

Newsletter



Issue 8

www.oakwoodschool.org.uk

25 January 2019

FROM THE HEADMASTER'S DESK

Dear Parents

I have been focusing my thoughts on this term's CD topic 'Order' and why it is important that children establish good, orderly routines that they can follow throughout the term.

'To put the world in order, we must first put the nation in order; to put the nation in order, we must put the family in order; to put the family in order, we must cultivate our personal life; and to cultivate our personal life, we must first set our hearts right.'

This quote from Confucius, the ancient Chinese philosopher, sums up the significance of the virtue of order for each one of us in our personal lives.

A dictionary gives the following phrases to help us understand this virtue better: systematic arrangement, method or system, correct procedure, harmonious arrangement. The opposite will therefore paint pictures of chaos, disarray, confusion, the unexpected.

Parents sometimes think that they have little chance of teaching their children to be orderly, because they feel they are disorganised themselves. This, however, is not so. In practice we educate our children most effectively in areas where we ourselves are attempting to improve or where we have to try hard to reach certain goals. Good example is very useful provided children understand why we insist so much and provided our insistence makes sense to them. An orderly atmosphere in the house is very important to children and creates a harmonious space that gives you peace of mind, organising our time and putting things in their proper place means that they can be used properly. What would happen if doctors and firemen misplaced tools that they need to save lives?

Order for its own sake is hard to justify, therefore parents must work out, at the outset, why they want order and what standard they would find acceptable. Orderliness as a habit should be made meaningful so that as children grow older they learn to practice it in their own way.

Finally, I am looking forward to the trials for the Verse Speaking Competition that will start next week. I wish all the children the best of luck!

Ciro Candia - Headmaster

VERSE SPEAKING COMPETITION & INFANT POETRY ASSEMBLY

A reminder about our annual Verse Speaking Competition on **Tuesday 12 February at 7pm** for all pupils in Years 3-6.

We are delighted that Mrs Mairéad Jewell, Assistant Head at The Laurels School, will be the adjudicator.

Please note that the evening has not proven to be a suitable event for younger siblings or babies (experience has shown that they quickly become bored and begin to distract those performing) therefore children below junior age should preferably be left at home. If you require a babysitter, please contact Mrs Askew as she will be able to make some suggestions.

Please note that in the interest of health and safety, the car park will be closed to parents (except those who may be bringing elderly or disabled grandparents). So please leave enough time to park in the side roads.

The assemblies for non-finalists will be held at **8.50am** on **Tuesday 5 February** (Years 5 & 6) and **Thursday 7 February** (Years 3 & 4). A poetry assembly will be held on **Friday 15 February at 8.50am**, when all the Year 1 & 2 children will be able to recite an individual poem. Reception will also perform a class poem. All parents are welcome.

MERIT BADGE WINNERS FOR LAST TWO WEEKS



Year 1 - Isabella Gyimah & Rocio Millan
Year 2 - Jose Pellegrini Perez & Isaac Schofield
Year 3 - Juan-Pablo Munoz-Garayoa & Sofia Abraham
Year 4 - Bryn Dancy & Francesca Schofield
Year 5 - Louise Mawer & Malya Patel
Year 6 - Fatima Martinez-Echevarria & Olohirere Eboime

CONGRATULATIONS!

DEPUTY HEAD'S CORNER

Last term, just before we broke up for the Christmas holidays, I organised our Oakwood Projects exhibition. Thank you to all the pupils for their fantastic efforts in creating their projects and bringing them along to exhibit. I would also like to thank the parents that supported their children and those that came along to view them. All the classes were given the opportunity to look at them and thoroughly enjoyed doing so.

This Spring term has begun with all classes beginning new topic areas across a range of subjects and having spoken to many of your children, there is a lot of enthusiasm towards what is going to be explored. I know, also, that a few classes have begun their preparation for their class assemblies. Please look out for the dates for these. It would be great to see as many parents as possible attend.

A quick word on Maths: Please take the time to discuss new topic areas with your children so that you are able to support them, if and when needed, at home. Please also continue to look for opportunities to explore Maths outside of the classroom environment.

Finally, the Spring term Curriculum Maps have now been updated on the Oakwood website. Take a look at these if you wish to know all the details of the curriculum topics and areas being explored this term. Should you have any questions then please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher.

