



June 2018

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## Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

The end of another academic year is quickly approaching us. There are still many exciting events to look forward to including the Summer Fete this Saturday, the Y5/6 production of 'Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits' on 27 June at Lopping Hall, Loughton, our annual Celebration of Year and Prize Giving afternoon on 4 July and the Y6 Leavers Assembly on 10 July.

Some year groups have already enjoyed a school trip. Y5 went to investigate canals at Broxbourne, Y6 climbed the Arcelor Mittal Orbit at Stratford and went on a boat trip to discover more about settlements and Lower Kindergarten have visited Ashlyn's Farm.

It was lovely to see the pupils participating so enthusiastically at Sports Day and in the Dance Display. The Year 1 play performances of 'Honey' just before the half term break were amazing!

You can read more about all these events and many more in this edition of our newsletter.

**Sue Belej**

## Fathers' Day in Transition

As part of Transition's topic on 'Fairy Tales', daddies were invited to come for a reading and storytelling session. They shared their favourite fairy tales and gave their daddies a special cupcake they had made them to celebrate Fathers' Day on Sunday!

**Thank you to all of you who were able to join us for this fun time.**





# NEWSLETTER

## Curriculum Day - Superhero Den Building and Obstacle Course



On Friday 25 May, Garden Room and Transition were quite surprised to have received a letter from the Evil Pea!

The Evil Pea said to Garden Room that he was going to lock them in his smelly vegetable freezer and said that they had nowhere to hide! Garden Room thought differently though, they set to work in the Wild Woods to build dens where they could hide from the Evil Pea. They worked excellently in teams, carrying the construction materials safely into position and made some super dens to hide in. The Evil Pea had no chance of finding them!



The Evil Pea had stolen Transition's toys! It was their job to get the toys back but it wasn't going to be easy for them as the Evil Pea had guarded them with really 'unsafe things' such as a balance beam over fire. Transition had to train hard before completing the obstacle course. They managed to save all their toys and keep safe!



## Perform Drama Workshop

As a part of the Transition Curriculum day, the children took part in the Perform Drama workshop. The children had to train to become a Superhero by completing different physical tasks. They then had to go on a mission to stop the 'Baddy – Party man' from hurting all the rainforests. They had to stop him from leaving rubbish everywhere and leaving lights on. The children enjoyed learning about how to help the environment in a fun and energetic way.



## School Council

School Council representatives attended the School Council meeting on Wednesday 10 May to suggest and discuss ways in which the school could be more environmentally friendly.

Following a meeting of the joint Chairpersons from Year 6 with Mrs Belej, we are hoping to implement a number of ideas in the near future. These include turning all lights off when we leave a room, ensuring all litter is placed in the appropriate bin and sharing any unused fruit at snack time with another class.

# NEWSLETTER

## French Pen Pals

Year 5 pupils have recently written letters to their French pen pals in Paris, the school is called Cours Moliere. Everyone is really looking forward to getting some replies!

We also sent them a little gift from London.

**The French pupils are delighted!**



## LK Ashlyn's Farm

Lower Kindergarten had the much anticipated visit to Ashlyn's Farm this term. The children were really excited to meet the animals and learn interesting facts from farmer Chris. They saw a really old tortoise, meerkats, lizards, beautiful Highland cattle and lots of pigs, including a big one called Rodney! They continued their tour and had the chance to feed some hungry goats. After a long walk around the farm in beautiful sunshine, they finished with a well-deserved picnic lunch together.

**A big thank you to all the Mummies and Daddies that were able to join us.**



## Year 2 Maths Project

Year 2 were given a Maths project to complete over half term. They had to design and create a maths game involving multiplication and/or division facts. They could choose how easy or difficult they wanted to make it, but they had to think of a theme, write the rules and make all the necessary pieces.

There were some fantastic, imaginative ideas and the classes had great fun playing the games with their all their friends.

**Some of the children even commented on how it had helped them learn their times tables!**





# NEWSLETTER

## Year 5 Visit to Lee Valley Park



On Monday 4 June, the Year 5 class visited Lee Valley Park. They joined a canal boat and cruised down the Lee Navigation. During the journey, they learnt about the history of canals and the transport of goods during Victorian times. Two children were lucky enough to dress up in period costume as a bargeman and his wife.



