



# Oaklands Junior School

*Learning to think - Thinking to learn*

## NEWS UPDATE 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019

### **Weather**

As we have seen this week, the weather is very changeable. Please would you ensure that your child comes to school with a coat, at least until the end of this term, as many are needing them in the playground. We do go out in all weather, including the Daily Mile, so this is essential.

### **Do you have a concern?**

Following conversations in the playground and off site, please may we kindly remind you that if you have a concern about your child in school that the best person to contact in the first instance is your child's class teacher. Nothing can be achieved, if this is not put in place in the very first instance as they do need to know about any concerns, to be able to do something about it. It is quite frustrating to learn about this from another member of staff or a governor, as we are very approachable!

If, having met with your child's class teacher and given the time for this to be resolved in school and a follow up meeting, the next point of contact would be the appropriate member of the senior leadership team; Mr Lee in the lower school or Mr Holland in the upper school. In addition, you may want to speak to Mr Holland as Deputy.

Having met with the appropriate member of staff and given time for the concern to be resolved, if you are still unhappy then please do book an appointment with Mrs West.

### **E-Safety**

Following the recent safeguarding concerns with online games and apps, please be vigilant in ensuring you know what your children are accessing AND regularly check for their safety online. We will only ever promote the importance of safety online through our E-Safety teaching in school and it is up to YOU to ensure your child's safety online at home by:

- Regularly checking what your children can access online
- Ensuring your children understand they should NOT give any personal information to anyone they do not know
- Reinforcing that no-one has the right to make them feel uncomfortable by telling them to do anything they feel is not right – they MUST tell someone they trust if this happens
- Checking parental controls are used to keep children safe

Talk regularly with your child about their online safety as apps and games will change over time.

The NSPCC publishes advice and guidance for parents on discussing online safety

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>, as well as Net Aware <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> – the UK parental guide to social media and gaming apps.

If you still have concerns or have any questions on how to approach this with your children, you can contact the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000.

Children likewise can contact Childline 24 hours a day online and over the phone on 0800 1111



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## **The Big Battery Hunt**

On Thursday, the Big Battery Hunt was launched at Oaklands Junior School. This initiative gives children the opportunity to be pioneers in an exciting recycling challenge to encourage everyone nationwide to recycle more batteries. Each child has been given, this week, a collection box to enable them to collect AA, AAA, C and D batteries (please do not include other types of batteries). When the box is full, please return it to school where the batteries will be counted by our eco-warriors, and then it will be added to the child's class recycling tracker. We will then add them to our school collecting box. You should receive an e-mail with further details and an informative pupil activity booklet, which could be completed and returned to Miss Davidson. The Big Battery Hunt Competition ends on Monday 3rd June, however Duracell will continue to recycle batteries, for free, at Oaklands after this time.

## **The Big Pedal**

Did you know that walking, cycling and scooting to schools are great ways to build regular physical activity into young people's lives? Research shows that those who travel to school actively take these positive behaviours into adulthood.

Oaklands Junior School is taking part in the Sustrans Big Pedal Challenge. This is the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking and scooting challenge inspiring pupils, staff and parents to choose human power for their journey to school. Sustrans Big Pedal will run for 10 days from **25 March to 5 April 2019**. On each day, schools compete to see who can get as many of their pupils, staff and parents cycling, walking or scooting to school. The school's best five days will determine our final position. Our School will be entered into a daily prize draw for rewards including equipment and accessories if over 15% of our school community cycle, walk or scoot on that day of the challenge. Please make an effort to try to help us to show sustainable ways to get to school on these days.

## **Big red bus update**

A lot of work has been happening behind the scenes to get the bus ready for the children to use and we are almost there!

Over the last few months, the following has happened:

- Benches and bookshelves completed and painted.
- Electricity and lighting installed and signed off.
- Windows re-sealed to fix a leak.
- Safety Perspex fitted at the top of the stairs by Window Wize.
- See through seating and lighting installed by Window Wize, so that the children can look into the engine, whilst inside the bus!
- Cushions bought and covers made by Window Wize for the bespoke bench upstairs.
- A deep clean after all the work!
- Installing of a safety mechanism by Window Wize in the upstairs fire exit window.
- Purchasing of fire safety equipment.

There are a couple of minor health & safety issues that need to be resolved and then the children can use and enjoy the bus. A 'grand opening' will take place very soon – more details to follow.