



**Oaklands School**

"The best for all, the best from all"

Montgomery Way, Winsford  
Cheshire, CW7 1NU  
Telephone: 01606 551048

**Head Teacher: Neil Oxley**

10<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Headteachers Newsletter**

I hope you have had a nice Christmas break and your child has enjoyed their return to school.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you a belated Happy New Year and inform you of upcoming events for this term

### **Spring Term 2024:**

I would like to remind parents to use the school website to find key information including curriculum plans and school policies. The website also includes copies of letters sent out and they can be found under Parents/Carers/Letters. The school website can be accessed at: [www.oaklandsschool.org](http://www.oaklandsschool.org)

Some parents and carers mentioned in the questionnaire completed last year, that they would like to know more about what their child is learning. Therefore, I recommend that you look in the curriculum area of the school website, where you can find the year plan, together with additional information for each subject. If you would like more information about a subject, please contact the school office and they will arrange for your child's teacher to contact you.

### **School meals:**

Please note the cost of a school dinner is £2.85 per day/£14.25 per week. This can be paid weekly or daily if necessary. Payments can be made via our on-line payment system SchoolMoney. Please contact the school office if you are unable to access this system.

Sample menus are available to view on our website under School Info/Lunch menus. Please note that the menus cover a sample three week period and are subject to change as and when required. Allowances are made for seasonal alterations – e.g. Christmas lunch; themed days; new foods becoming available and special days.

### **Pupil Absence:**

Parents are required to phone school on the first day of absence before 9.15am on 01606 551048 and select option 2 – to report a pupil absence.

### **Transport:**

If parents have any issues regarding transport to and from school please contact the relevant authority on the following numbers:

- Cheshire West – 01244 973637
- Cheshire East – 01270 371485

### **EHCP Annual Reviews:**

Annual reviews will take place for year 10, 9 and 8 students this term. Further information will be sent out individually. Annual reviews for other year groups will be completed as displayed in the table below:

<b>Annual Review Timetable 2023/24</b>	
Year 7	Summer term
Year 8	Spring/Summer term
Year 9	Spring term
Year 10	Autumn/Spring term

### **Charity support**

For this term, charities the school will be supporting are:

- National Society for the Protection of Cruelty against Children (NSPCC)
- World Down Syndrome Day
- Red Nose Day /Comic Relief

We will provide you with further information of charity events as required.

### **Assembly Focus / information provided to students**

Alongside our weekly reward and celebration assemblies, each term we provide additional information during assemblies to provide further information and discussion around key themes. This term we are looking at:

- Careers
- NSPCC Number Day
- Safer Internet Day
- World Book Day
- LGBT History Month

## **Rainbow Flag Award**

I am pleased to inform you that we have recently been awarded the Rainbow Flag Award. The Rainbow Flag Award is a national quality assurance framework for all schools and youth-centred organisations. The award focuses on positive LGBT+, (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, plus other related identities), inclusion and visibility.

The Rainbow Flag Award encourages a whole organisation approach to LGBT+ inclusion, as well as developing strategies to effectively challenge and combat LGBT phobic bullying.

Thank you to Mrs Rowley Vines for leading on this award and for all the hard work she has put in to achieving the award.

## **Residential/Day visits:**

Please ensure any paperwork and medical consent forms are signed and returned to the school office promptly. It is a real shame when students are not permitted to attend trips due to parents/carers not completing and returning reply slips, so please support with this when requested.

## **Parking/Collecting students:**

Please can we ask if you are collecting a student that you are courteous to our local residents and, where possible, park your vehicle in the shop car park opposite the school to ease congestion. Please do not park in a way that blocks driveways or pedestrian crossing points as this causes frustration for our neighbours.

If you collect your child from the school gate, again please be considerate of our neighbours and I ask that you do not lean on residents walls as we will then receive complaints.

## **Uniform Policy:**

As mentioned in my last newsletter we will be ensuring that all students will be wearing the full expected school uniform, as explained in the School Uniform and Appearance Policy which can be found on the school website in the Parents/Carers tab, then in School Uniform area. Below is a section from the policy that explains the expectations around uniform.

