



# Oaklands Junior School

*Learning to think - Thinking to learn*

## NEWS UPDATE 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### **Parents' Evenings**

Thank you to all our parents who attended our 'new' parents' evenings remotely on Teams. It all seemed to go very well from our point of view and teachers were very pleased to see so many of you over the course of three evenings. We hope that you found this to be a good addition to our remote way of working in these times.

Our only sadness was that we couldn't share your children's books with you but as this is very early in the year, the most important concern was to have those conversations with you about how your child has settled back into school and how they are approaching their learning.

If we still need to continue to be socially distant by the time we reach our next parents' evenings, Mrs West and our SLT will be working on a plan for how we can share your child's work with you.

Please remember that you are welcome to send a note into school, phone or email if you would like to speak with your child's teacher at any point during the school year – we will always get back to you, as soon as we can.

### **Children In Need**

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November, we raised £252.85 as part of our non-uniform day for Children in Need. Thank you for all your donations towards this very good cause.

### **Recommended Reads Websites**

During our recent parents' evening, some parents requested book recommendations for their child. The following websites are great for deciding which books to buy:

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/>

<https://www.lovereadings4schools.co.uk/year-groups>

### **Wokingham Borough Council Travel Survey**

Just a reminder that there is still time for parents to fill out our school travel survey to let us know how their journeys to school might have changed recently and what barriers prevent them from walking or cycling to school. The survey closes on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November, the link is below:

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/news-and-consultation/consultation-and-having-your-say/current-consultations/?entryid206=537010>

### **New Staff Member**

We are pleased to welcome a new staff member, Mrs Turkington, who will be joining us as a Learning Support Assistant in Year 4 on Monday.



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### **James Sunderland MP – Christmas Card Competition**

James Sunderland, our local MP, is inviting all local children of primary school age to enter a Christmas Card competition. He will select a winner from each school. From these winners the best five will be selected to use in the print run for his official 2020 Christmas card. One overall winner will be then invited to join him with their parents or guardians for a private lunch of the House of Commons. All the winning entries will be on display in The Lexicon in the run up to Christmas. If you would like to take part the entries should be on white A4 size paper and must be returned to school by Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

### **Remembrance Day**

At 11.00am on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November all the children and staff were able to gather on the playground, in their socially distanced bubbles, to commemorate Remembrance Day. Below is a picture of the poppies on display made by the Year 5 Children.



### **Bracknell Forest Libraries - The Winter Mini Challenge 2020/2021**

The Winter Mini Challenge is a free reading for pleasure programme designed for children between the ages of 4 and 11. This year the Reading Agency will be partnering with 'Knights Of' - children's publishers for the Challenge. They want to champion a diversity of perspectives across children's books and encourage everyone to nominate their own personal reading heroes.

- The Mini Challenge is inclusive of all primary school aged children and all stages of reading development
- It's free to take part - families can sign up by visiting the Winter Mini Challenge website and can access e-books and audio books for free  
[www.wintermini.org.uk](http://www.wintermini.org.uk)
- Children set a personal reading goal at the beginning of their Challenge and receive digital incentives along the way when they log their books on the website to encourage them. There's a digital certificate for everyone who finishes the Challenge.