Headteacher Weekly Update

Sam Perryman (Mrs), Headteacher

Oakley School
Skills for Life and Independence

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

15th December 2023

Term 3 starts for all pupils on:
Thursday, 4th January 2024



Dear Families,

Unbelievably we have reached the end of another year. The past two weeks we have been so fortunate to celebrate Christmas as a school community together. As always your wonderful children have engaged and embraced their learning and the wonderful Christmas opportunities our staff team have planned to ensure we have kept **our pupils at the heart of all we do**.



This week Phase 1 dressed in their pyjamas and welcomed families to enjoy a Christmas Peppa Pig Story for their Stay and Play and pupils in Phases 2—4 enjoyed trips to pantomimes and all pupils have had Christmas lunches, parties and there has been a lot of singing across the school. This morning Phases 2, 3 and 4 demonstrated how fantastic our school community is with their amazing singing, signing, playing instruments and readings during the Church Service. It was also lovely to see so many families join us and share our fantastic and joyful Christmas celebration. Today was a huge achievement for all our children, for some just getting to the church was an achievement—we celebrate all achievements our pupils make today and every day!

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to some of our colleagues who are moving on from Oakley and I am sure you will join me in thanking them for all their contributions to our school and wish them all the best for the future: Katharine, Teacher and Phase 4 Leader at Tonbridge, Lottie, Class Teacher and Jess, Isabelle, Yvette LSAs at Tunbridge Wells site. We are also saying thank you and goodbye to Reverend Richard who has been a Governor at Oakley for 5 years. We are grateful for Rich's contributions to our school and look forward to continuing our links with him in the community.

Good Luck Everyone—we wish you all the best!

I would like to recognise and thank some very special people at this time:

- Thank you to our wonderful group of **volunteers** who continue to support our pupils and school during the year—Thank you for all you do for us Veronica, Carolyn and Amber.
- A particular thanks to the **Friends of Oakley (PTA)** for you continual commitment to our school and improving opportunities for our pupils through your support and fundraising.
- And to our school **Governors** who support the school, in particular the Leadership Team, to make sure our school continues to move forward to be the very best we can be.
- Finally, I am sure you will join me in thanking our **AMAZING STAFF TEAM** – every single member of staff plays an essential role in our school community and they are integral to the success of your Childrens' learning and progress. Every day they work so hard to improve the outcomes for your children and in doing so create a thriving school that is committed and ambitious for your children.

I would like to wish you all a very safe and Happy Christmas and a healthy and happy 2024.
Warm wishes,
Sam
E-mail: sperryman@oakley.kent.sch.uk

Festive Greeting from Lizzie Bentley Bowers, Chair of Governors

My first term as Chair of Governors has flown by, as time always seems to, and there has been so much to celebrate and be proud of. All of which is made possible by the commitment of our staff, the hard work and spirit of our pupils, and your support and collaboration. The combination of care for each other, commitment and enthusiasm makes Oakley School a special place at any time of year and I, along with the governing body, feel very fortunate to be involved. I wish you all a safe, peaceful and fun festive season and look forward to many more Oakley golden moments in 2024!

We would like to thank Di Berry, who donated an amazing £636 from the proceeds of the sales of her bottle lights. Di has been making and selling these lights at local Christmas fairs as well as our own Christmas Fair too, that was an additional £97! **A HUGE THANK YOU Di!**



Safeguarding at Oakley School

If you have any safeguarding concerns over the Christmas break please contact the Front Door on 03000 411111 or email us on:
Sam Perryman, Headteacher: sperryman@oakley.kent.sch.uk
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