



# Oaklands Junior School

*Learning to think - Thinking to learn*

## NEWS UPDATE January 2022



RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch is this weekend. Simply count the birds you see in your garden, or in your local park for one hour between 28 and 30 January 2022.

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-teachers/schools-birdwatch/>

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we reach the end of January and reflect on this term, we have very much enjoyed having the whole school back together again, not only for breaks, lunches and assemblies but also to be able to do so much more with our curriculum in the way of support and interventions. When we lock down into separate year groups and rotas, it is all hands on deck with staff covering many extra duties and rotas, leaving little free time for anything other than comfort breaks and lunch. I am very grateful to all my staff for the extra support that has been needed and willingly given, but also very thankful that staff have remained in good health throughout this half term. I have everything crossed that this will continue, as it is only for this reason that we have managed to keep going with the rising number of Covid cases in school.

We are not unique with rising numbers, as we have been made aware that Wokingham hit a record number of 700 across all primary schools this week for pupils/staff; with similar rising numbers experienced nationally. Wokingham and Public Health meet online with schools weekly, sharing the latest government guidance and safety measures, which we regularly pass on to you with Wokingham flyers – we hope you find these useful.

We, as a school, are continuing with all our hygiene/safety measures and although there is no need to wear face masks, we would advise all visitors/parents to continue to wear these in school - staff are also continuing to wear these as a personal choice, as we do have concerns about the rising number of cases in school and we want everyone to reach half-term safely, to be able to enjoy it. Please continue to test your children daily before attending school; staff will also be testing daily.

### **New Staff**

A very warm welcome to two of our newest members of staff who have joined us this term, following successful interviews. Mrs Hannah Winter has joined 4D as a full-time Teaching Assistant and Mr Adam Robinson has joined to provide the extra Learning Support needed, working one-to-one with named children across the school.

*Mrs H. West, Headteacher*



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## Thinking Schools News

Following our application and evidence submitted to be re-accredited as a Thinking School by Thinking Schools @Exeter at the University of Exeter, we have great pleasure in sharing with you that Oaklands Junior School have successfully met the criteria; Thinking School accreditation status has now been awarded for a further 3 years until January 2025. The Reflective Proforma and evidence was considered by Dr Dave Walters, Thinking Schools @Exeter affiliate and assessor.

Our thanks go to Mr Holland for all his hard work in achieving this accreditation and to all our staff for keeping the Thinking Schools approach alive.

## Dates for your diary

Please find below a list of important dates in the school diary for your attention.

- 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> February – Children's Mental Health Week
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> February – Half-term holiday
- 21<sup>st</sup> February – Return to school
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> March: Year 4 Ufton Court trip
- 18<sup>th</sup> March: Red Nose Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> March: Year 3 Butser Ancient Farm trip
- **Parents' Evenings** will be on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March face-to-face in school with an opportunity to see the children's books; an extra date will also be offered as a virtual meeting on Teams if you would prefer – these may be different for each class/year group and further details will follow after half term.

## Lateral Flow Test Kits

Thank you for your support in our recent request that all children have a daily lateral flow test before attending school – **we do need everyone to take part in this for it to be effective**; in this way we can hope to minimise the spread and keep everyone safe. Unfortunately, as a school, we only have enough test kits for staff as we are not supplied with any extra for children, nor can we order any. Secondary schools do give out kits for students, as they are all expected to test twice weekly. We know that this is difficult for some families obtaining test kits, so we hope the information shared below helps you with where local supplies can be picked up.



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## COMMUNITY COLLECT SITES

New opening times



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8am - 2pm One Lexicon	8am - 3pm One Lexicon	8am - 3pm One Lexicon	8am - 3pm One Lexicon	8am - 3pm One Lexicon	8am - 3pm One Lexicon	9.30am - 1pm One Lexicon
		9am - 3pm The Meadows, Sandhurst	9am - 3pm Tesco, Warfield			



TEST



RECORD

Guided testing available at One Lexicon. You can also collect home test kits at your local pharmacy simply get a code from [gov.uk/get-collect-code](https://www.gov.uk/get-collect-code). Home test kits are also available from [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) or by calling 119.

