

Welcome to Spring 2 Newsletter February 2023

Reflecting upon our recent Spring 1 half term, it concluded with our celebratory event, 'A Million Dreams'. As a staff, we were overwhelmed by the children's responses learning about their year group's designated artist or sculptor:

Reception Pablo Picasso 	Year 1 George Seurat 	Year 2 Antoni Gaudi 	Year 3 Georgia O'Keefe 	Year 4 Andrew Goldsworthy 	Year 5 Banksy 	Year 6 Romero Britto 
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The children undertook a range of activities, such as using and manipulating a range of mediums, development of research skills, note taking, writing of biographies and producing art pieces in the style of the artist or sculptor... developing a wide range of skills enhancing their learning, understanding and knowledge.

As our children always do, all the new learning opportunities were seized with such zealous, animated responses, relating their learning and works to their future aspirational desires. We are so incredibly proud of them.



We thank you for your responses too, and as always, for the tremendous support you showed in visiting our 'A Million Dreams Gallery'. We hope you were as wowed by the children's artistic talents as staff were and as much as our Local Authority dignitaries and officers were, who marvelled at the skills of the children's artistic aptness and inventiveness...commenting upon the exceptional standards of the children's work.

The visitors' sentiments were further enhanced by the children's confident responses when questioned about their learning. The children spoke with eloquence and knowledge, sharing articulately their new found knowledge from the week's learning alongside their enjoyment of all the experiences encountered.

As a unique feature of our school's curriculum previously advised and advocated by Ofsted, the planned impact and enrichment week, 'A Million Dreams' art gallery, provided memorable learning experiences for our children and inspired enthusiasm and enjoyment of future learning.

Furthermore, I would also like to extend thanks to our Friends of Oak Meadow who provided the children with a range of daily snacks. Due to the tantalising smell of toast wafting through the school, snack orders increased daily and by the end of the week, increased to several hundred each day! However, the Friends responded with their usual enthusiasm, vigour and exuberance - ensuring snacks were delivered to classrooms in time for break time. I would like to offer sincere thanks to all our Friends of OM; we could not have done it without you!

And finally, extensive and immense thanks to Mr Lane, who led on the re-imagining of the themed week from four years ago, and to all staff, who upon learning of the plans, rose to the challenge of planning learning activities to inspire and motivate our children whilst working tremendously hard to convert the school to a welcoming and inspiring art gallery for us all to enjoy.

THANK YOU!

With your continued support, we recently organised and led a further second hand/ pre-loved uniform sale from your kind and generous donation of uniform items, which your children have grown out of or no longer require. We raised a sum of £43.50. The money raised will go into school fund to aid the funding of daily consumable resources, however, the main driver for leading the sales is to support our community families with uniform items which often still have much life left in them – we thank you for your donations.

2nd Hand Uniform

County Lines Awareness Week

I have been asked to share with you a meeting this evening in recognition of Wolverhampton Local Authority's County Lines Awareness Week:

Exploitation Awareness for parents/ carers / community members

As part of County Lines Awareness Week (27th Feb - 5th March) WVCA and City of Wolverhampton Council are holding an online awareness raising session on Mon 27th Feb from 8:00 - 9:30pm for parents / carers and anyone in the community who would like to know more about County Lines / other forms of exploitation and the help and support available for anyone affected. For more details and to book a place, see <https://Wolverhampton-exploitation-awareness-27-02-23.eventbrite.co.uk>

Our sporting achievements this term...

For information, I would like to share with you the sporting prowess of our children who are representing Oak Meadow in the sporting clubs of girls' and boys' football teams, netball and the Local Authority's cross country events.

I am immensely pleased to report that our girls' football team remain unbeaten at present within our area league, winning matches with significant goal scoring differences. The talent within the team is exceptional and we remain excited for future matches for continuing the unbeaten record. I thank Mr Hartland for his leadership and training of the extra-curricular club activity and organisation of league fixtures.

