

# OAKLANDS EXPRESS

Issue 2: December 2021

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Wellbeing

Charities

Trips

Plus more



## Christmas at Oaklands 2021!

Photograph taken by Tamzin B

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# Half Term Recap...

## **Chester Zoo: 4th November**



A group of lucky Year 11's spent the day at Chester Zoo learning more about palm oil. They attended a special educational workshop and enjoyed looking at some of the animals.

## **Manchester City: 1 7th Nov + 1 st Dec**



Both the girl's and boy's football teams played at Manchester City Football ground! The girls won 4 games and drew 2. The boys teams won 10 out of their 12 games. A Fantastic result for all involved! We are so proud and hope you enjoyed the experience!

## **Remembrance Day: 1 1th November**

At 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, we all stopped what we were doing in school to join in with the national minute's silence. We silently remembered those who have died in wars to help us live in a more peaceful world. We also had special assemblies this week focussed on Remembrance Day.



# ...Half Term Recap.

## **Children in Need: 19th November**



We paid £1 to wear our own clothes to support Children In Need, one of our half term charities. Did you spot the students wearing Pudsey Bear clothes?

See page 8 for more information about this charity.

## **Parents Evening: 25th November**

The teachers were in school until 6pm today! It was a great chance for your Form Tutors to meet your parents via the computers and have a chat about how you've each settled into the school year.

Did your tutor have good things to say?!



## **Grammar and Punctuation Show: 25th November**



Key Stage 3 students had great fun watching and joining in with a Grammar and Punctuation show. The hall was filled with singing and dancing as the students learnt all about punctuation and sentences in a fun and interactive way. I even spotted the teachers having a dance!

# Club Focus...



## **Fitness Club!**

**Wednesdays with Mr Poole in the sports hall.**

Come and spend 20 minutes getting active and healthy! Learn how to use the gym equipment safely and have fun!

*Years 10 and 11*

## **DANCE CLUB!**

**Wednesdays in Mrs Williams' room.**

Come and join us to dance to your favourite tunes! Teach us your best dance moves and learn new ones.

*Years 7, 8 and 9*



# Home-baking...

*Year 12 have made Christmassy Gingerbread Men biscuits. Have a go at this recipe yourself, taken from [www.bbcgoodfood.co.uk](http://www.bbcgoodfood.co.uk)*

## You Will Need:

- 225g plain flour, plus extra for dusting
- ½ tsp salt
- 2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 1 heaped tsp ground ginger
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- 50g unsalted butter
- 100g soft brown sugar
- 100g golden syrup



## Method

1. Heat oven to 190C/170C fan/gas 5 and line a baking tray with baking parchment.
2. Sieve the flour, salt, bicarb, ginger and cinnamon into a large bowl.
3. In a pan, heat the butter, sugar and syrup until dissolved.
4. Leave the sugar mixture to cool slightly, then mix into the dry ingredients to form a dough. Chill the dough in the fridge for 30 mins.
5. On a surface lightly dusted with flour, roll out the dough to a ¼-inch thickness. Stamp out the gingerbread men shapes with a cutter, then re-roll any off-cuts and repeat.
6. Place your gingerbread shapes on the lined trays, allowing space for them to spread.
7. Cook for 10-15 mins, then remove from the oven and leave to cool.
8. Decorate them with icing.

# Ten Minutes with...

In each newspaper we interview a teacher, spending 10 minutes firing questions at them to get to know them.

This issue, we spend 10 minutes with Mr Saunders!

1. What is your favourite thing about Oakland's?

*Having fun with the students.*

2. What is your favourite thing about being a Head teacher?

*Helping students to understand difficult tasks in class.*

3. What was your first ever job?

*I worked in a golf club!*



4. What was your favourite subject at school?

*Science.*

5. What do you like doing outside of school?

*Jujitsu.*



6. Do you have any pets?

I have one dog and a guinea pig.

7. If you were an animal, what animal would you be?

I would like to be a seagull because they swoop down and steal chips!

