



Oaklands School

"The best for all, the best from all"

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

Head Teacher: Neil Oxley

11th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Headteachers Newsletter

I hope you have had a nice summer and your child has enjoyed their return to school. It has been great to welcome the students back and in particular our new year 7 as they start their journey at Oaklands.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the new academic year and inform you of the changes to staffing and upcoming events for this term.

Autumn Term 2023

New Appointments:

I would like to welcome Hannah Meeks and Amanda Acton who start their first full term with us as Teaching Assistants and will be supporting in Year 7.

We welcome Miss Hannah Pearson into the role of teacher. Hannah has been with us a teaching assistant previous to this year.

School Website - www.oaklandsschool.org

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 that are sent which can be found under Parents/Carers/Letters.

Some parents and carers mentioned in the questionnaire that was completed in the summer term, 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 then 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.

Please find attached sample menus to give you ideas of what choices could be available. Please note that the menus cover a sample three week period and are subject to change as and when required.

An OFSTED Outstanding School 2010/2011, 2013/2014, 2014/2015 and 2019/2020

www.oaklandsschool.org



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 11 and 12 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:

Annual Review Timetable 2023/24	
Year 7	Summer term
Year 8	Spring/Summer term
Year 9	Spring term
Year 10	Autumn/Spring term
Year 11	Autumn term
Year 12	Autumn term

Charity support:

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

- Macmillan
- The Mid-Cheshire Foodbank (for the Harvest Festival celebrations)
- The British Legion
- Children in Need
- Save the Children (Christmas Jumper Day)

We will provide further information of charity events as required.

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 children:

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 summer 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 that 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.



We are a Nut free school:

We have taken the decision to become a Nut Free school as children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.

If someone has a nut allergy it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction, just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties).

First aid staff in the school are trained to use the Epi-pens (an injection of adrenalin) which is required immediately if this happens.

We cannot have nuts in school in any form as it is not fair or right to put any child at risk. We therefore ask that you have no nut products in the lunch boxes or brought into school as treats.

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.

Autumn Term Diary Events and term Dates 2023:

Please find below the diary events for the Autumn Term. Please be aware that more information and timings will be provided closer to the event.

- **Wednesday 20th September - Year 7 Petty Pool visit**
Our year 7 students will spend a day at the Outdoor Education Centre at Petty Pool, Northwich. The children will take part in team building and confidence boosting activities to help them have a great start to the year.
- **Thursday 28th September – School photographs**
Tempest photography will be in school to take individual school photographs.
- **Friday 29th September – Macmillan Coffee morning**
Join us for our annual coffee morning and to have a leisurely catch up with other parents/carers. The Key Stage 4 Hospitality and Catering Group will be running the event for you.
- **Friday the 6th October - Year 7 Coffee Morning**
This will be a chance for year 7 parents and carers to meet their child's form tutor and year group teaching assistants to hear about what the students have been learning and how they have transitioned during the start of year 7.
- **Wednesday 11th – Friday 13th October – Year 8 Residential**
Our year 8 students will be going on their two night outdoor education residential to the Conwy Centre on the Isle of Anglesey.
- **Thursday 2nd November – Parent/Carer Coffee Morning**
Our termly coffee morning will focus on mental health and wellbeing and how we can work together to support students and families.
- **Tuesday 21st November – Virtual Parents/Carers Evening**
This will be the first parent/carer evening of the year. Parents/carers will be given a 8 min virtual meeting slot with their child's form tutor to discuss how they are making progress in school.
- **Thursday 12th December– Pantomime visit**
We are looking forward to going back to the Grange Theatre in Hartford to watch this year's performance of Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

2023-2024 SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2023

School re-opens	Tuesday 5 th September
Break up for half term	Friday 20 th October 2023
School re-opens	Monday 30 th October 2023
School Closes	Friday 15 th December

Autumn term 70 days

SPRING TERM 2024

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

Spring term 58 days

SUMMER TERM 2024

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

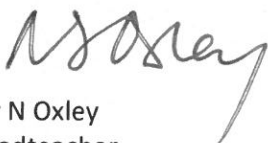
Summer Term 67 days

INSET DAYS – School closed to students

Monday 4th September 2023
Tuesday 2nd January 2024
Wednesday 3rd January 2024
Friday 3rd May 2024
Wednesday 24th 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