



*'As individuals we let our 'light' shine, but **we shine brighter together.**'*

Blink and January's almost over!

There has been some fantastic learning this term and it is always such a pleasure when children come and show me what they've been up to. Just yesterday, I was invited to read some fantastic writing on wolves (more later) and was struck not only by the quality of it but also the passion with which pupils talked about their learning. More information about what each class is covering each term can be found on our website: <https://www.oaksey.wilts.sch.uk/classes/>

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so generously towards stocking our school with recommended reads for each year group. We have been very touched by the response. We now have lots of exciting books for our children to engage with—on a whole range of topics. Sapphire were very excited when a big delivery arrived for them!

Thank you also to all of our regular volunteers who come in to listen to readers. You make such a big difference in helping our children to become confident, fluent readers. If anyone is interested in joining our team of volunteers, please let the office know.

Miss Prichard

Upcoming Events

Monday 26th January

Parents' Evenings
3:30– 6pm

Monday 2nd February

Parent Café: Understanding Your Child's Behaviour with Terry Jones, 9—10:15am

Wednesday 4th February

Times Tables: How to Support Your Child at Home (for parents of children in Emerald Class), 3:30—4pm

Books to Inspire

We are still looking for some books for Years 4, 5 and 6. We would welcome donations for these year groups if you have any books from the recommended lists that you no longer use. Parents/carers can also support by buying the books from Barn Owl Books in Malmesbury, who have kindly offered us a 20% discount: info@barnowlbooks.co.uk 01666 846336

English Hub Partnership

A priority for us this year which we hope to obtain grant funding for is the purchase of decodable books that align with our phonics scheme. We want to be able to send home physical books that enable children to practise sounds taught in phonics sessions in school. We have engaged with our local English Hub to provide specialist advice and look forward to working with them over the coming months.

Emerald Class: An Engineer Visits

In History Emerald are learning about railways and the impact they had on life in Britain. Last week they enjoyed a visit from Mr. Richards who came to show them how a steam engine worked. Thank you to Mr. Richards for a great talk and demonstration which really brought the topic to life.



A Snapshot of our Fortnight...

Ruby

As part of their learning about Light and Dark, Ruby have been creating different shades of one colour. They are also starting to explore how electricity works and will be building a simple circuit in the coming weeks. Once a fortnight Ruby Class visit the mobile library when it stops in the village. Here they are enjoying sharing the books they have borrowed with their Year 6 buddies.



Sapphire

Sapphire have produced some fantastic leaflets about wolves which they shared in our Superstar assembly. Thank you for teaching us so much about wolves and for such brilliant writing! They are also growing crystals for their class treat. More to follow for how they get on in the News section of School Jotter.



Emerald

Emerald have been busy classifying animals in Science this week. In Art they are looking at the artwork of Henri Matisse and cutting and layering paper to create images. In gymnastics they've been creating paired balances—wow!



Diamond

Diamond have been reading 'The Island' by Armin Greder in English. The main character does not have a voice in the text and they discussed why the author made this decision and the effect that it had. Diamond then wrote a diary entry in role as the man to explore 'unsilencing' his voice.



Fundraising Priorities this Year

There are several priorities we are working on this year in terms of FoOS fundraising. These are:

- Developing play opportunities at lunchtime by encouraging imaginative and creative play. We would like to install storage and purchase den-building equipment, open-ended resources for construction, a mud kitchen and different role-play areas.
- Developing the outdoor area for Ruby to enhance their learning opportunities. We would like to install a covered area so that Ruby can flow between indoor and outdoor activities whatever the weather.

Over the past few years, one of the projects FoOS has fundraised for is the building of a quiet/sensory room. Any money already donated for this will be used for this purpose. There is still a significant amount of money that needs to be raised for this and it is therefore a long-term project. We will run specific fundraising events for this. The FoOS AGM will be on 24th February, with the time to be confirmed.

