

*'Be the best
you can be.'*



Issue No 02

Kindness

Confidence

Resilience

Message from Mrs Welbourne

Dear Families,

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term break. It's been wonderful to welcome the children back to school; they have settled in quickly, excited to reunite with friends and ready to dive into new learning. Stay tuned on the Tapestry app to see what they get up to! This half term, we've launched an exciting new learning theme: **"Illuminate and Celebrate"** which is all about celebrating differences. The children will be exploring a variety of topics, including culture, religion, celebrations, families, and appearances, to help them understand and appreciate what makes each of us unique. At Oakley School, we believe that celebrating our individuality is something to be proud of, and we are looking forward to dedicating a special week next week to further explore these themes with the children. Please take the time to read more about upcoming events linked to this learning, in the rest of the newsletter.

A key focus this term is our new **Values and Expectations**, which we've introduced across the school. We believe these values will guide us in fostering a positive, respectful environment where kindness and respect for others are at the heart of everything we do. Later in the newsletter, you can read more about our Values and Expectations, and how we're working together to embed these into our daily school life.

This week, we've been taking part in **National Anti-Bullying Week**. We marked the occasion with **Odd Socks Day**, where children and staff wore odd socks to show that we celebrate our differences. The theme of this year's Anti-Bullying Week is **"Choose Respect"**, and it ties in beautifully with our school's Values and Expectations. It has provided a perfect opportunity to reflect on the importance of respecting one another, embracing our differences, and being kind to those around us.

We are very much looking forward to the opportunities for learning that this half term will bring and the exciting events on the lead up to Christmas. Please do take time to make a note of dates and times shared in this newsletter and we look forward to celebrating many wonderful moments with you this half term.

Best wishes to you all,

Mrs Welbourne
Assistant Headteacher



New learning theme 'Illuminate and celebrate'

As previously mentioned, Reception's Learning Theme for this half term is '**Illuminate and Celebrate**'. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the diversity of our cohort in terms of culture, religion, spoken languages, appearances and much more.

As you may have seen on Tapestry and your MCaS app, we are inviting children to bring in items, photographs, or outfits that represent something their family celebrates.

This could be related to religion, culture, or even a personal family tradition that holds meaning for you. It's a wonderful opportunity for students to share and learn from each other about what makes our world and our families unique, whilst also encouraging children to demonstrate our school values of confidence and respect.

Here are some ideas for what your child might bring:

- A family photo or a picture from a special celebration
- An item or artifact tied to a cultural or religious tradition
- A favourite family recipe or a description of a family holiday
- An outfit or accessory worn for a special occasion

Please send the item(s) with your child on **Monday 18th November**. We will set aside time each day to share and discuss the items in class and return the items on Friday 22nd November.

Phonics and Early Reading Meeting

It was wonderful to see so many family members at our Phonics and Early Reading Meeting last week. As we discussed, Reading is a huge priority at Oakley School and we are determined and passionate about supporting children to become fluent and passionate readers. You can find all the videos and further support on the Parent Area of the Little Wandle Website—[Little Wandle – support for parents](#)



We are excited to see the progress the children make over the coming term.

Remembrance

On Monday 11th November we commemorated Remembrance Day with two minutes' silence at 11.00am. The children showed impeccable respect whilst watching a very poignant video of a bunny through the poppy fields. If you wish to rewatch together as a family at home please [click here](#).



Throughout the day children then participated in a range of activities to help them further understand this important date. They listened to a beautiful book entitled '**Alive with Poppies**' by Tomos Roberts and created their own poppy which was put together to make a class wreath. If you would like to make a donation to the Poppy Appeal, please visit the school office to do so.



School Values and Expectations



We are delighted to launch our Values and Expectations this half term, which have been carefully considered by staff and our Year 7 and 8 pupils. We believe these Values and Expectations to encompass all the things that sit at the heart of a successful school, community and individual. Our expectations, known as the Three Rs, *Respectful*, *Ready to Learn* and *Responsible*, ensure all our pupils feel safe and understand what is expected of them, their peers and the adults around them. This ensures children are accountable for their actions within a restorative and supportive environment where we learn from each other. Similarly, our values, *Kindness*, *Confidence* and *Resilience*, ensure children strive to **be the best they can be!**

To support our younger children in gaining better understanding of what they all mean, we have developed some stickers that will be awarded to children when they display any of the six areas. If your child comes home proudly showcasing one of these stickers on their uniform, please chat with them about why they received it and celebrate their achievements!

