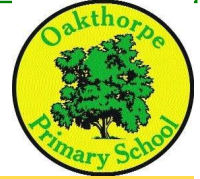


June 18th 2021

Oakthorpe News



Dear Parents

As we progress through the final half term of the year we are pleased to be experiencing some good weather (up until today!!) and the children are enjoying learning outside as well as inside.

Last half term the children made fabulous progress and since school fully opened on March 8th, we hope that you found it useful to discuss their progress with during the parent/teacher meetings. You will receive a written report at the end of the year.

We are planning some fun events for the children during the coming weeks. Our year 5 classes experienced a live performance of A Midsummers Nights Dream (Shakespeare) , some children in Year 6 are having Cycle Confident lessons in school , EYFS and year 2 have had some tea parties and Year 1 had some forest school experiences on the field.

Mrs J Garrad

Wanted

We are trying to improve the outdoor areas around school.

We have been fortunate to have received some donations of soil, plants and seeds. We welcome further donations of small gardening tools, outdoor plants and seeds.

Please pass onto the member of staff at the entrance gates if you have anything you are able to donate.



THANK YOU



Developing our outdoor areas



Our Year 6 classes have been working hard to re-establish our outdoor garden area and give it a much needed makeover.

They have done an amazing job so far; weeding, digging, sanding old benches, painting, planting and sowing. We look forward to seeing it develop over the coming weeks and months.

Thanks to all our Year 6 pupils (and staff!) - you are doing an amazing job.

Follow us on Twitter at @1oakthorpe

Eat them to defeat them

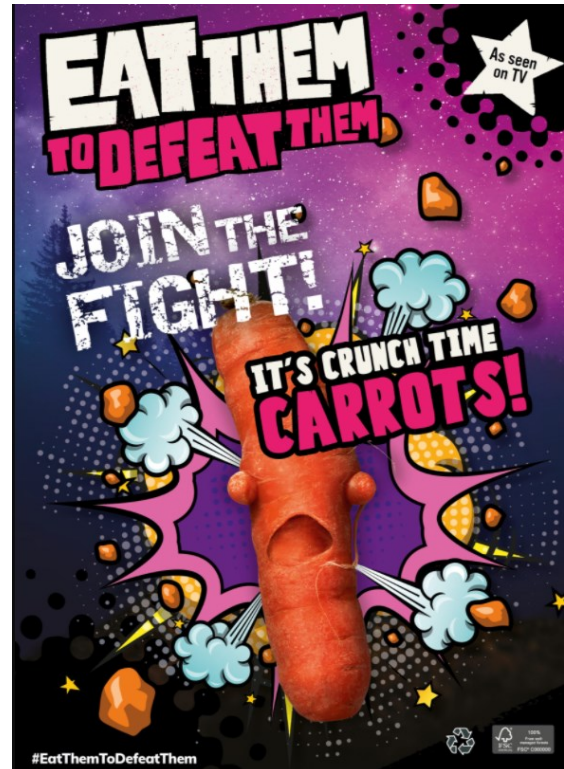
During the next few weeks we will be taking part in a national campaign to encourage children to eat more vegetables.

Our kitchen has been introducing a range of vegetables to the daily menu and children have been given an information pack containing puzzles and a sticker chart. This is also being promoted on TV via a number of different channels including ITV and Sky, perhaps you have seen some of the adverts.

You can find out further information on the Eat Them to Defeat Them website:

<https://eatthemtodefeatthem.com/>

Perhaps you can use this as an opportunity to try some different vegetables at home too?



Squirrels After School Cub

We are pleased to have launched our own after school club provision. You may book your child into Squirrels After School Club for a whole session until 6pm or a half session until 4.45pm

The club is run by members of our school staff and can be pre-booked via Parent Pay.

If you are in receipt of child care vouchers we are able to accept these as payment. Please contact the office to discuss this as there are a number of different childcare voucher providers which we are registered with. (e.g. DfE, Kiddicare, Edenred).

You can find a copy of our policy and registration form on the school website:

<https://www.oakthorpe.enfield.sch.uk/information/after-school-clubs/>



Every day after school

3.15pm—4.45pm = £4.50

3.15pm—6pm = £9

**If you child attends either football club
or dance club you may also book
them for half a session after the club.**

Please book via Parent Pay

Contact the office for further details

Online Safety

You tube kids



Even though this site/app is designed for children under 12 it does allow children to search for videos they'd like to watch, usually by typing in the search bar or by tapping the microphone icon to do a voice search.

YouTube Kids lets parents turn off the search function. With search turned off, your child can't search for videos and can only watch videos from a set of channels that have been verified by YouTube Kids.

We know that YouTube is one of the most popular video browsing websites and many children (and adults) love to watch videos uploaded to the site. It can be a great source of fun and learning however the content is not always restricted. Have you checked the settings on the devices that your children use?

We recommend switching on Restricted Mode and disabling the 'auto play' feature to stop videos playing automatically after one has ended.

The official rating for You Tube is 13+

Did you know that there is a You Tube site designed for children?

https://www.youtube.com/intl/ALL_uk/kids/

This allows you to have greater control over which sites your children can visit.

Whilst YouTube have systems in place to block inappropriate content, no system is perfect so your child may still see something unsuitable. Talk to your child about how to stay safe online and what to do if they do come across anything unsuitable (they should talk to a trusted adult). There are reporting mechanisms within YouTube so make sure you and your child know how to report anything inappropriate.

