Headteacher Weekly Update

Sam Perryman (Mrs), Headteacher

For more news and information please visit our website: www.oakleyschool.co.uk

20th October 2023



Dear Families,

I cant believe we are already at the end of our first term for this academic year. Your children have adapted and responded so very well to new routines, classes and making new friends. We are proud of all their achievements.

This week we have lots of news to share this week including an update our Physical and Sensory Curriculum from Asu, our P.E. Teacher at Tunbridge Wells and our Christmas Fair poster.



We have finished the term celebrating with trips into the community, (wonderful photo of Bea and Carrie Mae at Kent Life) and Autumn parties in each Phase this afternoon.
Today we welcomed Families, Governors and visitors to the official opening of our new outdoor Discovery Zone. Logan, Phase 3 and Harry, Skinners Kent Academy jointly cut the ribbon and the weather stayed dry for pupils to enjoy our new outdoor equipment.

Thank you to those families who donated bottles this week for the first of our Christmas Fair donations, if you did not manage to send a bottle into school, please feel free to send it in next term.



The first week after the half term break we will be celebrating Harvest in school during assemblies. Every year we support and donate to Nourish, our local foodbank who support local families. I am sure you will appreciate at this time they have significant demands on their service—please follow the **link** to their website to find out more and the list of items they most need at this time.

"Attention!!! This is not just another SEND survey.

I know that like me parents of SEND children are feeling surveyed out at this time!!! Not a week goes by without a survey or consultation request arriving in my inbox. Please do not swipe this into junk!! Here is why! - We need you!

We are in the process of reviewing the therapy provision of Physiotherapy Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy, here in Kent and Medway. To do this we want to hear from as many parents as possible about your experiences, be they good or bad. We need to know what is working and what is not to make the changes that will improve the experience of families so that we can commission services that work for you.

I know that children often have therapy at school which is not always close to home and one child's experience can be different to another's. This is because there are different providers working across the county. We need families' experiences to create an accurate picture of the situation across the whole of Kent and Medway. I can only collect this information with your help.

We have tried to keep the survey as short as possible so it can be completed as quickly, please if you manage to get five minutes, (I know how hard that can be!), fill it in and pass it on through your parent networks.

There will be more opportunities to contribute to this review as it progresses. If you would like to be involved or would like feedback on the review's findings, please include your contact details when completing the survey.

Thank you for your time.
Alice Unsworth, Lived Experience Practitioner Kent County Council

Link to survey

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Oakley School
Skills for Life and Independence

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PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY

I politely request that all Parents and Drivers follow staff instructions when driving on our sites, including following the STOP/GO signs during transport times. We acknowledge that many of you may have time constraints, but I urge you to prioritise the safety of our pupils and staff by following staff instructions.

Thank you for your continued support.

Physical & Sensory Curriculum

This term, our Phase 1 pupils have been the focus of our attention. We have placed safety as our utmost priority, emphasizing the importance of safe movement within the school premises and sports hall. Turn-taking is another essential skill we have been nurturing.

In our Physical Education and Sensory lessons we have embarked on an exciting journey aimed at offering our pupils a diverse and rich experience. This immersive approach not only encourages children to explore their immediate environment but also equips them with the skills to refine their physical and sensory abilities. Our goal is to enhance their coordination, balance, perception and motor skills through exposure to a wide range of equipment, sports and sensory activities. This ongoing effort is dedicated to helping our pupils reach new horizons in their learning and self -improvement together.

Furthermore, we have instilled the art of following instructions while maintaining an atmosphere of safety, enjoyment and support. These activities are designed to build confidence and trust, paving the way for them to acquire new skills as they progress through the academic year.

I wish you a safe and restful half term break.
Warm wishes
Sam

E-mail: sperryman@oakley.kent.sch.uk

Physical & Sensory Curriculum

This term Phases 2 & 3 pupils have actively engaged in co-operation games, promoting effective communication, problem-solving, and teamwork. These activities are the foundation for Physical Education and Sensory Development.
We have focused on skills such as: cooperation, teamwork, safety and how pupils can support and respect each other.
Pupils have honed their communication, social and problem-solving skills while enjoying activities such as throwing and catching, all with safety and support at the forefront. This strong foundation will be pivotal as they explore new skills in P.E. and sensory lessons throughout the year.

Best wishes and Goodbye

Today we are saying goodbye to three colleagues: Amy & Lucy H, Phase 2 are about to start their Maternity Leave and Lucy B, Phase 3 who has made the decision to move on from Oakley.
Thank you and all the very best!

Safeguarding at Oakley School



Please can I remind you to check what your children are accessing on their devices over half term. We know that they like to chat with peers when gaming or using social media. You might want to verify who they are chatting to and monitor the conversations. Whilst the online world is fantastic and a great opportunity for our children and young people to engage with a wider community. They are also very vulnerable and not everyone is who they say they are.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Raffle Hampers

Hampers always go down well at the school fairs and with your donations we would like to do them again for Xmas. Please see details below

Hamper Donation Week

6th - 10th November

Phase 1

Christmas Toy Hamper

Arts & Crafts, Fidget & Sensory Toys, Books, Soft Toys, Xmas Activities, Dress up, Learning Toys, Characters, etc...

Phase 2

Festive Food & Drink Hamper

Xmas Pud, Mince Pies, Mulled Wine, Crackers & Chutney, Pickles, Biscuits, Snacks, Dried Fruit, etc...

Phase 3

Winter Warmer Hamper

Fluffy Socks, Xmas Decs, Hot Choc, Hats Scarves & Gloves, Hot Water Bottle, Xmas Mugs, Candles, Reusable Cups, etc...

Phase 4

Christmas Pamper Hamper

Lip Balm, Bubble Bath, Soaps & Shower Gel, Body Lotion, Face Masks, Hair & Beauty Products, Bath Bombs, Fragrance, etc...

We are also asking for donations of hamper baskets that you have previously won or no longer require.

Friends of Oakley School
Registered charity and PTA

Many Thanks