Our Phase and Class Assemblies will focus on further understanding these areas, our Celebration Assemblies awards 2 children each week for displaying them, and we will have a focus Value and Expectation each half term. As we are now into the second half of Autumn Term we are focussing on both being **Respectful** and having **Confidence**.

We look forward to sharing more about how we promote these Values and Expectations throughout the year.

School Houses and Achievement Points

Children in Reception have now been placed into one of our school Houses and you can view your child's house on their profile on the MCaS app. The Houses, *Admiral*, *Peacock* and *Meadow* were chosen by staff and last year's Year 7, as they are some of the most common butterflies found in our beautiful Oakley Woods. All children across the school are placed into Houses and will partake in activities and events with their House throughout the course of the year. More information will follow in due course.



Friends of Oakley School (FoOS)



Our very passionate Parent/Teacher Association named Friends of Oakley School (or the 'FoOS') are already very busy behind the scenes preparing for upcoming fundraising events on the lead up to Christmas.

Please see below for upcoming dates for you and your children to enjoy.

Thursday 21st November 6pm / 30th Nov 3pm – Wreath Making Workshop (adults only)

Thursday 12th December – Cosy Jumper Day (Christmas Jumpers) and Bake Sale

Tuesday 17th December AM– Breakfast with Santa (plus gift)

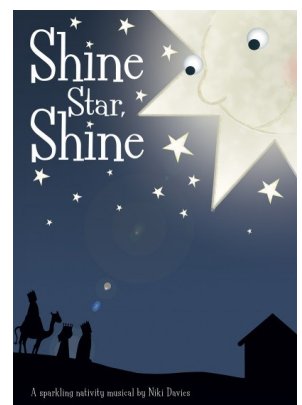
Please keep an eye on social media and school website for the flyers for events. The Wreath Making Workshop flyer is at the end of this newsletter.

If you are able to support the FoOS in anyway, they would be incredibly grateful for extra support. Please speak with Mrs Welbourne if you would like more information, or email the Chair, Justyna, directly foos.chair@gmail.com

Reception Christmas Show

One of our favourite parts of the year is putting together our Christmas Show. This year Reception will be performing a show called **Shine Star, Shine, on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 9:15** in the Primary Hall. **We have space to accommodate up to 4 family members per child. We will send home 4 tickets.** If you are not planning to use some of these tickets, please return to the school office so we can be sure of numbers.

You will receive a copy of the lyrics and possibly some words for your child to practice at home in preparation for this. You will also receive a letter outlining what costume your child will need. Please can we take this opportunity to signpost places such as Vinted, Facebook Marketplace and local charity shops, where these sorts of costumes are often sold at highly discounted prices. If you have any problems with sourcing a costume, please do not worry. Please email the school office and we can support.



Celebration Assemblies

It has been wonderful to hold our first couple of Celebration Assemblies over the last two weeks. This is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate all the hard work and dedication our pupils have shown in either their work or in demonstrating our school Values and Expectations. Each week four children will be chosen from each class to receive either an Achievement Award or a Values and Expectations Award. If your child has been chosen to receive a certificate in Thursday's assembly, you will receive an invitation to join the assembly by Monday afternoon of the same week. We look forward to celebrating with you.



What a wonderful donation!

We are absolutely delighted to announce that following last month's Author Visit, the Stratford Literary Festival have kindly donated over £100 worth of brand new

books to our new

Primary Library. These books include titles from new and award winning authors, with important messages around kindness, diversity and inclusivity. We are extremely excited to get reading! Stay tuned for some Book Reviews coming soon...



Upcoming Dates for your Diary

Wb 18th November —Show and Tell: Children to bring items to share as part of learning about Celebrations and Festivals

Monday 2nd December—flu vaccinations—please ensure you have completed consent forms if you wish your child to receive the immunisation.

Tuesday 10th December 9:15 - Oakley Christmas Performance of 'Shine Star, Shine!' Refreshments will be served by the FoOS (cash + card accepted)

Thursday 21st Nov 6pm / Saturday 30th Nov 3pm – Wreath Making Workshop (adults only– FoOS event)

Thursday 12th December – **Cosy Jumper Day (Christmas Jumpers) and Bake Sale-** FoOs Event—keep checking social media and website for flyer)

Tuesday 17th December AM– Breakfast with Santa (FoOs Event—keep checking social media and website for flyer)

Thursday 19th December—Christmas Theatre Trip, Mill Arts Centre (see letter and payment info on MCaS App)

Friday 20th December—Term ends at 1pm



Reception 2025 Applications

The window is now open for parents and carers to apply for school places for Reception 2025. Applications must be made by 4pm on 15th January 2025 and should be done online via:

[Warwickshire Admissions](#)

Please ensure that your application is on time as late applications will not be included in the first round of offers made in April.