The children were quite horrified that the water from the canal was used for washing, drinking, cooking as well as the toilet! Later, they were excited to see the operation of a canal lock. On the return journey, they enjoyed designing their own canal art using bright colours, traditional roses and castles. After lunch, they walked along the River Lee making comparisons between the meandering river and the straight navigation that they had cruised along in the morning.

They spent time sketching the features and measuring water flow. They even managed to observe a heron catching fish at the side of the river. At the end of the day, all the children had experienced a wonderful time on the river.

## Year 6 Carnival Masks

Year 6 was given the challenge to produce a carnival mask, and the results were fantastic! All of the masks could be worn at carnivals and festivals. Each child had to select and explore appropriate materials, make informed decisions about their designs and successfully construct their masks. Not only did they enjoy this task, they also gained and developed new art skills.



**The children are very proud of the work they produced!**



## 'Be the Teacher' Day in Year 6



What a wonderful two days Year 6 had on the 24 and 25 May, when each child in the class were given the opportunity to be the teacher. Each pupil was challenged to present a 30-minute lesson of their choice. The teachers were given the chance to be pupils for the day and joined in with all the lesson activities.



The pupils presented a variety of lessons that included Art, DT, History, Science, PE, Italian and even magic. Not only was this a fun-filled day, but the children learnt a lot from each other. They even discovered some amazing talents they did not know their friends had. This occasion was a perfect platform for the pupils to present their ideas, speak in front of a group and build on their self-confidence.

**This was truly a delightful learning experience the pupils will never forget.**

## Year 2 Instrumental Concert

On the first week back after half term, Year 2 held their annual music concert held in the School Hall. Everyone played extremely well, conquering the nerves of their first public performance, and delighting the proud mums and dads. We heard recorder, piano, guitar, and violin. It was encouraging to see so many pupils play so well!

**Thank you to all who listen and encourage these young musicians.**





# NEWSLETTER

## Sports Relief & The Wynaud Trust

All children participated in a physical activity on the school field last term. It was a great day and a lot of money was raised for some great charities.

Thank you for all the sponsor money, in total, £3196.50 was raised and shared between Sports Relief and our international Charity - The Wynaud Trust.



Wynaud Trust



## Car Park Building Project

The wasteland at the bottom of our second field will become a car park and dropping-off/picking-up area, with independent access from Warren Hill. Staff and parents will be able to park and drop off whilst



on our own site. A new track along the bottom of our main field will be installed, with low level lighting, to link the car park and pathway leading to our bottom gate.



One of our caretaking team will be on duty in the area at the start of each day to ensure that children make their way safely through the site to the building.

Work has already started on this project, with all the land now cleared and flattened out. We look forward to making use of this new space in the near future.

## Road Safety Workshop

On Tuesday 5 June, Year 5 children participated in an interesting workshop on road safety. A video clip was shown to illustrate the risks on the road and they explored pedestrian, cycling and passenger behaviour. The children identified the dangers and made suggestions on how to avoid them. A list of good road safety habits was then created. Many children also enthusiastically shared their own experiences with their peers.

Following this, the children were taken off the school premises and taken on a short walk where suitable crossing places were discussed, as well as the dangers of parked cars and driveways. Interestingly, Albion Hill had several dangers for the children to discuss! This was a worthwhile workshop used to remind children to keep themselves safe.

# NEWSLETTER

## Dance Display

The annual whole school Dance Display was held on Tuesday 12 June in the school grounds, with a huge crowd of friends and family coming to watch.

All pupils got involved with the display, from Year 6 all the way down to Lower Kindergarten. They performed a range of acts complete with impressive costumes. Garden Room showed us some energetic hopping with their 'Tiggers' dance, Lower Kindergarten went to the 'Animal Fair' and Transition turned into colourful 'Trolls'. Year 4 put on a great dance to 'The A Team', and the Year 5 and 6 girls impressed the audience with their 'Blood on the Dance Floor' routine. There were also many other great acts!

What a great afternoon. Well done to all the children and a big thank you to everyone involved!



The Lifeboat collection is in the school office until 22 June. Thank you for supporting the Lifeboats.