8. Where do you like going on holiday?

I like Norway and visiting the Northern Lights

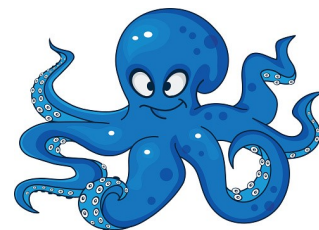
**Speed round:** What's Your Favourite...

Colour: Green

Animal: Octopus

Sport: Jujitsu

Food: Ice cream



Take away: Sushi

Drink: anything but water!

TV show: Futurama

Film: Snatch



# Charity of the Half Term...

## The Royal British Legion



### Who Are We?

The Royal British Legion is at the heart of a national network that supports our Armed Forces community. We're here through thick and thin – ensuring their unique contribution is never forgotten. We've been here since 1921 and we'll be here as long as they need us. We are the country's largest Armed Forces charity, with 180,000 members, 110,000 volunteers and a network of partners and charities; helping us give support wherever and whenever it's needed.

### What Do We Do?

Every year we lead the nation in commemorating and honouring those who have served and sacrificed. We remember those who lost their lives on active service in all conflicts; from the beginning of the First World War right up to the present day, as well as all those who have served and their families. Every year in November, we distribute our paper poppies to raise vital funds to help today's Armed Forces community. And it wouldn't be possible without our incredible supporters. Whether you're a volunteer, member or proud Poppy Appeal collector – or however you choose to support us – we couldn't do it without you.



## Responding To Need

For 100 years the Royal British Legion has been helping serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. From those who served in the First World War to the men and women of our Armed Forces today, we believe no-one should suffer for having served others. As we reflect on our achievements over the last 100 years, we stand ready to support the next generation when they need us.



## Poppy Appeal 2021

Our amazing team of collectors have been at the heart of the Poppy Appeal for 100 years and, as Covid-19 restrictions ease, they are back in local communities across the United Kingdom to raise vital funds for the Armed Forces community this Poppy Appeal. Poppies are worn as a show of support for the Armed Forces community. The poppy is a well-known and well-established symbol, one that carries a wealth of history and meaning with it. Wearing a poppy is still a very personal choice, reflecting individual experiences and personal memories. It is never compulsory but is greatly appreciated by those who it is intended to support. During WW1, much of the fighting took place in Western Europe. The countryside was blasted, bombed and fought over repeatedly. Previously beautiful landscapes turned to mud; bleak and barren scenes where little or nothing could grow. There was a notable and striking exception to the bleakness - the bright red Flanders poppies. These resilient flowers flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, growing in the thousands upon thousands.

Words are from the Royal British Legion website. Formatted by Poppy WW.



# The Reason for the Season.



A long time ago, in a town called Nazareth, Mary was engaged to a lovely man named Joseph. They were as happy as other people.



Out of nowhere one day, an angel came down from God to visit Mary, he had some very good news. "Don't be afraid. I have great news, you are going to have a baby." Mary was confused "But how can I have a baby? I'm not married yet." Mary said. The angel told her the baby is from God, and wants him named "Jesus Christ".



Later on, Mary and Joseph had to travel to another town called "Bethlehem" to pay their taxes. It was a very long way, through the paths, the mountains and hills they went. It was especially hard when Mary was pregnant because they had to go slowly.



Meanwhile in the East, the three wise men noticed a brand new star in the night sky. They knew that when a brand new star came out, it was as shiny as a diamond, it meant the new king had been born. They were soon quickly on their way to follow the brand new star.



Eventually, Mary and Joseph arrived at Bethlehem. They were going to stay at the inn, but it was super busy, as busy as a city. There was no room for them and the new baby.



Fortunately enough, a very nice innkeeper let Mary and Joseph stay in his stable, it was rather uncomfortable, but soon, the new king was eventually born and was named “Jesus Christ”



During that time, some stinky shepherds were looking after their sheep in the big fields, when there was a bright light and all the angels around the night sky were singing. One angel said, “Don’t Be Afraid, I have great news, the new king was born on this very night”. The shepherds soon quickly ran down the fields to the town of Bethlehem to see their new king as they followed the bright, shining star.



