



# OAK LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start this newsletter by saying how proud we all were of the Year 6 children who took their SATs last week. The children took on the challenge and all had a positive attitude throughout. Well done!

This half term has been very busy with a variety of educational visits taking place. These have included EYFS going to Godstone Farm, Year 1 visiting Wisley, Year 2 spending the day at Hever Castle and Year 4 used public transport to go to Deptford Creek. We have also had two theatre visits. The first was Year 4 going to the Science Show and the second visit was Year 2 going to see Zog. Thank you to all of the parents who have supported with these visits. When the children return it is wonderful to listen to how much they have gained from the experience. It is also lovely to hear the feedback we have from venues and members of the public about how beautifully our pupils behave. I know next half term is equally busy with trips being planned for Years 3, 5 and 6.

In regards to staffing news we are delighted to let you know that Miss Firkins had her twins Maeve and Lois on 24th April. Mum and babies are doing well.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break and look forward to see the children back on 3rd June.

Yours sincerely

*Mrs Lowton, Headteacher*



**SUMMER 1 2024**

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**Compass  
Academy Trust**

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

It has been brought to our attention that the Staff car park is being used by parents. Therefore, please can we ask that you do not use it unless authorisation has been given.

We have also been informed that a parent has been riding through the playground on an e-scooter. This must not happen as we do not allow e-scooters on our premises.



## HASTINGS LIFE BOAT STATION

Year 5 visited the Lifeboat Station on the 16th April as part of their trip to Hastings and they kindly made a donation of £166.46.

We recently received a thank you letter from them...

"Without the support and goodwill of the British Public, we would not be able to carry out our dangerous work of saving life at sea and therefore your kind and generous donation to the RNLI as well as being appreciated is also of vital importance to our future".



## THEATRE TRIPS

On the 15th May after school we went on a trip to Zog. I was very lucky to get a ticket because only 30 people in the whole of year 2 were allowed. We didn't go together, we went in our own cars. When we got there we had to line up, we were in there for about 5 minutes then it began. The first person they flew to was a sunburnt mermaid so they gave her a lat and cream. The second person they flew to was a unicorn with 2 horns! So they chopped it off with a wooden sword and had a party. The third person was a lion who had a sore throat so they gave him a blue and white pill.

It was the best show ever! I felt a bit sad when it ended. I will never forget the amazing trip.

*Jasmine, Owls*



Some of year 4 got to go to a science show at the Churchill theatre. We saw lots of cool experiments and learnt about friction and the weight if you were on a different planet. We learnt that two big books could hold a human. They did 5 minute experiments you can do at home. Some people got to go on the stage to do an activity. My favourite part was when I got picked to go to the stage to do tug of war with 2 books. It was so fun! *Maddie*





## HEVER CASTLE

Year Two had an amazing time on our trip to Hever Castle. We had been studying the Tudors and went to visit the childhood home of Anne Boleyn.

We had a guided tour for each class followed by a workshop on the lifestyles of the rich and poor in Tudor times.

Not only were the children brilliantly behaved but they knew so much about the topic beforehand that they really got to understand the finer details and to make important connections. We even had sun!



I really liked seeing someone dressed up as Anne Boleyn and the adventure playground was fun and exciting.

*Darcy, Kingfishers*



I enjoyed our guided tour of Hever Castle and learning about the horrible masks they had to wear if they were nosy or gossiped about other people. The Tudor Towers playground and maze were great fun too.

*Noah H, Robins*



I liked the paintings because there were a lot of people we didn't know and we learnt about them.

*Moses, Kingfishers*

## MEET THE TEACHERS

We are Miss Loveless and Mrs Jopson. As the computing subject leads, we aim for our children to confidently and independently use and apply information technology skills to support and extend their learning. Technology is everywhere and will play a significant part in children's lives. Therefore, at Oak Lodge, we want children to use technology purposefully, responsibly and most importantly safely. We are lucky to have a set of iPads in each year group which our FSA kindly helped to fund.

