



# NEWSLETTER

March 2018

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## Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

The Spring Term has flown past, complete with snow, rain, wind and the occasional ray of sunshine! There has been much to celebrate. Congratulations to our Year 6 pupils for their success in various 11+ entrance exams. After spending two weeks revisiting some of the schools, they have all made their decision and accepted one of their offers.

Despite the disruption of the 'snow week' a number of children have represented the school in local and regional sports competitions. Well done everyone!

We finally held our World Book Day on Friday 9 March and I was particularly impressed by the range of book characters that visited Oaklands for the day!

In the last two weeks, we have enjoyed informative and entertaining assemblies from Lower Kindergarten, Garden Room, Year 4C and Year 5G and amazing play performances from Year 2S and Year 2C. The confidence and speaking ability of the children in front of an adult audience never ceases to amaze me.

You'll be able to catch up with all the latest events and achievements of the children in this newsletter.

May I wish you all a lovely Easter break and I look forward to welcoming you and your children back to School on Thursday 19 April 2018.

*Sue Belej*

**Sue Belej**

## Garden Room Assembly to Parents



On Friday 16 March the children in the Garden Room presented their assembly to parents. They talked and sang about looking after pets, babies and themselves. They also shared their experience of visiting Mellows Care Home.





# NEWSLETTER

## House Spelling Competition

During the week beginning Monday 5 March, another new inter-house competition was held in KS1 and KS2. All the teachers gave their class a special spelling test and the results were added together to see which House contains the school's champion spellers. The results were as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Beech - 54 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Holly - 49 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Willow - 43 points
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sycamore - 37 points

## Bancroft Netball Rally



We had a busy month of netball this March which consisted of two netball tournaments, the Bancroft's U11 and the ISA North London U11 tournaments. The Bancroft's tournament on Wednesday 7 March consisted of Oaklands playing four matches in their group. Unfortunately, we lost a fantastic defender Annabel, in the first couple of minutes of the first match due to a badly sprained ankle. However, the girls persevered, some

playing positions they had never played before. We unfortunately lost three matches but came close when playing Chigwell B, only losing by one goal. The team were then put into the plate round of their group and came up against Park school which they won 11-7. Next they played against Bancroft's and lost by two goals making Oaklands runners up in the Vase Cup section of the tournament.



## ISA London North U11 Netball

The ISA Netball tournament was an all-day event held at Redbridge Sports Centre. The Oaklands team was slightly different due to injuries and illness, therefore gained two new team members. Thank you to both Estel and Lucy for participating at very short notice. The girls displayed determination, team spirit and some excellent play. They

managed to win the first two matches against Park and St Mary's School with some fantastic shooting by Hannah, Livvy and Emmy. They unfortunately lost the other three matches to very strong teams who ended up in the finals. The girls all played very well and showed real team spirit. Mr Paine was very proud to take such a well behaved team to the tournament.



# NEWSLETTER

## LK World Book Day

Butterflies, Ladybirds and Bumblebees all got dressed up for a fun World Book Day.



## TR World Book Day



Transition celebrated World Book Day by taking part in various activities based on the well-known book 'We're going on a Bear Hunt' written by Michael Rosen and illustrated by Helen Oxenbury. They had a fun-packed morning which included a music session with Mrs Rathbone. Using different musical instruments, the children explored making sounds for each of the settings in the story. The morning also included a story box session. The children acted out the story and found items from 'the cave' that related to the different parts of the tale. They added the items to a story map which supported them in their afternoon activity of creating their own story map of their Bear Hunt adventures. Some children said they wouldn't go on a Bear Hunt again because it was scary; others said they would go on a Bear Hunt again because it was fun!



The activities highlighted to the children that books are really enjoyable and the importance of celebrating World Book Day.

## KS1 & KS2 World Book Day

On Thursday 15 March KS1 & KS2 finally had their World Book Day after it was postponed by the snow. Everyone came dressed as a character from their favourite book. There was a huge range of characters and everyone had a lot of fun trying to spot people from their favourite tale. Lots of special activities and quizzes happened in the classroom and the children shared their favourite books with each other.



Thank you for all your help in raising money for Book Aid International who provide access to books for children around the world.



