

## Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

It's been a wonderful two weeks at Oakridge with so much exciting learning going on and I take great pride in the recognition in the strength of our staff team from a range of visitors including our CEO Mrs Zanelli, an external consultant and our Nurture award assessor on which you'll read more of later in this newsletter.

As always though, it is our children who have been the real stars of the show. I've loved hearing their enthusiasm in writing lessons with Acorn Class writing animal poems; Oak Class writing informative, yet also really engaging, reports on refugees; and our nursery children getting in on the action with some fabulous helicopter stories.

I wish you all an enjoyable half-term break and look forward to hitting the ground running in a week's time.

## Community Library

In the foyer of the school we have a selection of books for adults.

We ask that you leave a book when you take a book.

We have had some lovely books added to the collection, please pop in and take a look.

The library will be accessible during school hours. Please feel free to access this.

## Acorn Class

We are reading: Our focus in English this fortnight is based on a video called Don't Go. A cartoon alien is being chased by a cat, and we need to write instructions for the alien to avoid being caught!

Ask me about EYFS: Mass/Weight

Year 1 and 2 ask me about: Ramadan

We have been learning Baa Baa Black Sheep in our foundations for the love of reading. We have made some black sheep, made some sheep using corks to stamp the fleece in a field, then made some rainbow sheep wrapped in wool, while singing our rhyme.



Thank you for the continued support of our PTFA in purchasing a selection of books that are to help promote the early love of reading.



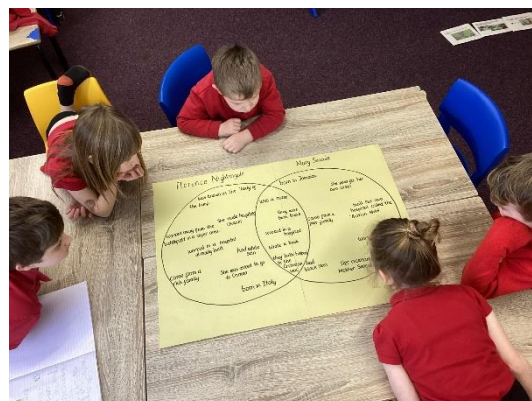
We have enjoyed sharing books at the end of the day. We vote for the book we would like to be read, and some of our children have recently started reading to the class.



In Art, we have been looking at Yayoi Kusama and exploring collage with different colours and textures.



In History, we have been looking at the similarities and differences between Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole, and putting our ideas into a Venn diagram.



## Nurture Award

We are delighted to announce that the school has achieved the National Nurturing Schools Award. The award recognises all of the hard work the staff team have put into embedding the 6 principles of nurture into school life. Here are some quotes from the report:

"The commitment from staff was one of the principal takeaways from the assessment day and evident in the application."

The school "is committed to ensuring each child is able to thrive in their own way."

"Modelling and normalising talking about emotions is a key approach in school."

"Calm, positive atmosphere that is loving, caring and nurturing."

Thank you to all of the support you have shown particularly those parents who gave up time on the day to speak to the assessor.



**National Nurturing  
School Award  
2025**

## Bread and Butter Thing

We are so excited to for the start of the Bread and Butter Thing food club project on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Any member of the community will be able to purchase a bag of food worth £40 for just £8.

I know our staff are super excited to grab themselves a bargain.

We are still looking for volunteers to support with this project. If you have a couple of hours to spare on the odd Friday, we would love to hear from you.

## Easter Service

Please share our Easter Service with friends and family. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Oak Class

We are reading: The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q Rauf.

The story introduces our pupils to Ahmet - a Syrian refugee - and his friends' struggle to make sense of the world.

Ask y5/6 about how horses have evolved over millions of years

Ask y3/ about sound and how we hear things

In history, ask us about life in the Celtic Iron Age.

## Orienteering

You may have followed Oak class's orienteering progression this term. From starting off in the school hall,



to the playground





and then the full school grounds,



this morning, the children left the site and headed off down the back lane applying their map-reading skills in an exciting intra-school competition.



## Lunch Menu

**We have a new menu for Spring/Summer Term. Please find a copy of the menu attached to the email.**

The lunch menu for the next two weeks is listed below. You will be notified of any changes via class dojo.

The children also have the option of Jacket Potato with Tuna, Cheese and Baked Beans.

Monday – Italian Pasta Bake

Tuesday – Minced Beef Loaded Wedges

Wednesday – Sausage and Mash

Thursday – Chicken Korma

Friday – Fish Fingers

Monday – Pizza

Tuesday – Pasta Bolognese

Wednesday – Chicken and Tomato Bake

Thursday – All Day Breakfast

Friday – World Book Day Lunch



If your child would like to have the World Book Day Lunch please inform the school office.

## News from the PTFA

Save the date.....



We are kindly asking for donations for the Easter Bingo and raffle. If you could hand these in to the school office.

Please can all Christmas jumpers/tops be returned to school this week.

## Attendance

Good attendance is linked to success in all aspects of school life.

This week, our attendance has been

**99%**

This is above our target of 96%.

## Celebration Assembly

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 3.10pm

Join us to celebrate all of the fantastic work the children have been doing and particularly these children who have excelled over the past fortnight:

**Stars of the Week: Maisie and Deacon**

**Special Award: Blake and Isabella**

**Mr Russell's Behaviour for Learning Award: Bella**

## Dates for the Diary

### **February 2025**

Mon 17<sup>th</sup> – Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Half Term

### **March 2025**

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> - EYFS Stay and Play 9:15am-10:45am

Tues 4<sup>th</sup> – Hockey Coaching Year 3 and 4

Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Family Reading Carousel 1:30pm-3:30pm

Tues 11<sup>th</sup> – Quick Sticks Hockey Tournament Year 3 and 4

Tues 18<sup>th</sup> – Straws Cup Football 4pm-6pm

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Staff Training Day

### **April 2025**

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> – Stingers Netball Year 5 and 6

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> – PTFA Easter Bingo Refreshments from 4.30pm Eyes Down 5pm

Weds 2<sup>nd</sup> – Easter Service at St Hilda's Church 2pm

Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Last day of Spring Term

Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> First day of Summer Term

### **May 2025**

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> – Bank Holiday

Fri 9<sup>th</sup> – Family Mental Health Awareness 1:30pm-3:30pm

Mon 12<sup>th</sup> SATS Week

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Half Term

### **June 2025**

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> - Year 4 Multiplication Check Week

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 Phonics Screening Test

Weds 25<sup>th</sup> – Class Photographs

### **July 2025**

Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Last day of Summer Term