Over the last year we have developed a broad computing curriculum which encompasses computer science, information technology and digital literacy. In addition to discrete subject teaching of computing skills we use IT to support, enhance and enrich the whole school curriculum; it is an integral part of children's learning.

Computer science and coding is the core of computing and underpins the whole of the subject. We have bought many new resources to support the children's learning. For example, the children now have opportunities to code robotic devices, such as Bee-bots and Spheros. Information technology provides a context for the use of computers in society. It focuses on how computers are used in different ways. For example, we teach the children to create presentations and animations. The children have particularly enjoyed using Green Screen technology to make short videos. Our computing curriculum ensures that pupils become digitally literate and are able to use the internet for effective research. They are also taught how to keep themselves safe online.

We have introduced a new learning platform called 'Seesaw'. This enables the children to share some of their work in school with you at home and allows the children to build up their own learning portfolio. Seesaw is also used for children to share their homework with their teacher.

Through pupil voice, the children show their love and enthusiasm for computing lessons.



In computing I have enjoyed learning to use Scratch Junior on the I-pads. I like using block coding to make objects move and disappear.

***Gabby, Robins***



I am Mrs Mitchell, I currently teach in reception and I am also the DT subject leader. At Oak Lodge, we aim to teach a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum and DT is an important part of this. DT is a subject where children can be creative, experiment and develop a wide variety of skills. They can also apply skills they have learnt in other curriculum areas such as maths, English and science.

Last year, I introduced a new DT curriculum to Oak Lodge, which has been very successful. We follow the 'Kapow' scheme of work. Each year group completes five units over the year, including textiles, cooking and nutrition, structures, mechanisms and electrical systems. This allows children to develop their skills in different areas. Every unit follows a similar structure where children design, make and then evaluate a product. The children design and make a fantastic range of products including smoothies, bookmarks, pop up books, puppets, slingshot cars, fairground rides, bridges, savoury tarts, windmills, waistcoats to name but a few!



When speaking to the children they speak passionately about DT which is lovely to hear. The lessons are memorable and they show pride in the products they have made. It is not always possible for children to bring these home to show off, particularly if they have worked in a group, but you should be able to see their wonderful creations on Seesaw.

As part of the curriculum, we teach children how to look after our world. In DT this involves being sustainable and using recycled materials wherever possible. This is why we often ask for donations from home. We also research a range of designers from all over the world for children to aspire to. Hopefully we'll see children from Oak Lodge being the next Coco Channel, Zaha Hadid or Jamie Oliver!

Next, I would like to provide more opportunities to enrich the DT curriculum further. It would be great to have people from our local community come in to speak to the children or work with them. If you work in an area linked to DT (architects, designers, chefs, builders, seamstresses etc) and you think you could help with this please get in touch via the admin email.

*"DT is my favourite subject because we can be creative, it is really fun and we make really cool things."* **Year 4 pupil.**

## YEAR 4 TRIP TO DEPTFORD CREEK

Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Deptford Creek Discovery Centre.

They took part in a low tide walk and enjoyed conducting a duck race to measure the speed of the river. They also enjoyed fishing in the river where they observed creatures such as Chinese mitten crab, shrimp and larvae. In the afternoon, they sketched the river at high tide and enjoyed a hands-on session looking at various historic artefacts found in the river.



## SAM REARDON

We were delighted to welcome back former pupil Sam, to talk to the children, answer their questions and present medals to the Quaddkids team.

He always enjoyed sporting success at Oak Lodge and has happy memories of the Crystal Palace Cross Country.

Sam ran as part of the British 4x400m relay team at the 2022 World Athletics Indoor Championships. Aged 18, he was the youngest member of the squad. Sam finished fifth in the 800m race at the 800m at the 2022 World Athletics U20 Championships.

