



OAK MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL: END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents and Carers, I recall my opening words on my last newsletter referring to the speed in which time is going by and now, I'm writing with amazement at reaching the end of the school year! It has flown by!

There have been so many successes and special events this year and reflecting on each term that has passed, we have enjoyed numerous events and themed days, in particular, our Impact and Enrichment event, 'A Million Dreams', Hello Yellow Day – focusing upon our staff and children's mental health and wellbeing, World Book Day, Science Week, National Numeracy Day and all of the shared year group assemblies providing opportunity for children to showcase their amazing learning.

Given that we are at the end of another school year, I would like to use this opportunity to thank the children for their incredible hard working attitudes and their keenness and enthusiasm for learning - learning with such fervour and enjoyment. Also, huge thanks to our tremendous teaching and learning team who work with such commitment in providing the ingenious opportunities for children to experience and enjoy.

Thanks too must be expressed to our site staff who work hard to maintain a safe and appealing environment, our office staff who keep the financial cogs whirring and thanks the cleaning and catering team who all work with the same dedication for providing the best for our children and staff. As a school, we are so lucky to have such dedicated, caring and thoughtful staff members.

End of Term News

I am sure you will all be aware of the news about the changes to the school's leadership following my appointment to the role of Executive Headteacher.

To confirm, I will remain as Headteacher at Oak Meadow working one day a week. For the remaining other days, I will be at Woodfield Primary School in Penn. In my absence, Mr Lane will lead the school as Interim Head of School with Miss Billingsley as Interim Assistant Headteacher. Both Mr Lane and Miss Billingsley will continue to be supported by Miss Tomlinson and Miss Bates - who will return from maternity in December. This is an exciting opportunity for all staff and I know the school will continue to be led perfectly with Mr Lane's visionary, strategic approach. It was a very difficult decision for me to make as I have been at Oak Meadow for 14 years and I continue to thoroughly enjoy my job and role, working with such amazing children and staff - alongside you and your most encouraging support. However, I look forward to working at Woodfield whilst knowing I am maintaining my links and responsibilities with Oak Meadow.

INSET Days: A reminder that school will close for the summer holidays today (Friday 21st July) and will reopen for all children on Wednesday 6th September. The 4th and 5th will be taken as INSET Days to facilitate time for safeguarding and all health and safety training which staff are required to do annually.

School Attainment Outcomes

One measure of school effectiveness and the impact upon children’s knowledge acquisition and skill development is statutory attainment data. This provides a measure of teaching and learning effectiveness within the core areas of reading, writing and mathematics. I am thrilled to share with you that at all stages, we have exceeded national averages and again, I dedicate this to our outstanding teaching team and to your children who rise to the daily challenge of learning.

A summary of outcomes is as follows:

Reception	Reading	Writing	Maths ‘Number’	Good Level of Development
Oak Meadow	90%	77%	85%	75%

Year 1 Phonic Screen Check: 83% achieved the expected standard compared with 76% National 2022.

Year 2 Standardised Assessment Test Results

Reception	Reading	Writing	Maths ‘Number’
Oak Meadow	76%	73%	78%
National 2022	69%	61%	72%

We are immensely pleased with our results and this is testament to the hard work of staff and our pupils’ super working attitudes.

Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check: School’s average score is 21 compared with 2022’s national average of 18.6.

Year 6 Standardised Assessment Test Results

	Reception	Reading	Writing	Grammar, Punc and Spelling	Maths ‘Number’
Expected Standard	Oak Meadow	95%	87%	94%	95%
	National 2023	73%	71%	72%	73%
Greater Depth Standard	Oak Meadow	41%	37%	52%	25%
	National 2022	28%	13%	TBC	22%

Summer Fair

Despite the wet and windy July weather last Friday and the queueing in the rain to gain access into the fair, the event was an enormous success; we are immensely appreciative of your support and grateful for it. Your kind donations of toiletries and bottles helped enormously and your baking and donation of cakes was most generous: a total of £1809.80 was raised.

I would like to express sincere thanks to our staff and to the Friends of Oak Meadow who work diligently behind the scenes to secure the success of this fundraising event.

THANK YOU.

