

Oaklands Junior School

Learning to think - Thinking to learn

NEWS UPDATE 7th September 2018

Welcome

Welcome back to school and we hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break. All pupils have settled really well in their first week at Oaklands Junior School.

We have been joined this term by a number of new pupils in Years 4 and 5 together with our new Year 3 intake. Miss McComish, Year 4 Class Teacher, and Mr Harris, Year 6 Teaching Assistant, have also settled in well.

Parent Forums

These will take place at 6.00 pm on Monday 10th September for Years 5 and 6 and 6.00 pm on Wednesday 12th September for Years 3 and 4. An Osmington Bay meeting for Year 6 Parents will follow on from the Year 6 Forum at 7.00 pm. Separate letters giving details of these meetings have already been sent.

School Council

School Council Elections will take place on Thursday afternoon next week. Pupils will be writing their manifestos over the next few days and election posters will be posted for the children to see.

Site Improvements

During the summer break, a number of projects were completed or part completed:

- The Year 3 classrooms were painted and new carpet installed.
- The Year 5 intervention rooms were knocked through and we are now awaiting doors to be fitted.
- Outdoor gym equipment has been installed on the edge of the playground.

School Website

Our website contains a lot of information about outside organisations. Please visit it to find out about clubs, school dinners and school milk.

The emotional health of children remains a priority and Wokingham Borough Council have asked us to circulate information to parents and carers regarding "Coping with Self-Harm". This document can also be found on our website under News.

https://oaklandsjunior-school.org.uk/



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'Big Red Bus' Update

As you may have noticed (!) the red bus has arrived! Thanks must firstly go to Mr & Mrs Belcher for storing the bus at their farm and then arranging for the delivery of it to the school site.

Window Wize (<u>www.windowwize.co.uk</u>) - a local double glazing and home improvement company - has provided their help and funded:

- All the foundation materials and structures.
- Worked with Mr Belcher to lay foundations.
- Completed tunnelling works to allow for electrics to be run.
- Deep cleaned the inside of the bus ready for the next stage.
- Provided their team to help with the planning and to advise on the project.

During the summer holidays, Mr Lee has been working closely with L&G Housing (www.landghomes.com) – the house construction firm that are building Buckler Park on the former TRL site – and has secured their help and funding for:

- Connecting up the bus to the electric supply.
- Lighting & plugs inside the bus.
- New flooring.
- The making of bookshelves & benches for the inside of the bus.
- The laying of paving slabs (including those that the children decorated last year) outside the bus.

Furthermore, he is working on applying for funding for:

- Soft furnishings (cushions, bean bags etc).
- Heating & air-con units to make the bus more practical to use all year round.
- A sensory area within the bus for children with special educational needs.

Our long-term aim is to use the bus for:

- Teaching of intervention groups.
- Breakout area for children with special needs.
- A class teaching area.
- First-aid station and quiet reading area during break & lunchtime.
- Special events.

It is hoped that the children will be able to go and have a look at the inside of the bus over the next week. In the meantime, if you are able to help in any way with soft-furnishings or the heating / aircon, please contact Mr Lee.