



Oaklands Junior School

Learning to think – Thinking to learn

Summer 2

NEWSLETTER

2014

Wishing you ALL a very restful Summer break, following a very busy term!

Back to School!

Thought I would get in first before all the shops start doing this at the beginning of the holidays! First day back in school will be Wednesday 3rd September for the children.

Staffing

We welcome two new members of staff to our school in September: Mrs K. Davidson will be teaching Y6 and Miss P. Sandhu will be teaching Y3.

Sports Day

We are very grateful to Wellington College for allowing us to use their facilities for our sports day and also for the extra time they gave us for our athletes/pupils to practice before the event. Unfortunately rain prevented us completing our events and the planned picnic. However it was good to see so many parents joining us in school for an early picnic in the classrooms. The events missed were completed in school with the overall results:

4th place Red with 148 points
3rd place Blue with 156 points
2nd place Yellow with 159 points
1st place Green with 161 points.

WELL DONE to ALL.

Strictly Showtime Carnival Float

Unfortunately, we didn't win this time but a good time was had by all, designing the float and costumes, as well as being part of the day. It is not about the winning, it is about taking part and having fun! Thank you to the PTA for supporting this event and organising children. Well done to Ellen in 5H who had her float entry framed and returned to school.

Carnival Winner!

Well done Katie P in 5H for winning a £20 book token for her brilliant entry in the colouring competition.

Y6 Leavers' Play

It was lovely to meet so many of you on this evening, which was a very emotional event, seeing all that your children had achieved over the years and also the brilliant performance they gave in The Rocky Monster Show. Thank you to all of you who contributed to the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline charity – such a worthwhile cause, especially as several PTA members were hosting children in the same week. We raised £53.06 for this charity – Thank you!

We would like to wish our Y6s all the best in their new schools and we wish them every success for the future.

Thinking Schools Latest News

Mrs. West and Mr. Lee attended a brilliant International Thinking Schools Conference towards the end of the Summer term and have been inspired to take Thinking Maps further in the Autumn term, whilst ensuring that all new staff receive in-house training in the tools we have already introduced to the children. More details of further developments in the Autumn term.

Y6 BBQ Evening

Ryan H won the boys' slow bicycle race.

Louisa S won the girls' slow bicycle race.

6S won the tug of war!

HUGE THANKS to the many parents who helped on that evening.

Also to Y6 staff for organising food/games!

What has been happening in Years 3 & 4?

Year 3

Year 3 had a fantastic curriculum week when they went 'Back to the Sixties'! Learning to dance the Mashed Potato and the Twist was a real highlight, along with tie dye and replicating the moon landing. The week culminated with flower power and making lava lamps – groovy, man!

Our year group assembly brought a surprise when we took it outside to the Roman Amphitheatre! Six children were taken back in time by Roman centurions to find out what the Romans did for them! This was accompanied by dancing to a wide range of music, from 'Funky Town' to 'Splish Splash, I was Taking a Bath!' The children spoke loudly and clearly and did the most fantastic job – well done.

Our World Cup project has led to fierce rivalry – and that's just amongst the staff! We have enjoyed finding out about our countries and designing new strips and mascots for the teams. Locating the countries on a map was a real challenge and we investigated money involved in the football industry, during a P4C session.

We have been working on our DT projects all year – sewing and then making and decorating wooden frames. The finished results are looking fantastic and we would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents that have been involved with this, as well as all the other assistance you have given us this year. It has made such a difference.

Year 4

In Year 4 we have been busy with school trips, such as Eagle House and the Jewish Synagogue.

At Eagle House we saw a little play which was really a story about a missing necklace. Some of us dressed up in Tudor costumes and read scripts. In the end we found out that Alice, the servant, had stolen the necklace. Then we visited a Tudor house that only had one room.

At the Synagogue we went into a big room. A man was standing on a platform wrapping a band around his head and arm with little boxes on that contained parts of the Torah. All the boys had to wear hats called Kippahs. The man told us stories about the Jewish religion. Then we went into a big hall where we were shown many things about the religion, including what food they eat. We finished our visit with some refreshments. (Oliver and Sam F)

Year 4 also had a great time in Curriculum week when we had a look at what happened in the 1970s! We made lava lamps, wrote a newspaper report about Star Wars, and had a debate about whether we would like a three day working week. We finished our week with a 70s disco, where we danced to YMCA and ate 70s food!

Our Year 4 class assembly showed our parents the work we have been doing on Figurative Language in poetry. This included a cool rap!

What has been happening in Years 5 & 6?

