



OAK LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the first half term of the academic year, I would like to take a moment to thank you all for the warm welcome I've received as the new Headteacher. It has been a real pleasure getting to know the children, staff and wider school community. Each day offers a new opportunity to see the school through fresh eyes and I have been incredibly impressed by the enthusiasm, kindness and positive attitude of the children across all year groups.

I've especially enjoyed spending time in classrooms, joining children at playtimes and chatting to them in assemblies and around the school. These moments are invaluable in helping me understand what makes Oak Lodge such a special place and I look forward to building even stronger relationships with the children and families as the year progresses.

Our new learners in Reception have made a fantastic start to their school journey. They have settled in brilliantly, learning the routines and engaging well with both their indoor and outdoor learning. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow in such a short time. Our nursery children have also started incredibly well and are already becoming an integral part of our school community. I'm very much looking forward to seeing them explore more of the school environment – including riding trikes on the playground and using the wooded area, which will give them even more opportunities to broaden their horizons and enjoy learning through play.

This half term we've also welcomed parents and carers into school for our Coffee and Curriculum Mornings and our EYFS Curriculum Evening. Thank you to those who were able to attend - we hope you found these events informative and helpful.

Our sports teams have had an action-packed start to the year. We're incredibly proud of all the children who have represented Oak Lodge with such great team spirit and determination. Highlights include reaching the quarter finals at the netball tournament at Bromley High, a fantastic win for the girls' football team against Hawes Down, and great participation from both boys' and girls' teams in the 7-side football tournament – with the boys now through to the finals. Good luck to them! A big thank you to Mrs Stockton and Mr Grice for their dedication and for organising these wonderful opportunities for the children.

It's also been a busy half term for educational visits and workshops. Year 6 had an exciting World War II-themed experience with SPLATT Theatre, including an 'evacuation' to Clock House Station. Year 5 visited the London Eye and enjoyed a river cruise as part of their literacy work on The London Eye Mystery. Year 2 took part in an engaging Great Fire of London workshop, while Year 3 enjoyed experimenting in a Rocks workshop. Year 4 also made a local visit to Bromley town centre as part of their geography fieldwork. A big thank you to the FSA for their continued support with funding and to all the parents who generously gave their time to accompany and supervise these activities.



AUTUMN 1 2025

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MOSAIC
SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST

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 school = Days of lost learning

% 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

Speaking of support, we are delighted with the new outdoor classroom on the field – funded by the FSA. This is already being well used and is proving to be a brilliant addition to our learning spaces. Thank you again to the FSA for making this possible.

And finally, our school chickens have had some new additions – we now have four! The two newest members are settling in well, although they’ve already shown themselves to be quite the escape artists. I’m getting lots of unexpected practice in chicken catching – a skill I didn’t expect to develop this term!

Thank you all for your continued support. I wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable half term break.

Warm regards,
Georgina Baron
Headteacher

Interesting News



Here are some members from the gardening club who have recently harvested some potatoes they have grown.

On Tuesday 7th October we watched a live assembly about Black History Month. The children were very excited when our school got a shout out live on air!



Calling all budding authors! The BBC 500 Words story writing competition is now open for entries! Information can be found by going to the BBC website www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words.

PASSPORTS TO SUCCESS

Well done to the following children on completing their passports.

Mia	Owls	Bronze
Luke	Owls	Bronze
Kade	Robins	Bronze
Devin	Bluebells	Bronze
Vilson	Snowdrops	Bronze
Etta	Snowdrops	Bronze
Max	Snowdrops	Bronze
Lina	Holly	Gold
Katrina	Ash	Gold
Eva	Ash	Silver
Ciku	Elm	Diamond
Dominic	Elm	Silver



REMINDERS

After the October half term, children will be expected to wear winter uniform. This is as follows;

'Winter' Uniform after autumn half term and spring term	Dark green jumper/cardigan or school sweatshirt*
	Grey tailored trousers, grey skirt or pinafore
	White shirt/blouse
	School tie
	Grey socks, white socks (ankle or knee length)
	Grey, green or black tights
	Black shoes - no large heels (no boots or trainers)

SCHOOL PARLIAMENT

Well done to our new School Parliament class representatives

Year 1

Zachary M and Lola (Badgers)

Ada Z and Oakley M (Hedgehogs)

Year 2

Amber Mand Eli W (Owls)

Dottie and Kade (Robins)

George W and Orla N (Kingfishers)

Year 3

Dexter D and Bea P (Bluebell)

Jude A and Arabella P (Primrose)

Evie G and Ben A (Snowdrop)

Year 4

Siena W and Kiyaan B (Bracken)

Matthew A an Louis W (Holly)

Callum G and Hari M (Ivy)

Year 5

Scarlett F and Ciku B (Elm)

Nina C and Clinton U (Ash)

Cito B and Sophia H (Willow)

Year 6

Zara Ji and Imer M (Pine)

Teddy M and Eliza H (Fir)

Daniel B and Willow E (Spruce)

Meet the Governors

I joined the Governing Body earlier this year as a Community Governor, and I'm really enjoying the opportunity to support the school and its community. Living in Croydon, I've seen first-hand how important schools are in shaping not only children's futures but also the wider community around them, and I feel privileged to play a part in that journey.