Summer Fair Cake Design Winners:

Reception: Noah, Year 1: Jessie, Year 2: Maggie and Sophie, Year 3: Lana Williams, Year 4: Josh Statham, Year 5: Logan Williams and Year 6: Harry Winstanley. **WELL DONE TO ALL OUR KEEN BAKERS.**



Oak Meadow @OakMeadow12 · Jul 14

A huge thank you to everyone who attended this evening’s summer fair. The weather may not have been the best but thanks to our amazing Friends of Oak Meadow, we adapted and - in true Oak Meadow style - brought everyone together in a wonderful event! 🌞🌟



Our Recycling Initiatives

Once again with your support, we continue to collect plastic bottle tops and used batteries. Within half a term, we have collected two full bottle top containers and currently need to empty the battery one to start again.

Once we have a few more full sacks, we will arrange for collection and celebrate our commitment to contributing to our world's recycling and its preservation – knowing that we are doing our little bit to help our planet.

Thank you – and we will continue with the collection of both in September.



Meal Price Increase

We have been notified by our catering contractor that due to increased food prices – rising by 13.1% - our individual school meal price is rising to £2.50 (a slightly lower price increase of 8.7%). It is always with disappointment that I write with such information but I hope you will understand the requirement for raising the cost given the increased food prices and staffing costs we hear about in the news – affecting all of us in our daily lives. We will continue to operate a flexible approach to ordering a meal for your child/ren depending on your home circumstances. The menu will be emailed to you towards the start of the new school year in time to support your sharing of it with your child/ren.

Gold Tokens and Reading Books: I write appealingly to ask for your support. We are seeing a shrinking reduction in our gold tokens and I wonder if instead of posting them into the school's celebratory tubes, children have brought them home. I am sure children do this with excitement and eagerness for sharing their reward with you. If so, can they be sent back into school, please? Thank you. Also, can I please ask if you mind checking if you have any school reading scheme/ library books at home? This will support our budget costs or replacement of lost books in the future. THANK YOU.

Academy News

As an update, our work within the Trust continues well. We are building positive working relationships with both the CEO, Mrs Kent, and with the Director of teaching and Learning, Mrs Harrison. Underpinning all our school improvement work, Mr Dryer monitors our school budget ensuring compliance with all financial planning. I personally access strategic leadership meetings weekly and within the meetings, topical issues are shared and discussed. Curriculum subject leaders are also attending meetings and all note the effective sharing of strategies for supporting school improvement. I am very pleased with our partnership and membership of a family of schools.

Summer Holiday Activities – for your information



CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL

Free Summer fun activities for all!
Join us:

National Play Day

Bantock Park (WV3 9LQ)
2nd August 2023
11-3pm

West Park (WV14 4PH)
8th August 2023
11-3pm

Bilston Art Gallery (WV14 7LU)
17th August 2023
11-3pm

NO BOOKING REQUIRED

For more information contact:
Liz—07900 708 226
Bonnie - 07464981893

PARENTS MUST SUPERVISE THEIR CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES

Activities include: Live Magician & Balloon Modelling, Live storyteller, Celebrate our natural world through play activities!, Arts & Crafts.

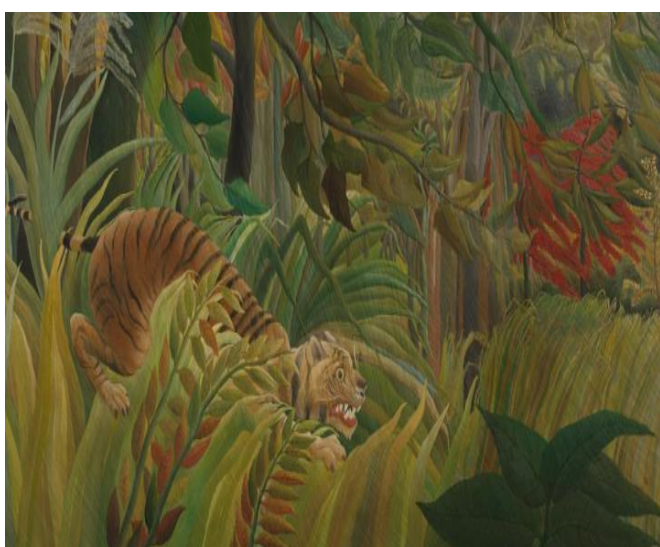


Wolverhampton Play Service
Celebrates
National Play Day
Thursday 3rd August 2023
11am – 3pm @ Bantock Park

This years theme is: **Playing on a Shoestring**

Make this Playday, and every day, an adventure!