Soon everyone gathered around the stable where Mary, Joseph and the new born king was. The Shepherds and the Three Wise Men gave the new king many gifts for its special birth.

Written by Lewis W.

# Take A Break to Chill.



Try this activity advent calendar for ideas on keeping busy in the Christmas season!



1. Decorate for the holidays	2. Make a festive drink like a hot cocoa snowman	3. Make a meal for someone	4. Watch a holiday special	5. Go for a daytime walk and count the holiday items you see
6. Make holiday cards to give to people you encounter	7. support a local business	8. Pick up a festive drink from a local shop	9. Donate new/gently used items to a local charity/donation drive	10. Take holiday photos
11. Make a Christmas playlist and share it with friends	12. Call a relative you haven't spoken to in a while	13. Have a virtual/in person game night	14. support a black-owned business	15. Make Christmas cookies to give to someone you know
16. Have an all red or green meal	17. Give a small gift to someone (i.e. a \$5 gift card, a note, candy, etc.)	18. Listen to a Christmas playlist	19. Call a friend you miss	20. Venture out to see holiday lights
21. Have a cookie decorating party (virtual/in-person)	22. Research how people in other countries celebrate	23. Try a new holiday recipe	24. Read the Christmas story	25. Spend time with people you love (virtual/in-person)

# Puzzle Page!

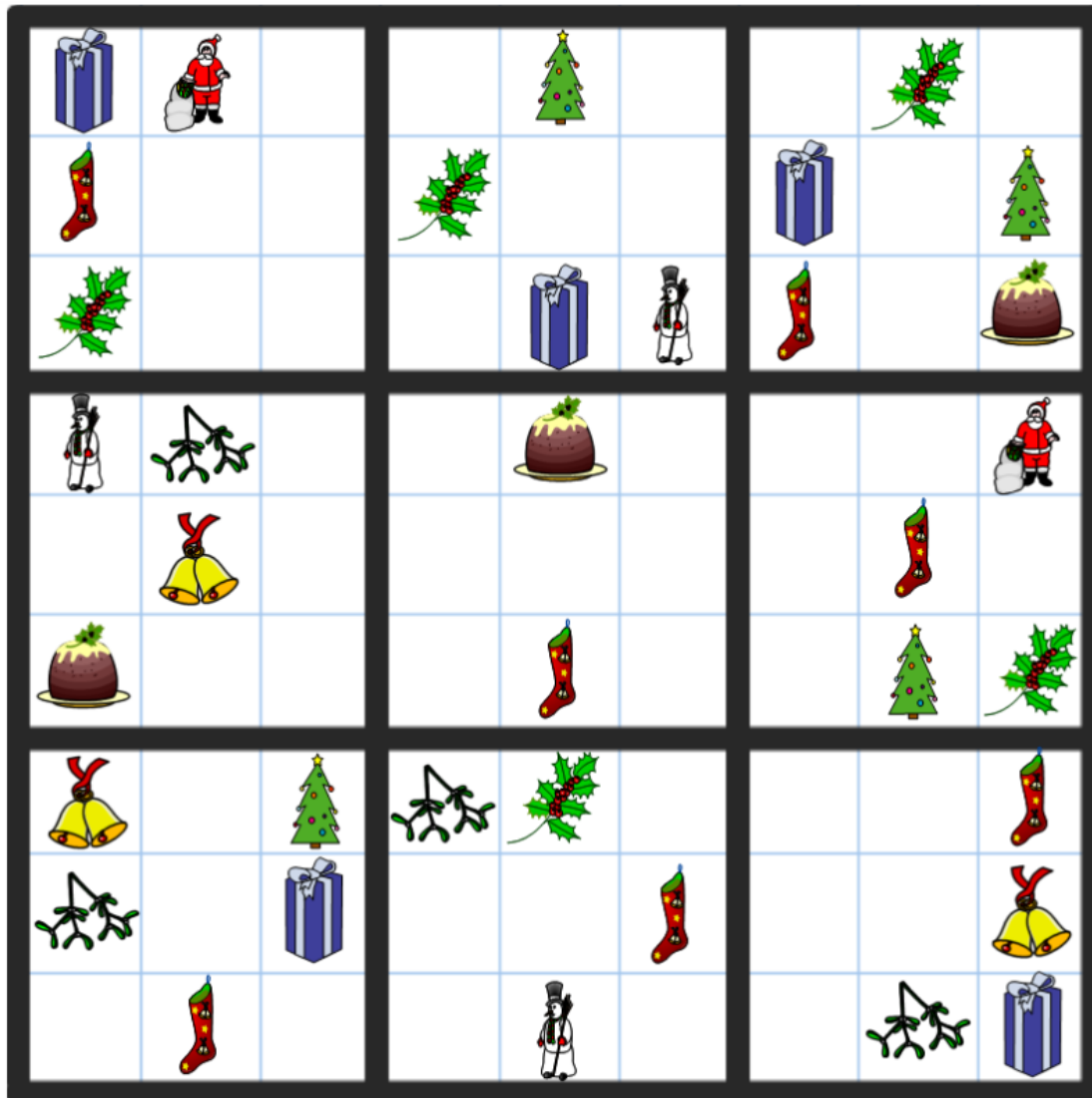
## Christmas Word Search



G L E T W C R S T O C K I N G  
Y I P I D A E R B R E G N I G  
A C O V T R P Y A E C E F F U  
R E A S L E Q I X O C T A P Z  
E M I R Y H A U D P S A J O N  
S E A P O B E T H L E H E M I  
N R U L O L D O N T F O S P U  
A R L S L E I G H A A S U D O  
M Y N O K L T T O Y S I S H R  
W C E N E M E S I W F E T A N  
O B M K A J L O Z Y E G V M A  
N E R N O L U H M G O T E L M  