Education has had such a transformative impact on my own life, and that's one of the main reasons I wanted to get involved. I'm passionate about making sure every child has the chance to thrive in an environment where they feel supported, inspired, and encouraged to do their very best.

One of my highlights so far has been attending the Careers Day in July, where I was able to speak with pupils about careers in law and answer their questions. It was fantastic to see how engaged and curious they were, and it really reinforced how important these opportunities are for inspiring children to think about their futures. I also really enjoyed coming in during Culture Week. Seeing pupils proudly share and learn about different cultures was a wonderful reminder of how inclusion and respect are at the heart of the school's ethos.

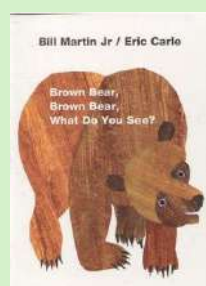
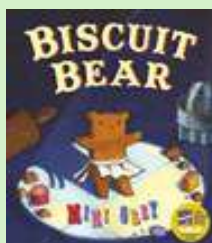
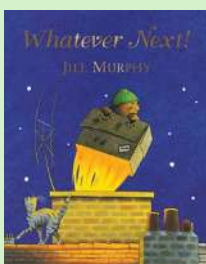
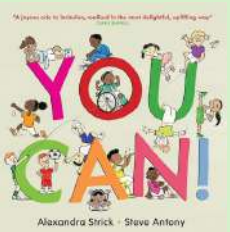
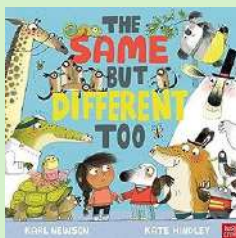
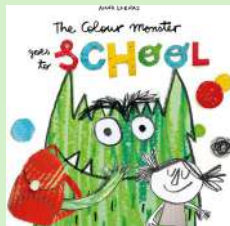
Professionally, my background spans law and policy politics and I hope to bring those skills and insights to my role as a governor. I'm really enjoying being part of such a committed and welcoming school community, and I'm looking forward to supporting the school in the months and years ahead.



Sabrina

EYFS

Autumn 1 Books



We have had an amazing first half-term in school. The children have learnt so much already and have made many new friends. We have had lots of firsts! First time having lunch, outdoor learning, the library, PE, on the playground and visiting the chickens.

Continuous provision

Our children have been loving continuous provision and all the exciting new things to explore. Here are a few pictures of what we have been up to.



Outdoor learning

Outdoor learning has been so much fun! Exploring the woods, searching for bugs and building dens is so exciting.



YEAR 1



In English, we have exploring the story *Handa's Surprise*. Year 1 have been learning how to use adjectives and using the conjunction 'and'. Some children even created their own colourful fruit baskets!