In addition, the mixed cross country team have been astounding this school year, competing in city-wide events with the boys winning first place and the girls, third – prestigious positions – worthy recognition of their amazing resilience and persevering agility in running the designated distances. Thank you to Mr Trott and Mrs Dawson for their support, leadership and organisation of these events.

The netball team, led by Mr Dean, and the football team, led by Mr Clarkson, have participated enthusiastically in both the club activities and a number of league matches. Whilst a win evades them at present, the team members continue playing with sporting camaraderie and developing skill – we are very proud of them.

Academy News Update

Progress towards academising and joining St Bartholomew's Multi-Trust Academy continues and we now have an anticipatory joining date of 1st April 2023. As a governing board and staff, we look forward to our conversion and being part of the Trust. Whilst we await the prospective date, we have started our working relationship with Trust colleagues and have participated in continuous professional development opportunities for subject leaders. We have also welcomed members of St Bart's to Oak Meadow for a peer review focusing upon science teaching and learning; staff and children were commended for the high standards of teaching and learning within the subject. Working within the Trust will provide further opportunities for collaborative working partnerships.

As previously advised, our school name will remain unchanged and all contact information will be the same – with no changes made. At most, our school signs will indicate being part of the Trust.

Other schools within the Trust includes: St Benedict Biscop CE Primary School (Wombourne), Woodfield Primary School (Penn), All Saints' CE Primary School (Trysull), Woodseaves CE Primary School, Gnosall St Lawrence CE Primary School and Haughton St Giles CE Primary School.



I would like to seek your support with our decision to ban the bringing in and use of PRIME drinks bottles. I recognise the media attention and hype surrounding the availability and purchasing of the PRIME drink.

Research discourages children under the age of 18 years drinking PRIME as it contains an extraordinary amount of caffeine – 200mg of caffeine – which is significantly higher than other energy drinks.

The use of the PRIME bottle as a school drinks bottle is also banned as it promotes the drinking of it and encourages and promotes its drinking amongst other children. The bottles will be banned with immediate effect. Thank you for your support.

Following, I list dates for both the half term following and the summer term. On behalf of the staff, we thank you for your support and look forward to welcoming you to our planned future events.

Can I also please remind you of the availability of your child's curriculum newsletters available on the school's website which details the continuing learning focuses of this half term:

<https://www.oakmeadowsool.uk/> > Our Curriculum > Curriculum Information.
Thank you.

Calendar Dates for your Diary

Week Beginning:	Spring Term 2
Mon 27 th Feb	27 th INSET Day (School Closed for all Children) 28 th Children Return for Spring Term 2 28 th Fair Trade Fortnight 1 st St. David's Day 2 nd World Book Day (Please refer to separate letter for more information) 2 nd Year 4 World Book Day Assembly 8.55a.m. (Parents/ Carers welcome to attend)
Mon 6 th Mar	6 th – 10 th Science Week 6 th Year 4 Computing Day 9 th - 10 th Year 3 Visit by Wolverhampton Play Service – Smoothie Bike
Mon 13 th Mar	13 th Eid Celebrations 13 th Children's Assessment Week 14 th Selective Yr 5-6 children to take part in a maths challenge at Castlecroft Primary 15 th Parent and Carer Consultations (3:30 – 7:00pm) 16 th Reception Mothers' Day Assembly 8.55a.m. (Parents/ Carers welcome to attend) 16 th Parent and Carer Consultations (3:30 – 5:30pm) 17 th St. Patrick's Day
Mon 20 th Mar	20 th National Maths Day Parent and Carer Workshops (Year1, 2 & 3) 8.50a.m. 21 st National Maths Day Parent and Carer Workshops (Year4, 5 & 6) 8.50a.m. 21 st Selective Y5-6 children to take part in W-ton Girls' High Maths Challenge 22 nd – 24 th Year 4 Kingswood Residential Visit
Mon 27 th Mar	27 th – 31 st National Autism Week 30 th Year 5 Easter Assembly 8.55a.m. (Parents/ Carers welcome to attend) 30 th Full Governors' Meeting 31 st End of Spring Term Reports to Parents and Carers

