



Oaklands Junior School

Learning to think – Thinking to learn

Spring 2

We sadly say farewell to Mrs. Andrews who has been a valuable member of our Y5 team and we will all miss her very much. We wish her well with her move to Bournemouth and hope she will keep in touch. After Easter we will be welcoming Mrs. Hare-Winton as our new teaching assistant in Y5.

"Shakespeare" Easter Egg Competition

Thank you to all the children who entered this competition to commemorate Shakespeare's 450th birthday this year, with some amazing entries from the Globe theatre to Macbeth, The Tempest, Romeo & Juliet and Hamlet. Very creative!

Wear a Hat Day – 28th March

The children (and staff) had a great day, wearing a variety of hats whilst raising money to support research into brain tumours. Thank you to all who supported us in this. We raised £348.66 for this very worthwhile cause.

Field

Work on restoration will now commence during the Easter holidays, so the field will be out of bounds for 2-3 months as work to restore it continues. It may or may not be ready for sports day, so an alternative venue is in the process of being agreed, should we need it! Similarly sports clubs/matches will be accommodated elsewhere.

NEWSLETTER

Class Assemblies at 9.00am

Next term we will aim to keep our class assemblies to just Thursdays, so that guided reading groups can still continue on other days. To minimise congestion in reception at busy times, **please enter the hall via the playground.**

This term we have enjoyed many exciting assemblies: 3P based theirs on "Where the Wild Things Are"; 3H reminded us about the importance of E-Safety; 4L presented their work on Tudors, following a residential trip to Ufton Court; 5B shared their learning through "The Boy in the Girl's Bathroom" with 6J including WWII and Mr. Benn!

Wonderful to see so many exciting topics throughout the school with elements of Thinking Maps too. WELL DONE to all classes!

LIFE

Programming is happening behind the scenes (from our provider) to iron out the problems we have been experiencing. This week, a representative joined us in a lesson, to experience the problems that teachers and children face with access in lessons. They have gone back to resolve these issues.

Exciting News!

Congratulations to Mrs. Jones who has announced she is expecting her first baby in September! She will continue to be 6J's class teacher until the end of this academic year.

2014

Thinking Schools Latest News

*Would you like to learn more about how we are using **Thinking Maps** in school? Also, how you can help your children use these **Thinking Maps**.*

7.00pm Tuesday 6th May
(school hall)

Parents, staff and governors all welcome.

Important Dates

Easter Holiday

7th Apr – 21st Apr

INSET day 22nd Apr

Golden Jubilee Curriculum
Week 9th – 13th June

**Outdoor Learning for
Parents 7.00pm 1st May**

Bank Holiday 5th May

**Thinking Maps for Parents
7.00pm 6th May**

Photos with siblings 7th May

Class photos 21st May

SATs 12th-16th May

Y3 Butser Farm 13th May

Y4 Eton Trip 15th May

Y5 Rushall Farm 16th May

Y6 Legoland 16th May

Elections:

school closed 22nd May

Guitar Assembly (Wed group
only) 23rd May at 10.00am

Half term: 26th-30th May

What has been happening in Years 3 & 4?

Year 3

On Tuesday 18th March, Year 3 descended on Crowthorne for our annual village walk.

Here are some of the things we did – the challenge was to use only 10 words!

3P and 3H went on a village walk around Crowthorne. (Ben)

When we went out of school we were really excited! (Riley)

It was hard writing down tallies for all the vehicles. (Sophie W)

We were kind and let people pass and were polite. (Libby)

We learned that the CofE school has hexagonal roof tiles. (Holly)

We counted speed bumps on Duke's Ride one by one. (Dané)

We walked and walked and our feet started really hurting. (Millie)

We went to the library and stopped for a snack. (Aysha)

We went to the Morgan Rec and we played there. (Phoebe T)

We had a picnic and we played after we finished. (Shaun)

I was sad when it was raining and I got soaking wet. (Ellis)

When we went to St. John's, it rained very badly. (Scott)

Mr Hill and Mrs Penstone got as wet as us! (Adam C)

Thank you so much to all the parent helpers – we couldn't have done it without you!

The Year 3 Team

Mr Hill, Mrs Penstone,
Mrs Burrell and Mrs Hanks

Year 4

During our residential trip to Ufton Court, we did lots of different activities such as a 'raid' (where a group of us pretended to be Protestant soldiers looking for a Catholic priest being hidden in the grounds of Ufton Court). Once the priest was found, we had a 'trial' and decided to 'hang' the priest and the Lord of the Manor; the Lady was sent to The Tower of London.

Some of our favourite parts were Tudor games and the banquet, where the boys and girls had to dance with each other. For the banquet, we all got dressed up in Tudor clothes – the girls wore a petticoat, tights, a dress and a special head dress; the boys wore shorts (with tights underneath!), a shirt with a jacket over the top and a Tudor style hat.

Maya, Rhian, Sophia & James H (4L).

On Wednesday 19th March 4W came to school with lots of packed bags and suitcases. Most of 4W gave Ufton Court a 10/10, as we thoroughly enjoyed our trip with lots of fun activities. When we got there we got ready to explore! The first thing we did was a tour of the garden and the grounds around the house with Amanda, then after a drink and a snack, we had a tour of the inside of the house with Adam. The food at Ufton Court was exceptional. It was GREAT quality food. Most of 4W gobbled up all the food they were given. In the evening we explored priest holes, made Tudor roses and had a pyjama parade!