# NEWSLETTER

## LK Assembly to Parents



Congratulations to all children in Lower Kindergarten for their wonderful performances in their Parents' Assemblies on Friday 9 March. The morning children retold the story of The Three Little Pigs and the afternoon children displayed the listening skills



they have been learning in Music with Mrs Rathbone. Each group then sang a Mothers' Day song and gave their Mummies a card and some flowers. They all did incredibly well to stand up in front of so many parents. Mrs Belej, Mrs Potts and the LK staff were all extremely proud of everyone. **WELL DONE Lower Kindergarten.**

## Transition Mother's Day Fun



On Monday 12 March the Transition children's Mums came in for a morning of art activities. The children had fun drawing and painting a portrait of their Mums and then watching their Mums paint a portrait of them. Look out for their art work in Transition!



## Year 2 Visit St Mary's Church



Year 2 have been learning about Easter, the resurrection and what it means to Christians. They recently went on a visit to St Mary's Church in Loughton to find out more.



The children had a fascinating, interactive talk from Reverend Malcolm MacDonald and everyone received a chocolate egg as an Easter treat!



They then watched a video and did some activities about what they had learnt. At the end of the visit, all the children were treated to a hot cross bun and a drink of juice. **Yum!**



# NEWSLETTER

## Science Week: Quantum Theatre Company

To celebrate British Science Week, Mrs Hembury organised the Quantum Theatre Company to visit the school on Monday 12 March to perform their show called 'The Big Drip.'

The children in KS1 and KS2 thoroughly enjoyed watching this musical comedy which is closely linked to their curriculum topic of Materials. They met Detective T Copper who works at the Missing Materials Bureau. Just as he was closing up the shop, a call came through informing him that "Some of our materials have gone missing." The children helped Detective Copper to find out who could have possibly perpetrated this evil crime. As he followed the clues, the children discovered the answers to a number of specific questions such as "What's so special about the properties of certain materials?" and "Why are there puddles on the carpet?"

During the KS1 version of the performance, the children were shown how the properties of different materials are linked to their uses; the KS2 version extended the children's knowledge further by introducing them to mixtures and compounds and the arrangement of particles in solids, liquids and gases.

**Many thanks to the OPA who kindly covered the cost of the performances.**



## Bancroft's Science Fair



A group of Year 6 children were invited to attend the Science Fair at Bancroft's School on 14 March. Some of the secondary school children at Bancrofts were given the task to set up their own Science stall which had to be informative, interactive and based on different aspects of Science. All schools attending the Fair had the important task of voting for the best Science stall of the day.



The children had the opportunity to visit different labs for activities based around Chemistry, and observed fire and fizz experiments. In the Biology lab, the children participated in a carousel of activities where they explored the organs in a human body, used their senses to guess what is inside a feely box and matching a pair of eyes to a particular animal or insect. They were timed in these activities and had lots of fun. At the end of the day, the children had the opportunity to construct a rocket, which was launched on the school's playground. This was a fun-filled afternoon with loads of opportunities linked to learning, experimenting and making new scientific discoveries. **The children HAD A BLAST!**



# NEWSLETTER

## Year 3 Visit Hadleigh Park



Year 3 experienced a fantastic day at Hadleigh Country Park. They were immersed into the day as soon as they arrived and were sent on an archeological dig to find Roman artefacts. After lunch they entered a Celtic round house and experienced grinding seeds between quern stones in order to make flour. They were also set with the task of identify Roman and Celtic objects. The children thoroughly enjoyed seeing their teachers dress in Celtic warrior clothing and Roman armour and were amazed at the sheer weight that soldiers would carry when in

battle. The day was completed by taking part in many energetic activities including conducting a tortoise formation and working as a team to avoid the paper rocks being flung at them. Everyone had a great day and all the children learnt some interesting facts that will help with their Topic work in school.



## Plastic Assembly

On Wednesday 14 March Year 5 performed an assembly on 'Plastic Pollution in the Oceans'. Having researched the topic for holiday homework, they were outraged by the damage that is being done to the ocean environment. They thought it was important to let the other children know and to share their ideas to reduce plastic pollution. Statistics, photos and storytelling were used as a means to get their message across. It was a very important lesson for us all.



## 4C Assembly to Parents



On Thursday 15 March 4C performed their class assembly. Retelling the story of Moses and the Exodus of the Hebrew slaves, 4C gave a fantastic performance. With singing and drama, music and costumes, the children took the audience on a journey from the plagues in Egypt to climbing Mount Sinai and receiving the Ten Commandments. 4C shared a

Passover meal with the audience and explained the customs of the Seder plate. The pupils had a lovely time both preparing and performing and worked exceptionally well as a team to overcome both snow and a last minute recasting. Well done 4C!