Year 5

It was a trip back to the 80's for Year 5 during the school curriculum week. Mr Potato Head, Wham, Back to the Future with a bit of Hockney thrown in, made for a great week.

That was followed straight away by World Cup Fever as children picked out their teams, researched their countries and completed information sheets about the World Cup.

While all that was going on swimming sessions were taking place with both classes attending Harmanwater pool receiving either swimming lessons or life-saving skills.

Favourite subjects of this half term have been the Aztec masks we have been making in Art and DT, where we have been making moving toys. A big thanks to all the parent helpers.

In history we have been focusing on the local history of Crowthorne and in particular Wellington College. We were given a personal guided tour of the College and learnt about some of the fascinating history that it contains. That was followed by a picnic lunch on the lawns before walking back to school.

Congratulations to all the children who participated on sports day, some excellent competition. Well done as well to the Year 5 football team who played their first school match and won 5-4 against Finchampsted.

Year 6

The Red Cross Dance

Many of the Year 6s have been involved in the Red Cross dance competition this year, raising money and awareness for the cause. A few weeks ago the dancers baked cakes and sold them on the playground, raising £96.

The 'Make Your Move' competition was very exciting because we got through the first round and headed to Oxford for round two. Unfortunately, we did not get to perform our dance at the O2 in London. We are really grateful for the time that Mrs Smith and Mrs Yeatman have given up to choreograph the dance and help us prepare.

By Susie M

Fairground rides

We have been making fairground rides using our imagination and technology skills. The trip to LEGOLAND really helped! Our rides had to have a rotating part and we made circuits so they actually worked. This was a real challenge for us all.

By Louisa S

Our end of year play

Our leavers play was called 'The Rocky Monster Show'. It was very sweet with a thrilling ending. It also had some comedy in it too. There were lots of songs that we learnt in music with Mrs Bugg. On the 2nd July a small group of us (who weren't going to Edgbarrow) started making lots of the props for the play!

By Keziah S

Ending our time at Oaklands

Most people are quite shocked about how fast the year is going. Next thing we know, we're all leaving to go to secondary school. We are all very excited to go but also sad that we are leaving such a great school. There'll be tears and hugs and goodbyes as we go on to the next exciting adventure.

By Alyssa C

Further News

Crowthorne Schools Music Festival

On Monday 7th July, as part of this year's Crowthorne Carnival, the choir and belleplates group went to Wellington College Chapel to perform in this year's Music Festival. The theme was *Strictly Showtime* and they certainly put on the most wonderful show! Conducted by Mrs Bugg, all the school choirs joined together to sing songs from *Mary Poppins* and then each school took an individual show. Ours was *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, with the choir presenting a rousing version of the title song followed by the belleplates performing *Doll on a Music Box* and *Truly Scrumptious*; they gave a fantastic performance. Well done to all and a special thank you to Mrs Burrell for arranging the belleplates music.

Mrs Bugg & Mrs Penstone

Carnival Flower Show- more Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang

We are hoping that visitors to the flower show in St. John's Church said 'Wow!' to our display. The other flower arrangers were most impressed and commented upon the talented children from our school who arranged the flowers. Well done not only to the five children who helped set up at the church but also to the rest of the school for bringing begonia planters, designing colourful wraps around the pots, creating fabulous hot air balloons and best of all, creating those wonderful inventions – the future is going to be very exciting! Many thanks for the donations of flowers (they became clouds and the picnic) and the surprise donation of cakes for the children who set up the display. I hope many of you were able to visit this beautiful event.

Budding Gardeners' Competition, RHS Wisley

The garden designed by Loryn and Kia, aided in the growing and construction by Tilly, Susie and Louisa, and received a commendation. It was brought back from Wisley and rebuilt in the school gardens, which many of you may have seen. I think you'll agree, it was a splendid, thoughtful design. Well done girls!

Governors' Annual Report

This is now available to read on our website and is well worth a look to find out what has been happening over this last year. Our governors do a fantastic job, giving lots of voluntary time not only at meetings but also linking with staff and particular curriculum areas.

Our New Anti-Bullying Policy, approved by governors, is now available to read on our website.

To keep up to the latest news from the **FACT family of schools**, including activities, parenting courses and much more follow this link or visit

www.factfamilyofschools.co.uk



Y6 Awards – Congratulations to All!

Waller Trophy for Oracy was won

by Christopher Y

Sportsmanship Trophy was won by Susie M & Daniel S

Teale Trophy was won by Georgina I – presented for gaining so much confidence over the years.

Century Cup was won by Susie M for representing the school in so many events.

Headteacher's Award to Loryn D for achieving 50 Merits and a £10 book voucher – well done!