



Oaklands Junior School

Learning to think - Thinking to learn

NEWS UPDATE 9th October 2020

Harvest Assembly



THANK YOU to ALL our families for the wonderful donations that you gave to Crowthorne Foodbank who desperately need these items. This display created a 'WOW' moment as the children saw the display in the hall, from the safety of their own classrooms. We were treated to some brilliant art with Pointilism fruit & veg in Year 3. In Year 4 the children retold the story of the enormous pumpkin in French 'la citrouille énorme' with the real life giant pumpkin that had been growing next to the red bus. Year 5 entertained us with some wonderful drama and Year 6 showed some very impressive artwork based on their own gardens and the book 'Tom's Midnight Garden'. All in all a wonderful assembly to celebrate harvest with a few prayers and songs shared too.

Now for some very good advice to share with you from one of our pupils ...

Things We Could Do To Help Our Planet This Christmas

Hi my name is Edward and I've got some ideas of how to help our wildlife this Christmas. Firstly, **some wrapping paper has plastic** in so if you want to know how to check then scrunch it up into a tiny ball. If it opens up lots it's plastic but if it stays in a ball it is plastic free.

Secondly, **glitter is plastic** too. However, because of this try not to buy cards with glitter on and also don't buy any wrapping paper with glitter. I admit it is a lot less glamorous but it helps our planet a lot.

Next, I need to tell you that **tinsel is plastic**! Paper chains are a great alternative if you need a plastic free, long decoration.

Just to make life harder, **sellotape is plastic too**! Instead of using sellotape try using string or ribbon to tie up parcels. It may not be as easy but it helps planet earth a lot more. You could also try and use reusable gift bags.

Finally, try and remember to **recycle or reuse** Christmas cards and wrappings that you receive. Try your best to help the environment by doing all of those things above. 😊



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Berkshire Maestros Music Lesson Taster Sessions

Berkshire Maestros would now like to offer as many children as possible the chance to benefit from high quality music lessons. In order to do this we would like to offer lessons with the teachers who are already working at Oaklands Junior School. See link below:

<https://oaklandsjunior-school.org.uk/info/clubs/>

This explains the options available and how to apply for lessons. Fee assistance is available to those who need it. Unfortunately it will not be possible to offer hands on Woodwind or Brass taster sessions at the moment. However the child will have the opportunity to meet the teacher, see the brass and woodwind instruments, decide which interests them and hear it be played.

Wokingham Children's Book Festival October 2020

"We're excited to announce the third annual Wokingham Children's Book Festival will take place online on the weekend of 17 and 18 October. We have some top authors talking about their books, inspirations, illustrations and writing techniques.

We've a diverse programme of authors and illustrators, a great mix of topics and have sessions for a variety of different age ranges from 3 – 12, including Onjali Q. Raúf, Peter Bunzl and Elle McNicoll. There'll be plenty of chances for families to interact with the authors, ask questions, or for the shy bookworms to just say hello!

Did we mention the book festival is also free? All we ask is that budding writers, illustrators or self-confessed bookworms sign-up for the sessions they wish to attend at www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/bookfest

The first 100 attendees signing-up for each session will also get the option of a signed bookplate from the author."

PTA Oaklands Personal Challenge

During Monday's assembly, we shared badges and certificates for all our children who took part in this brilliant fundraising event that was organised by our creative PTA during lockdown. We are very grateful to all our families who supported this, whether this was through their own child's challenge or supporting others with their fundraising. It was fabulous to be able to share this with the whole school and to see the children proudly receive their badges and certificates through Teams in their own classes, with the loudest applause for each and every one.

Our junior children clearly demonstrated awe-inspiring life skills and a sense of community spirit with all these challenges: doing chores every day for a week; cooking 5 evening meals for the family; reading for 1.5 hours every day for a month; building an optical illusion with Lego; drawing a portrait a day; drawing following daily videos; running 20 miles (couch potato to 5k!); most walkovers in a minute (achieving 29!); completing a sports challenge; sewing a lion teddy from scratch; completing a marathon litter pick around Crowthorne (a mile a day) ... which was absolutely amazing! Well done to you ALL!

Oaklands Junior Staff (24 took part!) completing a range of daily fitness activities from walking, running, cycling, step-counting, rowing, canoeing & golfing. Each member of staff set themselves a daily/weekly goal; several combined a range of fitness in more than one category. We are very proud of you all – Well done!