Best wishes

Aaron Murphy
Deputy Head (Academic)

SEVERE WEATHER

Please ensure that you are aware of our Severe Weather protocol which is on the school website (www.oakwoodschool.org.uk) under the 'Parents area'.

We have been experiencing some really cold weather so please ensure that the children come to school with their school coat, scarf, hat & gloves. They may be warm in the car on the way to school but they still need these items for outdoor breaks.

CHARACTER STARS FOR LAST WEEK



Year 1 – Dylan Toop
Year 2 – Dexter Baster
Year 3 – Amelia Toop
Year 4 – Aidan Tsang
Year 5 – Ashley Bissoondoyal
Year 6 – Carlos Torre

CONGRATULATIONS CHILDREN

SAVE THE DATES

MONDAY 28 JANUARY

Verse Speaking trials week

U9 boys tag rugby and girls hockey vs Warlingham Park (away) – 2.30pm

TUESDAY 29 JANUARY

Talk & Tour Day – 9am

WEDNESDAY 30 JANUARY

U11 rugby vs Eaton House (away) – 2pm

THURSDAY 31 JANUARY

Year 3 & 4 trip to Dulwich Picture Gallery

FRIDAY 1 FEBRUARY

Coffee morning for parents from 8.30am

SATURDAY 2 FEBRUARY

Family Development Foundation (FDF) event – 6.30pm

TUESDAY 5 FEBRUARY

Safer Internet Day

Verse speaking assembly (Year 5 & 6 non-finalists) – 8.50am

THURSDAY 7 FEBRUARY

Verse speaking assembly (Year 3 & 4 non-finalists) – 8.50am

FRIDAY 8 FEBRUARY

Ladies meditation – 8.50am

Year 2 class assembly – 3.10pm

MONDAY 11 FEBRUARY

Poetry week begins

TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY

Verse Speaking Competition for Years 3-6 (7pm)

WEDNESDAY 13 FEBRUARY

U11 girls football vs St David's (away) – 2pm

Croydon League netball match vs St Aidan's (away) – 3.30pm return to OW at approx 4.30pm

THURSDAY 14 FEBRUARY

TfL talk for Year 6 – 9am

Art Workshop at The Cedars for selected Year 5 pupils (2.30-4pm) – details TBC

FRIDAY 15 FEBRUARY

Infant Poetry Assembly – 8.50am

Chinese Show – details TBC

School closes for half-term (returning on Mon 25/2)

SCHOOL TRIPS & VISITORS

On **Thursday 31 January** Year 3 & 4 will be visiting the Dulwich Picture Gallery. This visit forms part of their art topic 'Identity' where they will look at work by George Bellows.

A representative from Transport for London will be visiting the Year 6 children on **Thursday 14 February** to talk about staying safe on the roads and being responsible when using public transport. This is particularly to help them prepare for their transfer to secondary school in September.

Selected Year 5 children will be attending an Art Workshop at The Cedars School in the afternoon of **Thursday 14 February**. Mrs Easthope will send more details shortly.

TALK AND TOUR DAY

Our next 'Talk & Tour Day' has been rescheduled to **Tuesday 29 January** at **9am**. If any of your relatives or friends are looking for school places then please do encourage them to contact us to come and have a look at the school.

COFFEE MORNING FOR PARENTS

There will be a coffee morning for parents on **Friday 1 February, 8.30am** in the Art Room. All parents are welcome.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

The Year 2 class assembly will be held on **Friday 8 February** at **3.10pm**. All parents are welcome.

LADIES MEDITATION

The next meditation with Fr George will be held at 8.50am on **Friday 8 February**. The topic for this meditation is St Josemaria - "May you seek Christ, may you find Christ, may you love Christ." All mums, aunties & grannies are welcome.

SPRING BULBS by Mrs Easthope

For those children who bought a daffodil bulb and are participating in this competition, please note that our judging day will be announced shortly. In the meantime remember to check your bulbs and keep in mind the following:

- Make sure they are not too wet or too dry, particularly now that it is frosty (a waterlogged bulb can easily freeze in its pot).
- They should now be sprouting green shoots and need to be taken out of the dark.
- Keep bulbs as cool as possible, as this will slow the flowering down.
- Make sure all pots are clearly labeled with your name.
- Even bulbs that are past their best will be judged, so you may like to **take some photographs** of the flowers when they are in full bloom.