The next day we made wattle houses, posy bags, did orienteering and Tudor games. In the evening we had a Tudor banquet....it was cool!! I loved my dress. We had to eat all posh and if you had to go to the 'privy' (the toilet) you had to ask permission from the top table, who were the teachers.

On the final day we had an amazing raid where we acted out what had happened in 1599.

We did a lot more amazing activities and did not want to go home!!

By Stephanie G & Lotte K (4W)

What has been happening in Years 5 & 6?

Year 5

The highlight of this term for year 5 was the production of Olivia; a story loosely based around Oliver with a few famous Victorians thrown in for good measure. The children performed magnificently once to the whole school and twice to parents, speaking loudly and clearly with some fantastic singing. Thanks obviously go to the children but also to the parents as well for getting their children ready with costumes and helping them to learn their lines. Thanks also to the generosity of the audience that we raised over £300 for the Daniel Griggs Brighter Future Fund, a cause that is very dear to us all.

Whilst the play dominated the term, other highlights included a trip by 5H to Sky Studios to see how to put together a news report. 5H chose healthy eating and their finished news report was shown in our sharing assembly. 5B also did a sharing assembly and covered the work they completed on the book 'There's a boy in the girl's bathroom'. We also visited Wellington College for the Chemistry spectacular (see year 6 report). As part of our rainforest topic, children were given a project to present a 3 minute talk on a rainforest animal, plant or tribe, using Powerpoint. A tough challenge involving some new skills but the children rose to the occasion and both classes received some fascinating projects.

A quick reminder that for next term, Year 5 go swimming and we would advise that any

parent thinking of having their child's ears pierced should hold off until swimming is completed. Ear rings **have** to be removed for swimming lessons.

The Year 5 Team

Mr Hutton, Miss Bland

Mrs Draffin, Mrs. Andrews and Mr. Grimmett

Thank you to all the children and Year 5 team for a brilliant performance of "Olivia". FABULOUS!
Mrs West.

Year 6

On the 24th March Year 5 and 6 walked to Wellington College for a show called the 'Chemistry Spectacular'. When we got there we sat down and saw a balloon that got poked with a hot stick. This made a loud bang! Everybody jumped out of their skin. Next we saw a balloon that had lots of oxygen in it. This one was popped too and made an even louder bang!

Most people enjoyed the bit when the presenter's had a large bottle that had two substances mixed together. They shook the bottle and then suddenly a mix of colours, like a rainbow, shot into the air.

After that we saw a line of special candles; there were six altogether. The flames were orange, red, blue, green, purple and pink. They explained to us why they were different colours.

At the end of the show Wellington College gave out some hand warmers. We had to bend a bit of metal in them. This caused a reaction (which seemed like an explosion of white crystals) that gave out heat and made our hands warm.

We all really enjoyed the trip – It was the best Chemistry show ever!

by Ben G and Jaya P

The Year 6 Team

Mrs Jones, Mrs Schuster

Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Roberts

Further News

Carnival Flower Show 11th-14th July

Theme for Oaklands stand: Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang

Help appreciated!

Would anyone like to take this venture on? Ms Moores has all the information required. She already has a possible design but needs someone to cut this out, advise on the use of hardboard and judge the feasibility of this design (this will include putting it together, too). We also need someone who knows how to put plants into oasis and keep them alive. Please contact Ms Moores for more details if you are able to help.

RHS Budding Gardeners Competition

The children were asked to design a garden for the school's entry to the RHS Budding Gardeners competition to be held at Wisley during the summer half term. Once the designs were submitted, the children were given the opportunity to explain their ideas. This was wonderful because the children were bursting with creativity and were modifying their designs as they spoke. Eventually it was whittled down to two designs. We are delighted to announce Kia P and Loryn D as the winning entry for our school's competition. The runner up was Katie P (a previous winner). We have submitted the design and are now waiting to hear if we have been successful. If our garden is accepted, the children will go to RHS Wisley for the day to build the garden but first they will be busy preparing for it at school.

Marie Curie Mini Pots of Care

The final amount raised for Marie Curie was £163.96. This sum will increase due to Gift Aid. Many thanks for your generous donations. Remember to plant the bulbs out in the Autumn to flower again next year.

Parent Support

Our Parent Support Adviser, Nikki Lennon, has created a very quick 10 question survey for parents on survey monkey to find out what you would really like. Please help her to achieve her best for you, by taking the time to complete this. Click on the following link and the questionnaire can be found under the 'Support and Advice' tab: www.factfamilyofschools.co.uk

Sports Reports

Please see latest news on our website.

<http://www.oaklandsjunior-school.org.uk>

Daniel Griggs Brighter Future Fund

May we thank all the Y5 families and friends who generously donated to this very worthwhile cause, at the end of the Y5 performances of Olivia. A total of **£329.28** was raised to help find cures for children with leukaemia. I know Lucy and her family would like to thank you too. If anyone missed this and would like to contribute, there is an online giving page: www.justgiving.com/DanielGriggs

50th Golden Jubilee Sponsorship

I am extremely pleased that several parents contacted me, following our last newsletter; one in particular took the time and trouble to approach his boss for sponsorship. THANK YOU Mr. Ager for doing this on our behalf and successfully achieving a donation of £4,000 towards our very special mural, which has now been installed on the wall outside Y6! Please convey our very grateful thanks to your boss for his extremely generous donation. Wonderful!

Does anyone have a **flat screen monitor** that is no longer needed - preferably about **37"-42"**? This would enable us to display our diary electronically in the staffroom. Please contact the office if you can help.

Thank you to our PTA for organising such fun events which have included a quiz and Easter Egg Bingo!