May we remind you and family and friends that we are hosting Open Evening and Open Mornings over the next month. Details can be found on the website or by contacting the school office.

Play at Lunchtime

It has been joyous to see the fun, collaboration and experimentation that has taken place during Lunchtime play since the start of the new half term. As a result of all the wonderful donations we received, plus some very kindly gifted items from Mrs Kaye and School Fund, children have enjoyed testing out a wide range of new toys and resources to make their lunchtime play another opportunity for learning and discovery!

A huge thank you for all the generous donations we received, it really has made a huge difference to our pupils. If you are having a pre-Christmas clear out, or still wish to donate items to school, we would still be extremely grateful. Thank you in advance,



Nut-free school

Please remember that we are a **nut-free school** and therefore **no nuts can be brought into school**. These are nuts in all forms whether they be whole nuts or ingredients in other food or anything that may contain traces of nut — please do check ingredients carefully when providing snacks or lunches for your child; children will not be allowed to eat any nuts or any products containing, or maybe containing, nuts.



School Health Newsletter

Read your November health and wellbeing newsletter, delivered to you from Connect for Health, your School Nursing Service. [Click here](#) for newsletter.



Flu vaccinations—Monday 2nd December

This is advance notice of the flu vaccinations that are being administered by the South Warwickshire Immunisation Team on Monday 2nd December. More information will follow and parents may choose for their child not to be immunised, however we encourage as many as possible to do so to prevent the spread of illness.

Term Dates

Autumn term 2024

Friday 29th November: Teacher Training Day (children not in school)

Friday 20th December: Autumn Term Ends at 1pm. **Children to be collected at 1pm**

Spring term 2025

Monday 6th January: Teacher Training Day (children not in school)

Tuesday 7th January: Spring Term Starts

Monday 17th to Friday 21st February: Half Term Break

Friday 11th April: Spring Term Ends

Summer term 2025

Monday 28th April: Summer Term Starts

Monday 5th May: Bank Holiday

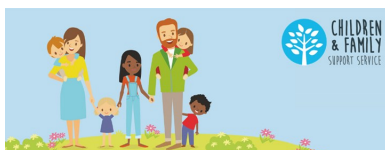
Monday 26th to 30th May: Half Term Break

Friday 27th June: Teacher Training Day (children not in school)

Friday 18th July: Summer Term Ends

Monday 21st July: Teacher Training Day (children not in school)

Family Information Service



The latest edition of the Family Information Service newsletter is available to read at: [FIS Newsletter](#)

Christmas Wreath Making



Join us for Christmas wreath making workshop,
mince pies and a glass of mulled wine.

Thursday 21st November - Evening 6-8 PM
Book by the 13th

Saturday 30th November - Afternoon 3-5 PM
Book by the 22nd

£40 PER PERSON LIMITED SPACES



SCAN ME

AT OAKLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL BUILDING



Information Sessions for Warwickshire Parents and Carers

Courses available online – via Zoom

Understanding and Supporting Children and Young People with Emotionally Based School Avoidance

Thursday 26th September 2024, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Understanding Emotion Regulation in School Aged Children

Thursday 10th October 2024, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Understanding and Supporting Children aged 3-11 Years with Anxiety

Thursday 24th October 2024, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Understanding and Supporting Children Aged 12+ Years Anxiety

Thursday 7th November 2024, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Understanding and Supporting School Aged Children Who Self-harm

Thursday 21st November 2024, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Understanding Sensory Needs in School Aged Children

Thursday 5th December 2024, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Understanding Low Mood in Children and Young People

Thursday 9th January 2025, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Understanding Self-esteem in Children and Young People

Thursday 10th April 2025, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Places on our sessions are subject to availability. To book your place please email risecommunityoffer@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

Please note: the sessions are available for Warwickshire residents only.

Tell us what you think...



... and help influence the development of services for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Warwickshire

**Progress starts with listening,
which aids understanding and
enables better solutions.**

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sendfamilyfeedback

Warwickshire's SEND Local Offer

Has lots of information and support for children and young people with SEND and their families.

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send

