

Year 5 Netball

The Year 5 netball team went to Bromley High School for a girl only netball tournament, we played twelve matches in total and had so much fun. It was our first netball tournament and it gave us a realistic expectation of what future tournaments will be like. All of the matches were challenging but it was all worth it. Every school there played really well and showed their skills and resilience. Throughout the games our netball improved.

Gracie and Bella T from Elm class.



Year 6 Girls Bromley Netball Tournament

Year six girls from our netball club went to a tournament at Bromley High on Tuesday 25th of March. We were split into two teams and both played four matches each. My team lost the first match but ,oddly, on the second we played against each other! My team won that game 1:0 but it didn't really matter as either way Oak Lodge won! Our third match was against Warren Road and we won 3:0! Unfortunately, on our last game we lost but at least we won half the time. The other Oak Lodge team sadly didn't win any but overall, we came third in our pool!

I found it a very fun and enjoyable experience. There were times where we were upset and frustrated but there were also other times where we felt amazing and exited! Mrs Stockton and Mrs Brown got us to the point where we could achieve this. Thank you.

By Amber from Pine

Year 6 Girls Netball Tournament

There were two teams, the yellow team and the dark blue team. The yellow team consisted of Georgia, Captain, Dotty, Annabelle, Ana, Connie, Grace, Indiana and Maisie. The blue team consisted of Charlotte, Captain, Chloe M, Heidi, Amber, Victoria, Marcie, Arianne and Maya.

We played some tough teams such as Marian Vian and Balgowan.

We played Warren Road, Marian Vian, Balgowan and Oak Lodge 1.

Everyone who went had a great time and found it very fun.

By Charlotte from Pine

St David's Dash Cross Country

St David's Dash is a fun experience. The top five achievers from our school cross country went to represent Oak Lodge at the event. It was exciting to race against other schools and have the opportunity to run in an enjoyable and safe environment. We were all incredibly proud of our achievements and some of us finished in the top ten with Cara winning a medal for 2nd place. I was so excited about the event; I didn't let my sprained wrist stand in my way!

Stanley from Pine



Crystal Palace Cross Country

On the 15th of March children from Year 3 and 4 took part in the annual Crystal Palace Cross Country Event. They turned up determined and ready for the race. For Year 3, it was their first experience of the event, they supported each other throughout and demonstrated our school value of cooperation. It was such a joy to see how proud each child was after completing their race and we hope to see even more children at next year's event.

A big thank you to Miss Stockton, Miss Gibbs, Miss Melotta, Mr MacNamara, Mr Barber and Mr Grice for their support on the day.



Girls' Football

League matches:

V Holy Innocents - lost 1-0

V Harris Beckenham - lost 1-0

V Blenheim - won 2-1 (Kara A and Victoria M)

V Perry Hall - lost 3-0

V The Highway - lost 1-0

The league matches have seen much stronger performances from the girls - with 3 out of the 5 matches finishing in an unlucky 1-0 loss where we could have snatched a victory in each. Our highlight has to be the victory over Blenheim. Kara A scored the first goal, in her first game as a striker, calmly slotting the ball into the net, and Victoria M fired in the winner, smashing a half-volley into the top corner.



Boys' Football

Cup Quarter Final

V Parish - lost 3-4 (Gabe J - hat trick)

League Matches

V Darrick Wood - lost 8-1 - (Ethan)

V Crofton Juniors - won 3-1 - (Ethan B x 2, Benji W)

Despite an exhilarating first half performance, which saw us 3-0 up thanks to Gabe's hat trick and some brilliant football, we unfortunately lost 4-3 and exited the cup competition. Another unfortunate loss, to Darrick Wood this time, saw Ethan score a consolation goal after our luck had seemed to run out. Fortunately, the boys' performance improved dramatically with a thoroughly deserved win over Crofton Juniors, with Ethan continuing his rich vein of form in front of goal - bagging a brace - and Benji finishing calmly.





DIARY DATES

21st April	Easter Bank Holiday
22nd April	Children return to School
22nd–25th April	Year 2 Litter Pick
25th April	Year 2 Bake Off
28th April	School Council to visit Houses of Parliament
29th April	Year 4 Holly Class to Creekside Deptford visit
2nd May	Year 4 Bracken Class to Creekside Deptford visit
4th May	Bank Holiday
8th May	Year 3 Primrose & Bluebells Classes – Southwark Cathedral visit
12th–16th May	Year 6 SATs tests
15th May	Year 3 Snowdrops Class –Southwark Cathedral visit
16th May	EYFS Bake Off
20th May	EYFS—Godstone Farm visit
22nd May	FSA Own clothes day— bottle tombola— Summer Fair
23rd May	Break up
2nd June	Back to school

TERM DATES

2024/25

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**