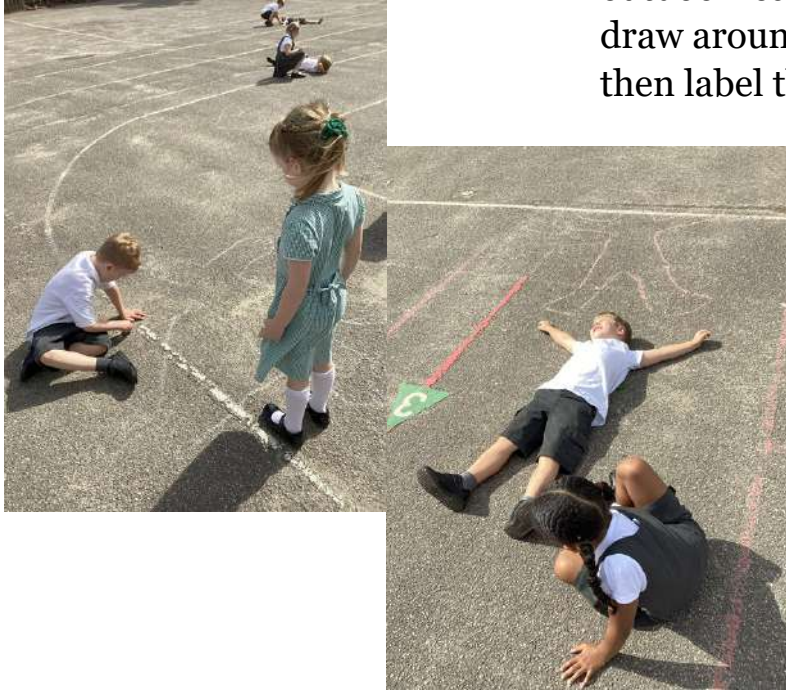


In PSHE, we have been learning that good friends are also good listeners. We have also discussed how it is not just our bodies that can be hurt– our feelings can be too.



In Maths, we have been exploring the greater than $>$, less than $<$ and equal to $=$ signs.

YEAR 1 continued



In Science, Year 1 enjoyed a practical outdoor lesson. Their task was to draw around each other using chalk, then label the different body parts.

For a challenge, we discussed which body parts are used for each of the five senses.



In History, the children have been learning about many different royals– from Boudicca all the way to King Charles.

In Phonics, Year 1 have been using sound buttons to encode and decode new words.

It has been a busy, exciting half term for Year 1. We cannot wait to see what Autumn 2 will bring!



YEAR 2

On 8th October, Year 2 had a truly memorable and immersive experience as they took part in a captivating workshop all about *The Great Fire of London*, delivered by the brilliant team from **Freshwater Theatre**.

The session transformed our school hall into 1666 London, where the children became time-travelling historians! Through role-play, drama, and storytelling, they retraced the events that led to the fire, explored the lives of Londoners at the time, and learned how the city changed in its aftermath. The workshop cleverly combined fun and learning, helping pupils deepen their understanding of this significant historical event in a way that brought it to life far beyond the classroom.

Highlights included learning about key historical figures, re-enacting scenes from Pudding Lane, and even joining a bucket chain to help "put out the flames"! The workshop supported our history curriculum and helped the children to make meaningful connections between the past and present. It was also a wonderful opportunity to build confidence, communication, and teamwork skills through drama.

The children were full of excitement and curiosity, asking thoughtful questions and enthusiastically joining in with all the activities.

A big thank you to Freshwater Theatre (www.freshwatertheatre.co.uk) for an engaging and educational session — and well done to Year 2 for your fantastic participation and enthusiasm. We're sure this is a learning experience you'll remember for years to come!



YEAR 3



We started our topic on Stone Age Britain. We have had a go at being archaeologists and have tried cave painting using the underside of our tables.



In science we have studied the different types of rocks and used Starbursts to show the changes from igneous, to sedimentary to metamorphic rocks.

As part of our Rocks and Soils topic, each class in Year 3 were able to experience a wonderful day exploring rocks with Mr Bonner in a 'Rocking around Britain' workshop.

The day was jam-packed with learning and fun from start to finish. At the beginning of the day, the children were sent on an imaginary journey into the Earth; discovering what it is like as they travel further into our amazing planet. After constructing a model of the layers beneath their feet, they explored a range of rocks; testing for hardness and performing close observations with microscopes. Following on from this, the children were able to explore a large quantity of different minerals.

The next part of the day allowed the children to discover more information about fossils. They handled a large range of real fossils, as well as making their own ones, which they took home at the end of the day.

To take children's understanding of the rocks around Britain even further, they were challenged to create a variety of scientific models to illustrate the processes that create rocks; sedimentary layering; heating and pressure - and exploding volcanoes!



Learning about how sediment in river beds erode to create sedimentary rock in the sea.

YEAR 4

Year 4 have been deeply engaged in their literacy work this half-term. Each class published their own book of poems about the joy of books. Later in the term, they wrote some brilliant tales about **Freya and the Goblins**. Recently, they have been bringing the text from **Arthur and the Golden Rope** to life using Reader's Theatre techniques.

FREYA & THE GOBLINS

Once in Asgard Freya the beautiful but vain goddess and her husband Odinn were invited to see a feast by Odin.

One day she was wandering in Midgard when it started to rain. She stumbled upon a cave and she went in. As she was exploring the cave she began to hear loud humming but there were no fire, no water, no air. She thought for a bit of a fright. The goblins were huddled around a necklace of beads. She thought Odinn would praise her but when she goblins roared their anger she was horrified!!