In February 2023 Reardon ran 46.96 over 400 metres to win his first national championship gold medal at the 2023 British Indoor Athletics Championships. We wish him all the best as he tries to qualify for the Olympics



## CRICKET

A group of cricketers from our school were invited to go and compete at a friendly tournament on Friday 17th at Beckenham cricket club. We were competing against High field, Claire house and Balgowen and our team of girls and boys were captained by Jay, Aiden and Nathaniel. Our team played three games in total of dynamos cricket.

We also enjoyed taking part in the Schools Games cricket events this week on Tuesday (for boys) and Thursday (for girls). The boys won 2 out of their 3 games and the girls did the same, managing to get through to the final round. There were lots of big shots, great fielding and catching, excellent bowling and good team work. We all had a great time!



## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

On Monday 6th May, Arianne (Elm) took part in the first Hyrox Junior event, 'Youngstars' in the UK. Arianne came first in her age group! Hyrox is a rapidly growing sport in the UK, over 12,000 people competed at the most recent event at London Olympia.

"I really enjoyed doing Hyrox because it has lots of different events, each one needing different skills and determination. My favourite events were the Ski Erg (like stand up rowing) because I enjoyed using the machine and Wall Balls because I could use my netball skills. I would encourage everyone to have a go as the sport is so much fun."



Congratulations to Hudson on being signed for Millwall!

"I am very proud of myself and so excited to play for Millwall football club in their U9 Academy. I am looking forward to the new season."



## END OF SATS CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to all our Year Six children who sat the Year 6 SATS this week. The teachers are very proud of your resilience and determination. A fun day was had on Friday with a Big Quiz in the hall, a playground disco, sports games, a campfire and last but definitely not least, the ice cream van!





## SPORTS REPORTS

### Year 3 and 4 Cross Country

Well done to **all** of the runners who represented the school during the Crystal Palace cross country event in March. Everyone tried their hardest on what is quite a tricky course with lots of slippery hills to negotiate! Our overall position was 5th for the large schools.

A special mention needs to go to those children who finished in the top 100:

Year 3 boys (out of 466)	Year 4 Girls (out of 372)	Year 4 boys (out of 445)
15—Clinton	2—Cara	11—Elliot
77— Archie	47—Abigail	48—Danny
	56—Zara	65—Max



Congratulations to the children who took part in QuadKids, they performed amazingly and won the event! Their medals were presented in assembly by GB athlete (and former pupil) Sam Reardon

Also Oak Lodge were the only school to bring leaders who were highly commended by everyone.





## FSA NEWS

We have been spending more money over the last term - this time to ensure that every year group has iPads! We are sure your child will benefit.

Thank you for all the wonderful entries to the Summer Fete competition:

Lucas D, Charlie F, Abigail R, Lewis P, Ryan P, Eden R, Clara W, Lucy B and Isla T - all the entries can be seen here.

We are delighted to announce the winner is Isla T who wins a free ticket for a fairground ride at the fete - well done!

Only 5 weeks until our 'Olympics' Summer Fete! We are very excited to be back with some of the same rides and activities as last year, and some new ones too!

The first and most important thing is, if you can, please please help by giving up an hour of your time to volunteer - this is integral to the fete and we wouldn't be able to put it on without all of the volunteers. There are several different ways you can help:

Volunteering for your class stall - your class rep should be in touch to let you know which stall you have this year, and you can sign up through them or directly onto this form <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1EgxBz7FDFoJZHljBK7OxtlPe8UXnWQIYguWk7a5ZOxM/edit?usp=sharing>

You can also sign up on the same spreadsheet above to help with the set up day (Friday 21st June), from 8am on the 22nd June, on the BBQ stall and Facepainting stall. To help with money counting or in any other way you can think of, please email us at [oaklodgefsa@gmail.com](mailto:oaklodgefsa@gmail.com)!

Donating items - the poster lets you know what donations we are asking for:

Good second hand toys (not soft toys) - to be left in cages under the covered walkway

Crockery (that will be smashed) - to be left in cages under the covered walkway

Books - to be left in the office

Bottles of booze and/or other drinks - there is a specific donation day for this on Thursday 6th June in return for the children wearing their own clothes - more information to follow.