# NEWSLETTER

## Garden Room Visit to Mellows Care Home

The Garden Room were extremely pleased to be asked back to Mellows Care Home in Loughton. The children shared with the residents their workbooks and sang the songs they had recently performed to their parents. It was a great experience for both the children and the residents, who expressed how happy they were to see the children again.



## History Off the Page - Ancient Egyptian Day for Year 4



Year 4 enjoyed their Ancient Egyptian educational journey and learned about life in 14<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Through role-play and drama, pupils experienced life as it would have been in ancient times.

The children used authentic tools and materials to learn skills as apprentices in a wide variety of workshops. They got involved in the issues of the time and participated in a wide range of cross-curricular activities.



With amazing costumes, music, dancing, wonderful story-telling and a banquet at the Royal Court, the children thoroughly enjoyed their interactive Egyptian day.



## Year 4 Egyptian Artefacts

There has been a lot of building work in Year 4 as a huge array of pyramids have started popping up in the classrooms. Year 4 have been creating Egyptian artefacts and researching all about the topic as part of their homework. They have produced an impressive array of models, posters, games and even a cake. Well done for all your hard work!





# NEWSLETTER

## Awards

Since the February newsletter the following children have been presented with either a Merit certificate, a 'Wow' certificate, a Good Behaviour award or a Friendship Card.

Class	Merit	WOW	Good Behaviour	Friendship
1J	Kaazim, Ava, Sienna, Anayah, Anastasia, Gabriella	Whole Class Headteacher's Certificate	Darcey, Riya	Meeah, Rafaella
1R	George, Woody, Nathan, Enzo	Whole Class Headteacher's Certificate	Nael	Sebastian
2C	Tyran, Alexia, Libby, Joah, Olivia, Ethan	Tyran, Bethan	Maisie, Maja	Jeslene, Liberty
2S	Calli, Zavier, Zayna, Holly,	Percy, Sienna	Sienna, Holly	Asya, Jusleen
3L	2 x Whole Class Headteacher's Certificates	Sophia, William	Keira	Sophia
4C	Sydney, Poppy S, Sofia, Summer  2 x Whole Class Headteacher's Certificates	Sydney, Luke	Freya, Maya, Poppy S	Luke, Jeyda
4Z	Gwilym, Cailan, Poppy G, Leo,  2 x Whole Class Headteacher's Certificates	Jayden, Gwilym	Maya, Charlotte	Inaya, Maya
5G	Libby, Lillia, Emmy, Sophia  2 x Whole Class Headteacher's Certificates	Whole Class Headteacher's Certificate	Jake, Amy	Sophia, Francesca
6J	Phoebe, Keatan, Lybah, Bradley  2 x Whole Class Headteacher's Certificates	Maya, Annabel	Maya, Lybah	Hannah, Alice



# NEWSLETTER

## Year 3/4 House Football

On Tuesday 20 March, Year 3 and 4 pupils took part in the House football tournament. It was a wonderful sunny day and the pupils all enjoyed representing their Houses.

The boys had their own tournament on pitch 1 and the girls played on pitch 2.

Mrs Sherrin helped referee the girls matches and Mr Paine was in charge of the boys.

Everyone played their socks off and all games were played in the right spirit which was great to see. Even the teams that weren't playing were cheering on their friends!



### Boys results:

**1st: Holly - 15 points**

2nd: Beech and Willow - 7 points

**3rd: Sycamore - 3 points**

### Girls results:

**1st: Holly and Beech - 13 points**

2nd: Willow and Sycamore - 5 points

## A big thank you to the OPA for a wonderful Easter Disco!

## KS2 Swimming Gala

On Wednesday 21 March all the pupils in KS2 represented their House (Beech, Holly, Sycamore and Willow) at the annual swimming gala held at Loughton Swimming Pool. It was an exciting morning with lots of close finishes, especially the House relay race.

The final House positions were:

**1st: Willow - 117 points**

2nd: Beech - 104 points

**3rd: Sycamore - 95 points**

**4th: Holly - 90 points**

Congratulations to all the pupils for trying their best and supporting each other.

Thank you to those parents who were able to come to watch the event and cheer the children on.