Many moons ago there was a beautiful but vain goddess named Freya. She had a lovely husband, Odinn. One day she was invited to see a feast by Odin. Freya and Odinn were invited to a magnificent banquet. But when she was deciding what to wear for the feast, Freya demanded that Odinn should buy her a necklace of beads. So she travelled to Midgard in search of the most beautiful beads. But just as she started to rain heavily that is, lucky for her, she went to her most secret cave. She was a bit worried about her husband's mood. Further down the cave, Freya heard a loud humming like a shimmering light. Then she saw a tunnel in the cave. So she turned left and discovered that it was a tunnel full of beads! They were diamonds, emeralds and rubies! But when she discovered the most beautiful beads of all, Odinn!

HOLLY CLASS
Presents
"Books are..."
A pretty collection

Books are different stories
Books are filled with
Books can be funny and sad
Books are keys to doors
Books are mysterious
Books are friends
Books are important
Books are the start of your life
Books are famous



Ivy Class 'Books are' poems

Books

Books are exciting
Books are funny and sad
Books are mysterious
Books are friends
Books are important
Books are the start of your life
Books are famous

Books are

Books are exciting journeys.
Books are machines.
Books are portals to good and evil.
Books are objects who can comfort you whenever.

Books can be your best friend.
Books can be mythical adventures.
Books can be happy endings.
Books can be anything.

Books

Books are mysterious,
Books are exciting,
Books are keys to unopened doors,
Books are gates to lands of pleasure.

Books can be good or evil,
Books can be comforting,
Books can be time machines,
Magical or beautiful,
Books can be fascinating or surprising.
Books can be friends,
Come let us read.

Books

Books are creative,
Books are cool,
Books are fun.
Books are mysterious,
Books are important,
Books are the start of your life,
Books are famous.

YEAR 5

In connection with our Power of Reading book *The London Eye Mystery* and our Design and Technology topic on bridges, Year 5 enjoyed an exciting trip to London! The day began with a River Cruise along the Thames, where the children spotted many of the city's famous bridges and landmarks. Afterwards, they experienced a breath-taking 30-minute ride on the **London Eye**, enjoying 360° views across the capital. The trip brought our learning to life, inspiring curiosity about architecture and the mystery of Salim in *The London Eye Mystery*.

Quotes from the children:

I really hope I will get to go on The London Eye again, maybe at night-time!

The London eye was very memorable.

What a view from 135m in the sky!

It really was a remarkable visit! The London Eye and a river cruise. Wow!



YEAR 6

Year 6 had a fantastic day at Splatt Theatre this half term, where they stepped back in time and experienced life as evacuees during the 1940s!

On arrival, the children were met by billeting officers at the station and escorted to the local town hall to begin their day of wartime activities.

Throughout the day, the children made delicious carrot cookies, got creative with some make do and mend tasks, and tested their knowledge in a World War II trivia quiz – with the winning team proudly taking home a carrot as their prize!

We were extremely proud of all the children for their excellent behaviour, enthusiasm, and the way they demonstrated our school values throughout the trip. It was a wonderful day of learning, fun, and stepping into history!



YEAR 6 continued

As part of our Design and Technology learning this half term, Year 6 have been busy designing, creating, and evaluating their very own Anderson Shelters!

Working in teams, the children researched suitable materials, planned their designs carefully, and collaborated brilliantly to bring their ideas to life.

Each group showed fantastic creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork throughout the project. We were really impressed by the quality of the final structures — we're sure some of them would have stood strong back in the early 1940s!



SPORTS REPORTS

Netball Tournament Report – Bromley Schools Bees Competition

This half term, I had the pleasure of taking two Oak Lodge netball teams to the Bromley Schools Bees Netball Tournament. Both teams showed fantastic spirit, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the day, representing our school with pride and enthusiasm.

Our A Team performed exceptionally well, progressing all the way to the quarter-finals after a series of strong matches. Their quarter-final game against Farnborough was incredibly tense and closely contested, ending in a narrow 4–3 defeat. Despite the result, the players displayed determination, resilience, and great teamwork until the very last whistle.

Our B Team also demonstrated brilliant effort, positive morale, and excellent improvement in their play. They supported each other throughout and enjoyed every moment of the competition.

Congratulations to Jack, Grace and Ben who were voted players of the tournament by their team mates! I was extremely proud of both teams for their hard work, positive attitude, and the way they represented Oak Lodge on and off the court. Well done, everyone!



Girls' Football Team

Oak Lodge vs Hawes Down:

Our Oak Lodge girls' football team played their very first match last week against Hawes Down — and came away with an impressive 2–0 win!

The girls showed incredible grit, determination, and fantastic teamwork throughout the game, working together brilliantly from start to finish. It was a wonderful performance for their debut match, and we couldn't be prouder of the effort and spirit they displayed on the pitch.