## **School Uniform:**

### **Coat:**

A suitable coat or jacket for wearing at break/lunchtime during cold, wet weather to be removed when in school.

**Blazer:**

Black blazer with school badge:



**Optional V Neck Jumper:**

Green with school badge:



**Tie:**

Green and gold narrow stripe:



**Shirt:**

White long or short sleeve with collar – top button to be fastened and shirt tucked in



**Skirt:**

Black knee-length – worn with black or white knee-high socks or tights

No tight fitting skirts or skirts with splits.



**Trousers and Shorts:**

Black formal style - The trousers must be of standard length, without decorations, shorts must be formal. Tight-fitting, cargo, low cut jeans or jean style trousers and sports shorts are unacceptable.





**Footwear:**

All black low heeled shoes/pumps, enclosed at the heel and toe.

**All footwear must be plain black and have no logos.**



**Please ensure that all items of clothing and footwear are clearly labelled.**

**Allergen Information Update:**

**We are now an allergen aware school.**

In my Autumn newsletter I explained that we were a nut free school. In line with current guidance, we have changed our position slightly such that we are now an allergen aware school. The change of approach means that we will allow some cooking ingredients that state they may contain nuts in classes where no students have a known nut allergy.

We will continue to support any student with a known allergy, as explained in our Pupil Allergen Policy published on our website. If you have any feedback on the approach we have taken in the policy, please contact me and I will be happy to discuss any concerns or queries with you.

To continue to keep students safe, we ask that you ensure that your child does not bring food/snacks into school that contain or may contain nuts, as we can't monitor the food that all students bring into school. We therefore ask that you continue to have no nut products in your child's lunch boxes.

For example:

Peanut butter sandwiches

Chocolate spreads

Cereal bars

Some granola bars

Cakes that contain nuts

Biscuits / Cookies that contain nuts

Peanut butter cakes

Some Asian food, including satay

Sauces that contain nuts

*This list is not exhaustive, so please check the packaging of products closely.*

We appreciate that this is an additional thing for you to check, and that you may need to buy different food products. However, I am sure you recognise the importance and that we must work together to care for all the children who attend Oaklands.

**To ensure the children are safe we ask that you do not bring in any cakes or treats for your child to give out to their peers on such occasions as birthdays, as we cannot guarantee that ingredients are safe for all children.**

Thank you in advance for your support in this matter, as always, it is very much appreciated.

### **Spring Term Diary Events**

Please find below some diary events for the Spring Term - more information and timings will be provided closer to the event. We will inform you of other events when appropriate.

#### **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Year 7 Dangerpoint Visit**

Year 7 will be visiting Dangerpoint Educational Activity Centre in Holywell, North Wales, to support their learning in PSHE.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – NSPCC Number Day**

Students will be taking part in maths based activities, as well as fundraising for, and learning about, the work the NSPCC do.

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March – 2Engage theatre workshops**

2Engage Theatre Company will be in school to provide performances and workshops for Year 8 and Year 11 students.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Year 9 Quarry Bank Mill Visit**

Students in Year 9 will be visiting Quarry Bank Mill in Styal to help support their learning in both Geography and Design Technology.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Year 7 World Museum Visit**

Year 7 will be visiting the World Museum in Liverpool as part of the Art curriculum.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Year 11 and Year 12 Parents Evening**

Parents and carers of students in Year 11 and Year 12 will be invited to arrange appointments with their child's teachers to discuss progress and any areas of concern. This will take place in school.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day/Sport Relief**

Students will be taking part in various activities to fundraise for Comic Relief/Sport Relief and will also learn about how the money they raise is used to help people across the world.

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Year 9 Residential**

Year 9 students will attend a three night outdoor education residential visit to the Redridge Outdoor Activity Centre in Welshpool.



## 2023-2024 SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

### SPRING TERM 2024

School re-opens	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
Break up for half term	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
School re-opens	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
School closes	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024

### SUMMER TERM 2024

School re-opens	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
School closes	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
School re-opens	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024
School closes	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024

### INSET DAYS – School closed to students

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024

I appreciate the time you have taken to read this letter, and as always if you have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours sincerely



Mr N Oxley  
Headteacher