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**Head Teacher:** Mr S Arnold

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a mix of weather we have seen this week! I would like to thank you all for endeavouring to access school despite the wintry and often treacherous pathways on your journeys. Yet again this morning, we were further challenged with the snow and the biting icy temperatures but as I write this, there is the promise and forecast of bright sunshine this afternoon...keeping fingers crossed!

I write with a couple of updates and notes to support the remaining weeks of this half term – a short half term of only five weeks.

### **World Book Day Celebrations**

A huge thank you for you and your child's support for World Book Day – the children looked amazing and their costumes showed such creativity and flair. There was a tremendous amount of excitement and energy within school on the day and it was enjoyed by all. I really appreciate the partnership working and communication between home and school and following the celebrations, it has been suggested by a parent to organise a World Book Day costume sale next year to support one-another both financially and with ideas. I think this would be super. Due to the limited storage space we have within school, I have made a note in my diary to write to you early next spring time to ask for donations of costumes for organising a pre-loved costume sale. If you have any costumes which your child has grown out of, please do hang on to them until next year.

A further thank you must be extended to some Year 5 children who represented Oak Meadow at the recent author event at Grand Station. They had the fantastic opportunity of meeting and listening to Cressida Cowell, author of 'How to Train your Dragon'. We were very proud of them.

### **Parent Consultations**

Next week are our planned parent consultation appointments – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to be able to share your child's progress to-date this school year. If you have not yet received your invitation letter or time of appointment, please contact your child's classteacher. The appointments will once again take place in the school hall and upon your arrival, we ask that you take a seat before being called for your appointment by your child's classteacher.

Extra-curricular activities which fall on these days will be cancelled. These include:

Wednesday: French (Miss Tolley), Gardening (Mr Clarkson and Mr Godwin), Science (Mrs Worrallo), Girls' 5-a-Side (Mr Hartland) and Cross-Country (Mr Trott).

Thursday: Reading (Miss Billingsley).

The Football Club which Soccer 2000 run on Thursday will continue as normal along with Mrs Foster's tutoring group. Thank you.

### **Comic Relief Day**

Omitted from my recent list of calendar dates, is next week's Comic Relief Day – taking place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Children will be invited to wear their own clothes for a donation payable via ParentPay. As we

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have recently planned a number of special themed weeks and days, for example, A Million Dreams and Science Day, we will acknowledge Comic Relief within classes but timetables and lessons will remain in place to continue your child's learning.

The theme of the day this year is to bring happiness into school and to make one-another smile. In association with LEGO, children are also being challenged to create an idea which will help others or help the planet whilst also making others smile.

Children at Oak Meadow are extremely creative and on many occasions, children chat to me on the playground, sharing their ideas for what we can do in school to change things or to change things in the community and world in which we live. Therefore, recognising the skills and talents within our children, I'm sure many might like to 'BUILD THE BEST IDEA EVER' and there are links on the following website which might help to stimulate your child's thinking and ideas. Clicking on one of the icons on the website will share further ideas.

**BUILD THE BEST IDEA EVER WITH THE LEGO GROUP**

This year, we're challenging you to create the BEST IDEA EVER by building something to make people smile. Take a look at our video and factsheet to help inspire your brilliant idea.

<p><b>LACK OF GREEN SPACES</b> Alex loves being around nature but lives in a built up part of the city and the lack of nature brings them down.</p>	<p><b>LONELINESS</b> Anushri loves being around others but lives alone in a new area and feels very lonely.</p>	<p><b>DIVERSITY</b> Hiro feels they have to hide who they really are from others and this makes them anxious.</p>
<p><b>ACCESSIBILITY</b> Lucia has mobility issues and has trouble getting around the city. It's always a big hassle.</p>	<p><b>POLLUTION &amp; CLEAN AIR</b> Isalah lives near a busy road and the air is very polluted.</p>	<p><b>BULLYING</b> Peter used to love going to school but has recently been picked on by other children.</p>

[https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/schools/lego?utm\\_source=EdCo&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_campaign=110228\\_LEGO%20%20Feb&dm\\_i=7JIO,2D1W,YQWRV,7YFI,1](https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/schools/lego?utm_source=EdCo&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=110228_LEGO%20%20Feb&dm_i=7JIO,2D1W,YQWRV,7YFI,1)

### Eid Celebrations

Further to the previously shared list of calendar dates, Eid al-Fitr will be commemorated on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April. Children will build their knowledge and understanding of this Islamic festival which marks the end of Ramadan – Muslim's holy month of fasting when Muslims fast from dawn to dusk each day. Each class will be learning about the specialness of this day for Muslims and will undertake a variety of different celebratory activities. Again, with our special days and themes, we look forward with excitement to the day. This is a change to the originally shared date of 13<sup>th</sup> March.