Parent Café

We are delighted to be able to offer a Parent Café on Monday 2nd February, 9-10:15am where our Parent Support Advisor, Terry Jones, will be sharing advice on the theme of 'What is my child's behaviour trying to communicate and what can I do about it?'

This will be a great opportunity to meet Terry and ask any questions you may have about your child's behaviour. Terry has also worked with the Sleep Charity and has plenty of expertise in this area so if you have concerns about your child's sleep routine, she is the person to speak to. Please register your interest by emailing Rachel Woods: senco@oaksey.wilts.sch.uk

Multiplication Times Tables Check for Year 4 Pupils

In June all Year 4 pupils will take the Multiplication Tables Check, a statutory Key Stage 2 assessment. The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics.

What is the Multiplication Tables Check?

The check is on-screen and consists of 25 times tables questions. Children will answer 3 practice questions before moving on to the check where they will have 6 seconds to answer each question. The check will take no longer than 5 minutes to complete. Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>

Parent Information Session, Times Tables: How to Support Your Child at Home

Miss Prichard will be running a parent information session on Wednesday 4th February, 3:30—4pm for parents of children in Emerald Class. This will cover how times tables are taught in school and give practical tips, games and apps to help support your child.



Dogs and Doorbells

A polite reminder not to bring dogs onto the playground/school grounds. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

If you are dropping off/picking up for Oakwell, please use the doorbell labelled Oakwell. If you are picking your child up from another after-school club, please wait on the playground until 4:15pm.

Understanding Your Child's Behaviour



Join us for a parent cafe with support and advice from Terry Jones (Parent Support Adviser)

Please register your interest by emailing senco@oaksey.wilts.sch.uk

Monday 2nd February
9 am-10:15 am
School Hall

A colorful poster for 'HOLIDAY CLUB'. At the top, it says 'HOLIDAY CLUB' in large green letters. Below this, there are three boxes: 'ACTIVITIES' listing 'FOREST SCHOOL', 'ARTS AND CRAFTS', 'COOKING', and 'AND LOTS MORE...'; 'MON-THURS 8AM-5PM'; and 'AGES 4-12'. At the bottom, it says 'CRUDWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL' and 'WWW.OAKWELLCHILDCARE.CO.UK/HOLIDAY-CLUB'. The background features a sun, clouds, and an illustration of two children playing in a grassy field.

Grants

We would like to thank the Malmesbury Area Community Trust who have awarded us a grant to develop the room off the hall into a multi-functional space. We will use it for small group work, as a calm space, for Music lessons and as a meeting/training room.

We would also like to thank Dyson who have given us a contribution to den-building equipment and storage.

Superstars Celebration

Thank you to everyone who has returned superstar badges over the last fortnight. If you can keep returning them, we would be grateful.

Learning and attitudes recognised as 'above and beyond' are celebrated in our Weekly Superstars Celebration. Our Superstars this week are:



Ruby Class

Thomas for exploring so enthusiastically, observing so carefully and commenting so interestingly on his findings. Great job Thomas!

Sapphire Class

Willow for working really hard in phonics and English. You wrote some great facts about wolves. Very impressive.

Rosamund for writing an amazing mini-book about wolves and for being an absolute star.

Emerald Class

Cally for great innovations when planning her story. You did a great job changing and adapting content to suit the theme. We can't wait to read it!

Tilly for trying her best in all areas, particularly English and Maths. So many people have noticed—well done!

Diamond Class

Lucy for being a kind and supportive friend. Thank you, Lucy.

Charlie for showing perseverance in all areas of his learning and for being such a lovely person.



Our 'We Shine Brighter Together' Award goes to someone who has demonstrated one of our school values and by doing so, contributes towards making our school the best it can be. This week's award goes to **Leo in Emerald Class** for encouraging and supporting a Year 2 child who was feeling nervous at the swimming pool. Thank you Leo, your kindness had a big impact on someone else and means a lot to us all.

From all the Staff and Governors at Oaksey CE Primary School



'...we shine brighter together.'