A special to congratulations Zara, who was voted Player of the Match for her outstanding contribution and commitment during the game. Well done, team — what a brilliant start to the season!

Bromley Football Tournament:

This half term, our Oak Lodge girls' football team took part in their very first tournament together — an exciting milestone for the team!

They faced some tough opposition and played challenging games, but throughout the tournament, they demonstrated fantastic determination, teamwork, and resilience.

The girls supported one another brilliantly, showing great sportsmanship and a positive attitude both on and off the pitch. Every match was a valuable learning experience, and the team's enthusiasm and effort were wonderful to see. Congratulations to Grace who was voted as player of the tournament—her efforts were superb!

We are incredibly proud of how the girls represented Oak Lodge and can't wait to see how they continue to develop and grow throughout the rest of the year. Well done, team!



Boys' Football A Team:

This half term, our Boys' A Team kicked off their season in style with a tremendous performance at the opening stage of the Bromley League Tournament. Facing some extremely tough competition, the boys showed brilliant determination, teamwork, and resilience throughout. Their hard work paid off as they finished among the top six teams out of 28, securing their place in the tournament finals!

Across their five matches, the team achieved one win, two draws, and one loss, showing consistency and a strong team spirit. Elliot, our captain, was voted Player of the Tournament in the first round for his outstanding leadership and superb performance on the pitch. In the finals, Arlo was awarded Player of the Tournament for his fantastic defensive play and commitment to the team.

The boys also played their first cup match against Hawes Down, putting in a spirited performance despite a 3–1 defeat. Harry D was voted Player of the Match for his incredible resilience and determination throughout the game. The match provided valuable learning opportunities, and the team are already working hard to build on this experience and continue improving.

It has been a fantastic start to the season — we are so proud of the boys' effort, sportsmanship, and the way they represented Oak Lodge both on and off the field. Well done, team!

Mrs Stockton
PE Lead Teacher





QUIZ NIGHT & AGM

Make a team of up to 8 eggheads and test your knowledge at our popular quiz night.

Bring your own drinks and snacks.

Oak Hall, 7.30pm to 11.00pm

**NOV
FRI
14TH**

**NOV
WED
26TH**

CHRISTMAS TREES

Many hands make light work... Help decorate our two giant Christmas trees to the delight of the children!

Morning drop off - *Let us know if you can help out!*



WINTER WREATH WORKSHOP

Bring your own refreshments to this fun and creative evening where you will be shown how to craft your very own wreath. All materials will be provided.

Oak Hall, 7.00pm to 10.30pm

**NOV
THUR
27TH**

**NOV
FRI
28TH**

OWN CLOTHES DAY

In exchange for Chocolate (or cash) donations for the Christmas Fair Chocolate Tombola.

Morning drop off - *Let us know if you can help out!*



MORE INFO:

OAKLODGEFSA@GMAIL.COM



SCHOOL DISCOS

Show off your *Snowman Shuffle* or your *Mistletoe Mash* on the dance floor!

After school. For this event to go ahead, volunteers are required.

**DEC
THUR
4TH**

**DEC
FRI
12TH**

CHRISTMAS FAIR PREPARATION

We need as many volunteers as possible to help set up the class stalls in preparation for our ever popular Christmas Fair!

After school, both halls



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Help with last minute preparations before the festive fun begins! Volunteer for a slot to help run your class stall and/or help with the tidy up.

Doors open 11.00am to 3.00pm

**DEC
SAT
13TH**

MORE INFO:

OAKLODGEFSA@GMAIL.COM

DIARY DATES

7th November	FSA Bottles for Tombola
8th November	Crystal Palace Cross Country
14th November	FSA Quiz
26th November	FSA Christmas Tree set up
27th November	FSA Wreath Making
28th November	Own Clothes Day for FSA chocolate Tombola
1st December	Individual School Photos
3rd December	KS2 Music Event @ 6.30pm
4th December	School Disco
8th December	Rock Steady Concert
10th December	School Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
10th December	Y5&Y6 Christmas concert
13th December	School Christmas Fair
15th December	Elderly Afternoon Tea
19th December	Last Day of Term.



TERM DATES

2025/2026

Autumn

Mon 1 Sept – Fri 17 Oct

HT: Mon 20 Oct– Fri 31 Oct

Mon 3 Nov – Fri 19 Dec

Spring

Tues 6 Jan– Fri 13 Feb

HT: Mon 16 Feb – Fri 20 Feb

Mon 23 Feb – Fri 27 Mar

Summer

Mon 13 Apr – Fri 22 May

HT: Mon 25 May – Fri 29 May

Mon 1 June – Tues 21 July

*Bank Holiday – Monday,
4th 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