Plants for the plant stall - if you are green fingered and able to grow some plants to sell at our plant stall please do start growing! We would love them donated on Friday 21st June.

Cakes - as above, we will be asking for donations of cakes and items for our refreshments stalls on Friday 21st June.

Raffle and Silent Auction - Our Silent Auction this year will be ONLINE and will open at the end of May - allowing lots of time to get your bids in - it will also have a much larger reach (don't worry - you will still be able to bid on the day). If you could source and/or donate a prize for the Silent Auction (no monetary vouchers can be used for the silent auction) or Raffle, please contact us at [oaklodgefsa@gmail.com](mailto:oaklodgefsa@gmail.com).

You should have received raffle tickets home - please do bring them back with completed stubs and money in an envelope - the top prize is £200 CASH!

Please contact us on [oaklodgefsa@gmail.com](mailto:oaklodgefsa@gmail.com) or via our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2419479874747884/?ref=share>

Thanks for all your support,

The FSA

***Sharon & Emma, Co-Chairs FSA***



## PASSPORTS TO SUCCESS

Well done to the following children on completing their passports.

Richard	Snowdrop	Bronze	Harley	Owls	Silver
Morgan	Willow	Silver	Rosie	Holly	Silver
Teddy	Ivy	Platinum	Lewis	Ivy	Gold
Ediz	Ivy	Silver	Henry	Holly	Gold
Flavio	Fir	Silver	Pearl	Holly	Silver
Penelope	Snowdrop	Silver	Siobhan	Fir	Silver
Zoe	Rabbits	Bronze	Kitty	Primrose	Bronze
James	Primrose	Silver	Sebastian	Primrose	Bronze
Felicity	Primrose	Bronze	Malaika	Primrose	Bronze
Dominic	Primrose	Bronze	Lily	Snowdrop	Silver
Arlo	Snowdrop	Bronze	Benji	Spruce	Gold
Lina	Robins	Silver	Oscar	Robins	Bronze
Cashel	Holly	Silver	Theo	Snowdrop	Silver
Eleanor	Holly	Gold	Nariya	Spruce	Gold
Ciku	Snowdrop	Gold	Saima	Spruce	Bronze
Mabel	Kingfishers	Bronze	Mia	Spruce	Gold
Leon	Willow	Bronze	Mya	Primrose	Bronze
Scarlett	Snowdrop	Silver	Alexander	Ivy	Bronze





## DIARY DATES

3rd June	Children return to School
3rd-10th June	Year 1 Litter Pick
3rd-14th June	Year 4 Multiplication check
4th June	Year 5 British Museum Visit
5th June	Hedgehogs Class Assembly
6th June	FSA Own Clothes Day
7th June	Sports Day
10th-14th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
12th June	Badgers Class Assembly
13th June	Whole School Falconry Display
17th June-21st June	Elm Class Swimming Lessons
17th June-1st July	EYFS Litter Pick
21st June	Ladybirds Class Assembly
22nd June	School Fete
24th June	Whole School Class Photographs
24th-28th June	Willow Class Swimming Lessons
27th June	Butterflies Class Assembly
28th June	Bumblebees Class Assembly
28th June-1st July	PGL Y6 residential visit
5th July	Year 6 Careers Afternoon
11th July	FSA School Discos
12th July	Year 6 Forest fest
15th July	Year 5 Litter Pick
24th July	Last day of term
2nd September	Children return to school

## TERM DATES

**2023/2024**

### **Autumn Term 2023**

Mon 4 Sept–Fri 13 Oct

Half Term : 16-27 Oct

Mon 30 Oct—Tues 19 Dec

### **Spring Term 2024**

Thurs 4 Jan—Fri 9 Feb

Half Term : 12-16 Feb

Mon 19 Feb—Thurs 28 March

### **Summer 2024**

Mon 15 Apr–Fri 24 May

Half Term : 27 May—31 May

Mon 3 June—Wed 24 July

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**