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL



Take One Picture

Working with a number of schools, mainly in the Penn area of Wolverhampton, we were challenged to respond to the painting, 'Surprise' by Henry Rousseau. Our Art Clubs seized this challenge. Collating the art pieces from primary schools: Castlecroft, Merridale, Springdale, St Bartholomew's, Warstones and Uplands Junior School, a virtual art gallery has been designed for our viewing. I am immensely proud of our contributions and the full gallery can be accessed via the following website:

<https://www.art-for-all.co.uk/>

Staffing Update

For information, here is the full staffing profile for the new school year:

Reception	RB	Miss Blunt	Mrs Bradney Miss Hannon Mrs Sadler Miss Perry Mrs Mincher
	RT	Miss Thwaites	
Year 1	1CB	Mrs Bristow	Mrs Lakin-Jones Miss Mears Miss Banks Miss Braham
	1HB	Mrs Brain	
Year 2	2BT	Miss Billingsley/ Miss Tomlinson	Mrs Guy Mrs Foster
	2H	Miss Hague	
Year 3	3C	Mr Clarkson	Mrs Malia Mrs Head
	3J	Miss Johnston	
Year 4	4T	Mr Trott	Mrs Baker Mrs Hassell Miss Mills
	4F	Miss Findlay	
Year 5	5E	Mr Edgley	Mr Godwin
	5H	Mrs Holmes	
Year 6	6H	Mr Hartland	Mrs Dawson Mrs Cooke Miss Nicholls
	6W	Mrs Worrallo	

Miss Mills Business Manager	Mrs Greenaway Attendance Officer	Mrs Parker-Thornton Home School Liaison Officer	Mr Turner Site Manager	Mr Simmonds Caretaker
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I am also very pleased to inform you that we have appointed our own sports coach – Mr Benton – who was previously employed by Soccer 2000. Mr Benton will officially join the Oak Meadow staff roll as from September.

We look forward to further enhancing our PE and sports offer – building upon the fantastic success of this year’s tournaments. I often speak of my proudness in belonging to Oak Meadow and working alongside such talented children and this has been exemplified by the super achievements of our sporting teams – winning the Girls’ football League, Girls’ winning of a Molineux tournament and success within cross country and cricket tournaments. Well done to all who have participated and represented Oak Meadow; special thanks to staff too for their hard work and commitment to promoting children’s enjoyment of and participation within such sporting events. Following are the cricket results:

Year 3 and 4 Dynamo Cricket Tournament: 2nd place

Year 5 and 6 Dynamo Cricket Tournament: 3rd place

Girls’ Cricket: 2nd place

(Each time being pipped to the post by Wolverhampton Grammar School.)

Attendance and Punctuality: As previously referenced in a former newsletter, I am extremely appreciative for the punctual arrival of children to school between 8.35 and 8.45a.m. As you will be aware from the attendance certificate included within your child’s summer term report, the Government has set an expectation for an annual attendance of 96%. Attendance below this is of concern and attendance of 90% or below is classified as persistent absence. All persistent absent children will be more closely monitored in the new school year to ensure children are accessing school in line with statutory and legal duties. Mr Lane will be sending further information about boosting attendances of children in the new school year. I do thank you for your support and adherence to both school and government’s policies.

A Final Note.... To conclude this school year, I would like to express my most appreciative thanks for all of your support. Oak Meadow is a very special place to work, teach and be associated with. As I have always stated, it is made special by our wonderful children (working daily with energy and vigour), our caring and hardworking staff and the tremendous support you give to us each and every day. THANK YOU! Today, we say goodbye to our Year 6 children and as I shared in their leavers’ performance, they have worked hard with enthusiasm, diligence and I wish them well on their continuing learning journeys.

We also look forward to our new Reception children joining us in September; we are excited for the start of a new school year and to welcoming new children and families to Oak Meadow.

Finally, I wish you all a happy, restful summer holiday. With very best wishes, Mr Arnold.

From tiny acorns **mighty oaks** grow...