S O G I E O Y D N A C X O N E  
V E R B I J O T H U W B K A N  
R E E D N I E R Q C A E E R T  
L O O C H R I S T M A S T I



- |                |              |              |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Bells       | 9. Holly     | 17. Sleigh   |
| 2. Bethlehem   | 10. Jesus    | 18. Snowman  |
| 3. Candy       | 11. Manger   | 19. Star     |
| 4. Carol       | 12. Merry    | 20. Stocking |
| 5. Christmas   | 13. Ornament | 21. Toys     |
| 6. Elves       | 14. Peace    | 22. Tree     |
| 7. Gifts       | 15. Reindeer | 23. Wisemen  |
| 8. Gingerbread | 16. Santa    | 24. Yuletide |



# Work Experience

Every Friday we go to a café called Whitegate for our work experience and we do things like; cleaning, cooking the food ready for the next week and we sweep the leaves off the floor to make it all nice and clean.

I love going there it is a way to learn new skills for the future and to work as a team. At the end of the day we get a hot chocolate because we work so hard it is the best and we have a great time we have a laugh every time we go there.

One Friday I helped my friend Olivia make some coco nut cookies, we made about 20 of them for the customers to buy and enjoy.

By Charley



# The Christmas Cafe

**Do you like hot chocolate?**

**Do you like cup cakes?**

**Why not come to The Christmas Café here at 6th Form?**

**We are running a Christmas Café next Thursday 2nd December at breaktime!**

**We going to sell a warm, wonderful hot chocolate and delightful, dreamy and delicious chocolate cup cakes.**

**We have decorated our 6th Form with Christmas decorations to make it look Christmassy.**



## Christmas Hamper

**We are also doing a raffle this Christmas to win a Christmassy hamper which will have lots of chocolate goodies.**

**It costs £1.00 to buy a raffle ticket.**

**Written by Thomas F**