# NEWSLETTER

## 2C Play

2C performed a fantastic play all about The British Isles this month. Alexia and Nell were transported around the country by a magic book and got to see 'The Beatles' perform "Can't Buy Me Love" in the 60's! Next they visited the Isle of Struay and met Katie Morag, followed by a trip to Wales where they saw Wales versus England in a tense game of



rugby. Finally the girls were transported to a St Patrick's Day celebration in Belfast. The children sang beautifully, performed an (extended) version of a Scottish reel and projected their voices with confidence. Not only did the children perform the play but they were also responsible for thinking of the initial idea for the story and writing most of the script.



## 2S Play



Year 2S performed their class play to their parents all about The British Isles this month. They visited England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales and entertained the audience with songs and dances from each country. They were very



knowledgeable and were even able to sing a song in Welsh. Well done everyone!

## Year 4 DT



Year 4 have been making money containers in DT. Some have chosen to make wallets and purses and others money boxes. The children have enjoyed making a prototype out of paper and then cutting out the pattern pieces. They have persevered whilst sewing the pieces together and many of them have even tried out using a sewing machine. They



are all very proud of their creations and some children even used them to take their pocket money to the Young Mariners Base trip!



# NEWSLETTER

## Sports Relief Fund Raising Day

Friday 23 March was a fun-filled, energetic day of sporting activities at school, ranging from treasure hunts for the EYFS children, partner based relay races in KS1 and mammoth cross country laps of the first field by the KS2 children. We will not know exactly how much the children have raised until the beginning of the Summer Term



when all the sponsorship money is brought into school.

The KS2 cross country sponsorship event was also one of the House events of the term. The results were as follows:



**1st: Holly**

**2nd: Beech**

**3rd: Sycamore**

**4th: Willow**



Mr Paine and all the teachers were very impressed with the determination of all the children to complete their physical challenge. **Well done everyone and special congratulations to Holly House!**

## School Council

The first School Council meeting of this half term included the outgoing council reps and the incoming reps. It was a busy meeting but enabled the new children to see how the meetings run. The focus this time was on extra-curricular activities such as House competitions and sports fixtures. Much discussion ensued as a result of the ideas put forward from each class by the reps.

Maya and Livvy, the Year 6 reps, arranged a meeting with Mrs Belej where they discussed the suggestions made. The girls will soon feedback the outcome of their meeting to the rest of the school during a KS1 and 2 assembly.

## School Uniform

When we return after the Easter break, the children will need to wear **summer uniform**. Please check the website for details.



# NEWSLETTER

## House Football Competition

On Friday 16 March, boys and girls from Years 5 and 6 took part in a House football competition. The pitches were in immaculate condition to host the event in which Mrs Sherin and Mr Paine were refereeing. There was some great football played throughout the afternoon.

Each House team played each other with teams gaining 5 points for a win, 3 points for a draw and 1 point for a defeat. Every game was extremely close with 1 goal separating the teams in most matches. However there had to be a winner and here are the final results:



**1<sup>st</sup> Willow and Sycamore  
- 11 points**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Holly - 8 points**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Beech - 3 points**



## Oak-Tree Football Tournament

On Monday 19 March Oaklands School hosted a Year 3/4 Oak-Tree Schools boys football tournament. Coopersale and Normanhurst joined Oaklands to take part in an afternoon of friendly matches on the second field. The persistent snow thawed out in time for the matches to take place. There was some fantastic football being played and Oak-Tree Schools certainly possess some very promising talented individuals who played with great skill, enthusiasm and sportsmanship.



Oaklands School had Sydney, Thiago, Zaid, Kaylan, William and Cailan playing for the team with Leo, Jack and Jayden all representing the school football team for the first time.

Coopersale played Oaklands in the first match and came out on top winning the game 4-0. Coopersale then played Normanhurst in the next match and won

the match 3-0. In the final match of the day Oaklands were up against Normanhurst and narrowly lost the match 2-0.

**1<sup>st</sup> Coopersale**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Normanhurst**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Oaklands**

**Well done to all the boys!**





# NEWSLETTER

## Easter Bunny Day

A huge thank you to the OPA for organising such a lovely event on Friday 23 March. All pupils enjoyed a visit from the Easter Bunny! Classes took it in turns to meet the bunny, sing him a song, find a hidden egg and collect a special sweet gift. The children were all very excited! Happy Easter everyone!



## Happy Easter from Oaklands School!