If you have symptoms please book a PCR test at [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) or by calling 119.

These tests are not suitable for travel testing. Visit [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) for travel testing details.

The links below provide useful information on how and where you can obtain supplies of lateral flow test kits within Wokingham and Bracknell Forest, which include both the Lexicon and the Meadows shopping centres.

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/health/public-health-campaigns/covid-19-testing/>

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/news/2021/04/pharmacy-collect-available-home-testing>

### Curriculum Intent, Implementation & Impact

Please see our [website](#) for our newly updated curriculum documents for each subject. These have been created by our subject leaders in consultation with teaching staff. In addition, you will see a Concept Map for each subject which identifies key milestones for the end of Y2, Y4 and Y6, using Bloom's Taxonomy as part of our Thinking Schools approach.

### Helping your Child at Home with Reading & Maths

Please see our [website](#) for short videos about ways you can support your child at home in reading and maths.

### Self-Isolation Work

If your child for any reason needs to self-isolate, then please remember that 8 days' worth of curriculum tasks for English, Maths and Foundation subjects will always be shared with our parent community every term. This is generally updated and sent out to all parents at the beginning of each term. This document contains separate work for each year group so you will need to click on the link for your year group or scroll through – this document is also available to access from our website. There is no need to look for work on Teams at this time.



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## Mental Health Matters



Children's Mental Health Week is taking place on 7<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and this year's theme is 'Growing Together'.

Growing Together is about growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other grow. Challenges and setbacks can help us to grow and adapt; trying new things can help us to move beyond our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential. However, emotional growth is often a gradual process that happens over time, and sometimes we might feel a bit 'stuck'.

Check out [free resources for families](#) on Place2Be's website:

[5 tips](#) to help you think about the different ways we can grow

[Parenting Smart](#) – 43 practical tips to support children's wellbeing and behaviour

[Support Balloon](#) art activity video helps children think about who supports them to grow

[My Changing Shapes](#) art activity video supports young people to look back at their past growth

## Secondary Schools

From time to time the local secondary schools provide us with information on events that are taking place. Any such information can be found on our website using the link below.

<https://oaklandsjunior-school.org.uk/secondary-school-information/>

## Local Community Information / Activities & Events

We have a dedicated page on our website providing information on local activities and events that is updated on a regular basis.

<https://oaklandsjunior-school.org.uk/local-community-information-activities-events/>

**Polling Day 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022** – we were hoping not to close this year, following our petition last year, as an alternative venue was being investigated. However, we have just been notified that yet again, we will be used as a polling station. If you have any strong views about not wanting our school to be used for this purpose, especially when so much education has been lost through Covid, please do make your views known to the Local Electoral Registration Officer at Wokingham; we will also be writing to Wokingham to make our views known once again. Your support would be very much appreciated. [ElectoralServices@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:ElectoralServices@wokingham.gov.uk)



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## Contact Us

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Mrs H West

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Nikki Lenon

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**Chair of Governors**

Charlotte Kieran

**Email**

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### Oaklands Junior School Governing Body

The Governing Body is ambitious for all children and infused with a passion for education and a commitment to continuous school improvement that enables outstanding outcomes. We oversee financial performance, challenge, support, and focus on the strategic direction of Oaklands Junior school.

If you want to raise a concern, please speak with your class teacher in the first instance. We welcome your feedback if you wish to contact the Governors, please email Charlotte Kieran, Chair of Governors.

**Raising a concern,**

[Parents-Carers-and-Visitors-Conduct-Policy-Including-Raising-a-Concern](#)

**Governing Body team,**

<https://oaklandsjunior-school.org.uk/governors/governorprofiles/>