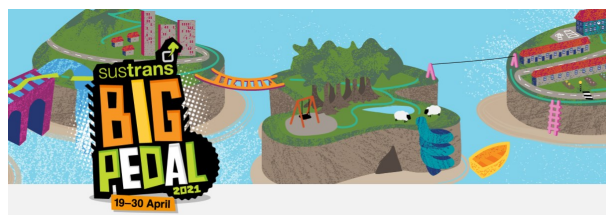
YouTube, along with several partners have created this family guide to supervised experiences: <https://tinyurl.com/4k8hdasj>



Travel to School

I hope that you all managed to look at the School Streets leaflet that your children brought home before half term. We encourage those who drive to 'Park and Stride'. This means that if you must drive your child to school that you park a distance from school and walk the rest of the route. The benefits of this are: improved air quality around the school, improved safety around the school and increased physical activity for you and your child!

Please be reminded that the car parks in Cherry Blossom Close are for residents only.



During the last week of April we managed to collect some data which showed that around 67% of our pupil journeys to school are active (walking, cycling, scooting or park and stride). We will continue to monitor this and encourage you all to take advantage of the improved weather by walking to school with your children.

Other updates

Covid

We are mindful that the date to remove all legal limits on social contact has been extended to 19th July and therefore we continue to follow the government guidance for schools. Thank you for your continued patience with our morning and afternoon school routines. We continue to ask you to follow the guidance for isolation if your child or any other member of your household has Covid symptoms. We are mindful of the increase locally in Covid cases and the uncertainties surrounding new variants.

We will continue to keep updating our risk assessment which can be found on our website.

Holidays

Please note that we will not authorise any holidays in term time. Whilst we appreciate that Covid restrictions have made it difficult to plan holidays and visits to family members it continues to be important that children are in school every-day. Children who are taken out of school will miss valuable learning opportunities.

If you are making plans to travel overseas during the Summer break you will need to plan accordingly to allow time for any quarantine/isolation that you may need to take upon your return to the UK. **Term starts on Thursday 2nd September.**

Uniform

We have relaxed our expectations a little since 8th March when children returned back to school. Initially it was difficult to buy some items of school clothing, especially shoes, as shops were closed and many children had not been in school since December.

Where we have allowed pupils to wear trainers these should not be AstroTurf/football style trainers. Please plan ahead as we will be expecting children to be back in full uniform including plain black shoes in September

Many children are wearing our summer uniform which consists of shorts (not cycling style shorts) and the option of a school dress. During very hot weather, sandals are permitted but should be suitable for playtimes and other physical activities.

On PE days; pupils should continue to come to school in their PE kit. This should preferably be their house colour T shirt and not a football shirt or other sports tops.

Items of jewellery should not be worn to school.

Thank you

Perform Workshops in Reception, Year 1 and 2



We were very pleased to receive a visit from Perform on Monday 14th June. The children had a wonderful time exploring the theme of *Under The Sea* and using drama, dance and singing to help develop their confidence, concentration and social skills.

To complement the workshop, there is a free educational app for iPhones and iPads based around the theme of *Under The Sea*. It contains fun games, creative tasks and videos of the themed songs and dances. Click [here](#) to download it free or [here](#) to find out more about the *Under The Sea* theme.

Perform run regular weekly classes in the local area and they are offering a **special introductory discount** to all parents of Oakthorpe Primary School if they come along for a free trial session before Monday 5th July.

To claim your discount, just call Perform on 020 7255 9120 quoting **OPKG050721** or book online at perform.org.uk.

Attendance



Following 10 weeks of school since March 8th our whole school attendance is 94.81%

1L	97.92%
3NR	97.63%
2S	97.39%
6R	96.87%

**Value for June is
Co-operation**

Pop It Toys



One of the latest 'crazes' is for Pop It Fidget toys.

Whilst they are fun and designed for stress relief and as a fidget toy we have noticed an increased number of issues with them in school. Children have been upset because they have lost theirs or given one

away and then decided they wanted it back again. We have even had cases of children selling them in school. Therefore please ask your child to keep their Pop Its at home where they can play with it alongside their other toys. Thank You

Covid-19 Vaccination Centre Drop in

A mass COVID-19 vaccination clinic is being held at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium this **Sunday (20 June)**. It is open to anyone aged 18 and over. **Please keep an eye out for updates should the eligibility criteria change in the coming days (some information has stated aged 21+).** You can [Book an appointment](#) or just walk up on the day between **10am-6pm** to receive your jab at Spurs and play your part in protecting yourself, your loved ones and the community from the spread of COVID-19.

Community Action

We have recently heard about the work of a local community group called The Pymmes Brookers group. They are a group of Enfield residents working together with an aim to restore the Pymmes Brook and Salmons Brook, both tributaries of the River Lea. These rivers are all suffering from pollution, mainly from misconnected plumbing, sewage overflows and pollutants from roads. This is of interest to us as a section of Pymmes Brook runs alongside Tile Kiln Lane.

<https://www.thames21.org.uk/community-modelling/rewilding-the-pymmes-brook-in-enfield/>

Whilst cleaning a brook is not entirely a family friendly activity they are involved in a number of other local activities. They will be organising a litter pickup at Bowes Meadow on 10th July. If you are interested then please email thepymmesbrookers@gmail.com to register to join in.