PUNCTUALITY CUP

Well done to Year 2 who are the winners of the punctuality cup. The statistics are based on 12 school days (8 – 23 January). Punctuality statistics for the classes are as follows:

Reception – 11.43	Year 4 – 11.41
Year 1 – 11.73	Year 5 – 11.63
Year 2 – 11.94	Year 6 – 11.39
Year 3 – 11.73	



YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP

A reminder for those Year 6 parents who have not yet paid their £100 deposit for the trip to Marchants Hill in the Summer term. Please note that this payment needs to be made by **Monday 4 February** (by cheque or bank transfer. Details were provided in an email from Mrs Askew.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH by Mrs Easthope

All children from Reception to Year 6 are invited to participate in the 'Artist of the Month' award with some of the artwork displayed around the school. The theme for February is to draw a picture of a cat trying to capture the texture of the fur. All work should be handed directly to me.



SAFER INTERNET DAY by Mrs Teague

Safer Internet Day 2019 will be celebrated globally on **Tuesday 5 February** with the slogan "Together for a better internet". The idea is to find ways to use technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively.

At Oakwood this topic will be discussed at an assembly and children throughout the school will be given a variety of activities to support their learning.

Adults, children and young people can help to create a better internet by being kind and respectful to others online, by protecting their online reputations (and those of others), and by seeking out positive opportunities to create, engage and share online. They can help to respond to the negative by being 'helpful bystanders': supporting peers if they encounter issues online, taking a stand against cyber bullying, and reporting any inappropriate or illegal content they find. Above all, children and young people should be encouraged to take their stand as digital citizens of the future – participating in debates on the future of the internet, and making their voices heard.

PIED PIPER VISIT by Mrs Parker

The Pied Piper Theatre Company visited Oakwood once again to perform 'The Enormous Present' which the children in the Early Years & Infants found extremely entertaining. The actors made the children laugh, sang songs and encouraged audience participation. As has happened in the past the actors told me at the end of the afternoon how much they enjoy performing at our school as the children are always so well behaved. Well done to all.

YEAR 2 PIZZA EXPRESS VISIT

by Mrs Chloe Clarke

On Thursday we went to Pizza Express and learnt how to make the queen of all pizzas, the Margherita. We first rolled the dough to make it the size of a pan. Then we had to get rid of the excess flour by tossing it in the air. Afterwards we put it in the pan, covered it in tomato sauce and added our delicious mozzarella cheese. While it was cooking, we spoke about the different ingredients that go into making the dough. Surprisingly, our pizzas only took 4 minutes to cook in the oven. We were so excited to take our pizzas home to show our families.



FAMILY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (FDF)

We would like to bring to your attention an event that is being run by the FDF which organises parental courses around the world. Following a case study method, parents are given the opportunity to learn about their children's stages of development and to develop skills that will help them to be successful in family life. If you would like to find out more, come along to the first event taking place on **Saturday 2 February at 6.30pm** at Oakwood School.

Alternatively contact Silvia Munoz-Garayoa at s_garayoa@hotmail.com.

EARLY YEARS AWARDS FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS



Reception:

Peyton Lewis for saying please and thank you very often in class
Chiara-Luce Cumbers for excellent progress in her reading

Nursery:

Star
Maya Okamoto for being helpful

Lunch

James Barajas Munoz

WELL DONE CHILDREN!

EARLY YEARS NEWS

Reception by Mrs Parker

Reception have been zooming off to Outer Space and learning about the planets as they pass them. So far they have learned about gravity and what it is like to live on a space station where there is no one! We have a space station in class which has been very popular, and there is never a shortage of astronauts willing to head off to new horizons.

A huge thanks to all the parents for supporting us with how to organise the children's hats, scarves and gloves when they take them off. Doing the same thing at home and school has really helped them. A gold star to you all!



Nursery by Mrs Lobo

We are all enjoying learning about the farm and have made matching pictures with mothers and their young, which have helped to develop our pencil control skills. Our handprint chickens with chicks and pig pictures were made using the computer. Please come into our classroom to see your child's lovely work.

We all enjoyed the Pied Piper theatre visit on Thursday of this week. Thank you to all the actors who put on a wonderful performance!

