



Oaklands Junior School

Learning to think - Thinking to learn

NEWS UPDATE 10th January 2020

Happy New Year!

It was lovely to meet so many of you in the playground this week and to hear about your Christmas break. I would like to wish you and your families good health, with every success and happiness for this coming year.

From Mrs. West & All Oaklands Staff

New Progress Report Updates

A letter will have been sent home with your child today explaining about our new Progress Report Updates. We hope you like this new report which is in addition to parents' evenings and the annual report. Please do give us your feedback, as we would like to know that we are responding to your needs. A note in the homework diary would be great – we value your opinion. Thank you!

Christmas Jumper Day – Daisy's Dream

Many thanks to ALL the pupils and parents who supported us with a £1 donation towards our chosen charity for Christmas Jumper Day. In total £146.34 was raised for this very worthy cause. Established in 1996, Daisy's Dream is a professional support service which responds to the needs of children and families affected by life threatening illness or bereavement. THANK YOU.

Mental Health Matters

We are introducing a new feature in our News Updates, with a regular addition from our Educational Psychotherapist which we hope you will find useful.

Here's a tip on giving feedback to children from Philippa Perry's recent book 'The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read (and Your Children Will be Glad That You Did)': It's not helpful to judge a child as bad or good, or indeed to judge them as anything, because it's hard to thrive with the restriction of a label: 'the quiet one', 'the clumsy one', 'the noisy one'...

Human beings change and grow all the time, especially small ones. It is far better to describe what you see and say what you appreciate rather than judge. So say, 'I liked how hard you were concentrating when you did those sums' rather than 'You're great at maths.' Say, 'I am impressed by how much thought you have put into this drawing. I like how the house looks like it's smiling. It makes me feel happy.' Not 'Lovely picture.' Praise effort, describe what you see and feel and encourage your child without judging." (Page 29)

It's an interesting and insightful book which is well worth reading; more quotes will follow!