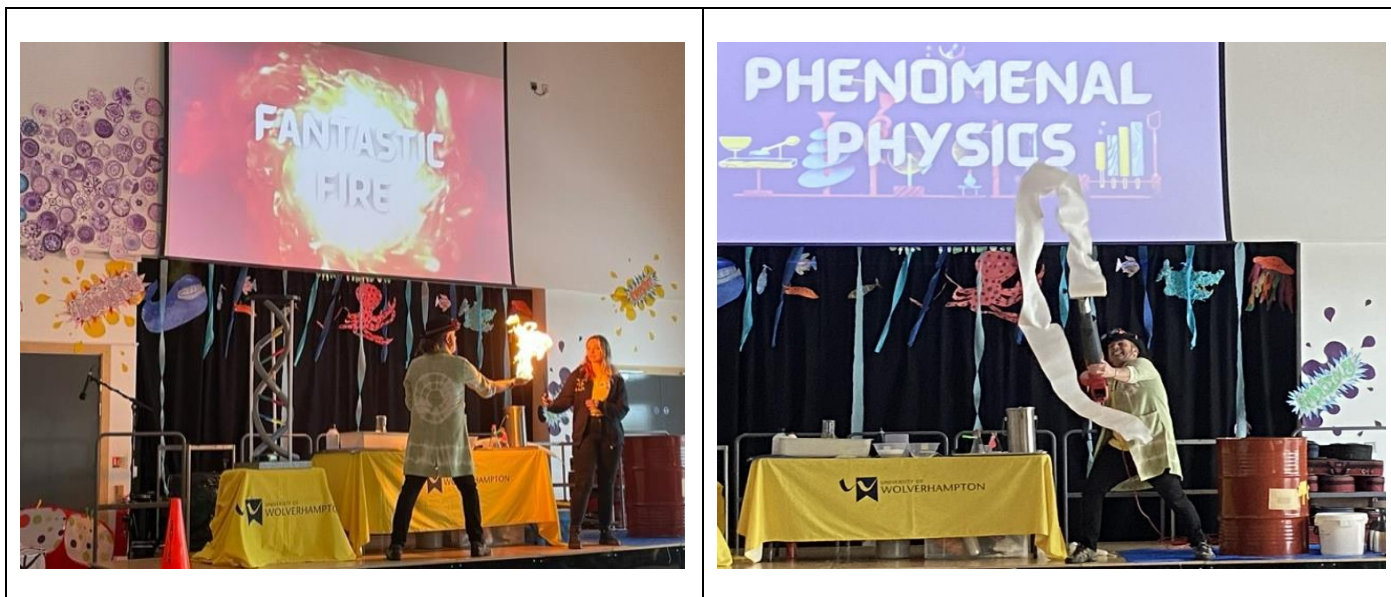
### Science Day

Daily, I commend the learning attitudes of our children and this is also something which is noted when we welcome visitors to our school. Whilst an informal visit, I recently welcomed two Ofsted inspectors into school and following their full tour and guide of the school, they commended the children's behaviour,

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learning energy and enthusiasm and personal self-regulation. As a staff, we see this daily but it is always a joy when visitors recognise the relationships and learning keenness of our children – I am very proud. These traits were noted further this morning by Wolverhampton University who launched our Science Day learning with an assembly workshop. Lots of ‘wows’ were elicited from the children upon seeing the magic of science within the presentations and experiments and once again, the children were amazing.



### A Reminder of our Calendar Dates for the Spring Term

<b>Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> Children’s Assessment Week 14 <sup>th</sup> Selective Yr 5-6 children to take part in a maths challenge at Castlecroft Primary 15 <sup>th</sup> Parent and Carer Consultations (3:30 – 7:00pm) 16 <sup>th</sup> Reception Mothers’ Day Assembly 8.55a.m. (Parents/ Carers welcome to attend) 16 <sup>th</sup> Parent and Carer Consultations (3:30 – 5:30pm) 17 <sup>th</sup> St. Patrick’s Day
<b>Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> National Maths Day Parent and Carer Workshops (Year1, 2 & 3) 8.50a.m. 21 <sup>st</sup> National Maths Day Parent and Carer Workshops (Year4, 5 & 6) 8.50a.m. 21 <sup>st</sup> Selective Y5-6 children to take part in W-ton Girls’ High Maths Challenge 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> Year 4 Kingswood Residential Visit
<b>Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> National Autism Week 30 <sup>th</sup> Year 5 Easter Assembly 8.55a.m. (Parents/ Carers welcome to attend) 30 <sup>th</sup> Full Governors’ Meeting 31 <sup>st</sup> End of Spring Term Reports to Parents and Carers 31 <sup>st</sup> School closes for Easter and reopens Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April <i>(Please note that next term, school is closed on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May (Bank Holiday), Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May (Election Day as the school is being used as a polling station) and Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May (an additional Bank Holiday in acknowledgement of the King’s Coronation))</i>

As I conclude my writing, I am hopeful for a snow-free weekend and for everyone to remain warm, safe and well. If there any questions arising from the above information, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office or your child’s classteacher. Thank you.

Yours sincerely, Mr Arnold.

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