Summer Term 2023

Week beginning:	Summer Term
Mon 17 th Apr	17 th Children Return for Summer Term 1 22 nd Earth Day 23 rd St. George's Day
Mon 24 th Apr	27 th Forest School Reception Parent and Carer Workshops (Ash – 9:15 to 10:30am, Rowan – 1:45 to 3:00pm)
Mon 1 st May	1 st Bank Holiday School Closed to all Children 1 st Year 2 Key Stage 1 SATs Month 2 nd World Asthma Day 4 th Local Elections (School Closed to all Children – this is a recent addition to the calendar) 5 th Forest School Reception Parent and Carer Workshops (Willow – 9:15 to 10:30am, Yew – 1:45 to 3:00pm – a change from the original shared date) 5 th Coronation Celebratory Themed-Menu
Mon 8 th May	8 th Coronation Bank Holiday School Closed to all Children 9 th – 11 th Year 6 Key Stage 2 SATs Week (Tues: Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation; Wed: Reading; Thurs: Maths Papers 1 and 2; Fri: Maths Paper 3. 10 th – 11 th Year 2 Kingswood Residential 11 th F&GP Governors' Meeting
Mon 15 th May	17 th Wraites Classroom Group Photographs
Mon 22 nd May	23 rd Choir to participate in W-ton 'Singing in the Rain'
Mon 29 th May	Half Term
Mon 5 th June	5 th Children Return for Summer Term 2 5 th Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Checks for 3 weeks 6 th Whole school 'Super Sewers Assembly' followed by Year 5 workshops led by Severn Trent Water Authority 7 th Years 5 and 6 Puberty Talks by School Nursing Service 8 th Year 3 Egyptian Assembly 8.55a.m.

	9 th Reception Parent and Carers' Writing and Vocabulary Workshop – Ash House Children 1:45 to 3:00pm
Mon 12th June	12 th Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks Week 12 th Year 3F Computing Day (Squirrel Learning Co.) 13 th Year 3T Computing Day (Squirrel Learning Co.) 16 th Reception Parent and Carers' Writing and Vocabulary Workshop – Rowan House Children 1:45 to 3:00pm 18 th Fathers' Day
Mon 19th June	21 st Year 1 Computing Day (Squirrel Learning Co.) 22 nd Full Governors' Meeting 23 rd Reception Parents' and Carers' Writing and Vocabulary Workshop – Willow House Children 1:45 to 3:00pm
Mon 26th June	26 th Whole School Assessment Week 29 th Year 2 Topic Assembly 8.55a.m. (Parents/ Carers welcome to attend) 30 th Reception Parents' and Carers' Writing and Vocabulary Workshop – Yew House Children 1:45 to 3:00pm
Mon 3rd July	3 rd Whole School Health Week 3 rd Year 6 L.A. Transition Week (days to be confirmed for visiting new schools) 6 th Sports Day (KS2: 9:15 to 11:30a.m, EYFS & KS1: 1:30 to 3:00p.m.) 7 th Year 1 Topic Assembly 8.55a.m. (Parents/ Carers welcome to attend) 7 th – 10 th Year 6 PGL Residential Visit
Mon 10th July	10 th Whole School Enterprise Week (preparations for Summer Fair) 13 th Curriculum Governors' Meeting 14 th End of Year Reports to Parents and Carers 14 th Summer Fair 3.30p.m.
Mon 17th July	17 th Informal Optional Parent and Carer Open Afternoon 3:30-5:00pm 20 th Year 6 leavers' Assembly 9:00am 20 th Year 6 Leavers' Disco 5:00-7:00pm 21 st End of Term for all Children
Mon 24th July	24 th INSET Day School Closed for all Children 25 th INSET Day School Closed for all Children

From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow...