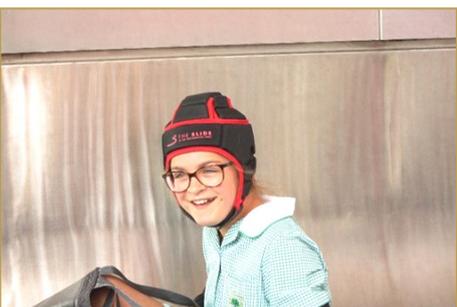


# NEWSLETTER

## ArcelorMittal Orbit Trip

On Thursday 7 June, the Year 6 children went to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in Stratford. They enjoyed the breath-taking views from the 80m high viewing platforms of the ArcelorMittal Orbit sculpture and challenged their classmates to a 40 second descent down the world's tallest, longest and fastest tunnel slide. This was by far the highlight of the day.

They got up close to London's landmarks with innovative and interactive touchscreens that allowed them to zoom into the view and learn more about the city. The children also identified a variety of landmarks and services linked to their History topic called 'Settlements'. The pupils learned how the area was transformed to host the London 2012 Olympic Games and what the future holds for this amazing park. In the afternoon, they went on a river boat cruise down the beautiful waterways, spotting the London Stadium, the Aquatics Centre, the Copper Box Arena and the Lee Valley VeloPark.



**This wonderful experience was definitely both educational and entertaining.**



# NEWSLETTER

## Year 6 Crucial Crew



On the Thursday 14 June Year 6 pupils attended the annual Crucial Crew day at Debden House in Loughton. The morning was filled with exciting workshops and the children learnt a great deal during these sessions that will help in their preparation towards starting secondary school in September. Some topics that were addressed were related to fire safety and how to prevent fires. They were tested on their road safety knowledge and took part in practical examples on how to look for blind spots and where to cross the road safely.

Serious issues regarding social media and internet safety were addressed, as well as the dangers linked to online chat rooms, drugs, alcohol and gangs. Finally, they were taught how to identify good and bad relationships and were advised on ways to deal with social matters that may arise in the future. The pupils had a wonderful time and were very excited on the way back to school.



## Year 5 Taster Day at Brentwood School

On 15 June, Year 5 had the opportunity to attend a Taster Day at Brentwood School. Pupils were bowled over by the sheer size and ample facilities that the School have to offer, but what made the biggest impression on them all were the pupils they met. They were so polite and helpful, even just walking around the school with their friends, they definitely set the bar high.

After hearing lots of interesting information about the school from the Headmaster, pupils then took part in a philosophy lesson about the meaning of 'freedom' followed by a Design Technology session during which they melted plastic to construct plastic boxes.

A memorable highlight was definitely the lunch! There was a world of choices from the myriad of different cuisines at each counter. Everyone left feeling well and truly satisfied and perhaps a few pounds heavier!



## Wednesday 4 July

### EYFS Celebration of the Year - 2pm

### Years 1 - 6 Prize Giving - 4pm



# NEWSLETTER

## Sports Day

Friday 8 May saw the annual sports day arrive at Oaklands School. The weather was absolutely glorious and it made for a fantastic day of entertainment. The children had been practising really hard over the last few weeks to make sure they were prepared going into the day's activities. The grass was freshly cut and the lines for the running track were newly painted ready for the event to take place.

Firstly, the Key Stage 1 pupils took part in running races, hurdle races and an obstacle course race. There were some really close races during the heats and congratulations to everyone who took part.

The second half of the morning saw our younger pupils take part in their races. They also took part in running races, an obstacle course race and an egg and spoon race. They all did fantastically well with a few parents and members of staff helping the little ones over the line.

After a much needed lunch break for all the staff and pupils involved, it was the turn of Key Stage 2 children to wrap up the day's festivities. They took part in the same races with a few different pieces of equipment to navigate. There were again some very close calls for our judges to make and everyone competed in the right spirit. Pupils were then organised for their house relay races. Everyone gave it their all and finished the day on a high with some fantastic running displays.

**All the children can be so proud of their efforts as the staff and parents at Oaklands undoubtedly are.**



### KS1 House results:

- 1st - Beech 125
- 2nd - Willow 119
- 3rd - Holly 91
- 4th - Sycamore 83

### KS2 House results

- 1st - Holly 181
- 2nd - Beech 173
- 3rd - Willow 152
- 4th - Sycamore 148