



# Oaklands Junior School

*Learning to think - Thinking to learn*

## NEWS UPDATE 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017

### **Parents' Evenings**

Thank you to all the parents who met with teachers this week, or personally made appointments to meet at other times. It was lovely to see so many of you in school and to have your support. Thank you to Mondays' parents, who also took part in the trialling of a new system, with year group teachers being in one classroom, while the other class was used to accommodate trays and books for parents to view. We would love to hear your views on how this went. Quite a few parents on Monday evening liked this and staff did feel that it was a little more personal in classrooms. The buzzer system on both nights at 10 minute intervals seemed to work well for parents and staff keeping to time, but again, any feedback would be welcome.

### **House Assemblies**

On Tuesday, the children met in their houses for the first time this year, led by the House and Sport Captains. The main topic for their discussions was around the House Point system, looking at ways to make rewards more desirable. In addition, children voted in favour of House Points also being accumulated as a class, in order to earn rewards to be shared with their friends. Well done to the Year 6 Captains for running these assemblies and getting useful feedback which will help school improvement.

### **Meet the Governors**

On Decoration Day on Wednesday 6th December there will be an opportunity for you to meet with governors during the coffee break.

### **Sausage Day**

On Wednesday 1st November, Year 5 were treated to a fascinating presentation about the humble sausage. They were amazed by the variety of sausages made in the UK. The children met Rasher the wooden pig and were taught the ancient art of pig herding, using a board and paddle. They had the opportunity to sample both vegetarian and pork sausages. Following the tasting, they were asked to vote on their favourite. Willing volunteers assisted in the making of traditional pork sausages. These were then cooked by Miss Davidson so the children could sample their own creation. Thank you to the Newbury and District Agricultural Education team for a great learning experience.

### **Remembrance**

On Thursday 9th, the children participated in an assembly and on Friday 10th, two minutes' silence at the end of break, originally to commemorate all the people who died during WWI. During the assembly, the children also thought about all the people who have been killed in conflicts since the Great War and showed their respect to these brave men and women. As a touching tribute, Year 5 laid out poppies they had made in class as a symbol of hope for the future. Well done to all the children who took the time to reflect on this moving topic.