

FOUR OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Telephone Number: 0121-675-4040

www.fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk

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Next Week—Menu 4

21st October 2022

Dear Parents and Governors

Parents' Evenings

We hope that all parents found our Parents' evening sessions this week really useful. You will have found out how your child or children have settled into this new academic year and what targets they need to focus on to move forwards this year. Here at Four Oaks we have always prided ourselves on working in partnership with parents to provide our pupils with the opportunity to reach their potential and I hope this will continue this year.

Year 6 SATs Assessment Parents' Workshop

On Friday 11th November between 9 am and 11 am in the Junior Hall, we would like to invite all of our Year 6 parents to a workshop where we will explain exactly what kind of challenge our Year 6 pupils will face this year in their Key Stage 2 SATs tasks. I would like to stress that there will be no testing of any kind during this workshop and so no-one needs to be nervous or put off. The morning will be all about supporting parents and children alike, and it is really important for every child to have an adult with them if possible!

Pantomime

As detailed on the diary dates at the start of the year, we are now planning our whole school trip to the Lichfield Garrick to watch their Snow White pantomime. Our wonderful PTA have yet again said that they will subsidise the cost of this by paying the first £5.00 so a big thank you to you. Please keep your eyes peeled for a letter about this trip coming out to you very soon!



Don't buy your Christmas Cards just yet!

My Art Project - Fund Raising Returns!



Too early for Christmas? Of course not! Our annual Christmas fund raiser is back for another year! My Art Project is a great way for your child to feel proud about their artwork, allowing you to celebrate in their achievements, but it is also a great way to raise funds after a turbulent few years.



Children will in school, decorate and create their very own unique piece of art, which will be packed, posted and scanned and then you will have the option for the artwork to be printed onto a variety of exciting Christmas goodies. These can be purchased, raising important funds for school. All monies will be invested to progressing the continuation of new and exciting art projects within school.

More details will follow soon, but as soon as work is completed, you will receive an order form in time for the Christmas season.

For more details, you can visit the website below:

[School Fundraising Art Projects - Schools and PTA | Simple | Easy | Fun - My Art Project](#)

Individual and Siblings Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Tuesday 8th November to take individual and sibling group photographs. Please return your form by Tuesday 1st November if you have not already done so. If you wish to have your child's photograph taken with their pre-school siblings please attend at 8.30am at the Infant building on the 8th.



Road Safety and Safety on Site

Once again we have had reports of people driving irresponsibly outside school endangering our pupils. Can I make a plea **once again** for parents to drive and park responsibly around the roads near school for the safety of all our children.

Can I also make a plea to all parents who collect their children at the end of the day not to walk through the middle of the car park please. We have plenty of clearly marked pathways which afford a safe route off-site. We would never want any accidents with individuals being injured by moving vehicles.

Many thanks for your support in this matter!

Dodgeball Fun!



A huge thank you to Mrs. Rowberry and the parents who took our dodgeball squad to their fun competition this week. They had a wonderful time and came away as proud wearers of achievement badges. It was great to see some new and excited faces representing our school. If you would like to see photos of our celebrations then just visit our school Twitter account at <https://twitter.com/fouroaksprimary>

Open Day

On Monday of last week, we had our annual Open Day and what a successful day it was! We had nearly 50 new families visit school and without fail they were really impressed with what they saw and how proud our Year 6 children are of their school. If any parents know of families who are looking to secure a place in Reception in September 2023, and who missed our Open Day, then please encourage them to contact us at school and we will arrange a separate time where they can visit and talk to Miss Appleby and myself.

.Year 1—Orthoptic Screening—Monday 31st October



Year 1 missed out on their vision screening in Reception due to Covid so the Nurse will be visiting school to complete vision tests on all year one children unless a parent advises us they do not wish this to be carried out.

Harvest Festival

On Tuesday we held our Harvest Festival celebrations in school and what an amazing reaction we had from our school community to provide help and support to people less fortunate than ourselves. We couldn't get over how many tins and packets of food came into school, so I must say a huge thank you to our families across the school.

A representative from the Hope Foundation Food Bank came to school later in the day and was absolutely amazed at how much produce he was asked to take away. He told Miss Appleby that the provisions would keep their food bank going for weeks and weeks. If you would like to see photos of our celebrations then just visit our school Twitter account at <https://twitter.com/fouroaksprimary>



Years 3 & 4 - Professor McGinty

Last week our pupils and staff in Years 3 & 4 were transported back in time by the wonderful Professor McGinty who took the children travelling through time to Ancient Egypt and the Victorian Era. They got the chance to talk about their classroom learning and hear lots of corny history jokes into the bargain. Professor McGinty is one of our favourite visitors to school and the children and staff always have a fantastic time, so many thanks to all the parents for contributing towards the cost. It was an experience the children will never forget!





Super Stars and Acorns



The following children received Stars (Infants) and Acorns (Juniors) in Assembly last week. Well done to them all!!

Bumblebees	Mia
Ladybirds	Max
Owls	Emilie
Hedgehogs	Ren
Turtles	Avaani
Sharks	Alex
3E	Rocco
3R	Stella
4B	Isabella
4W	Jacob
5AC	Frankie
5MC	Oz
6B	Martha
6S	Harry



Super Stars and Acorns



The following children received Stars (Infants) and Acorns (Juniors) in Assembly this week. Well done to them all!!

Bumblebees	Cole
Ladybirds	Tamara
Owls	Daisy
Hedgehogs	Benjamin
Turtles	Theo
Sharks	Zac
3E	Joseph
3R	Jack C.
4B	Arvin
4W	Jack N.
5AC	Pola
5MC	Alexia
6B	Isaac
6S	Ibrahim

Courtesy Cup Winners ~ last week

Reception	Nina / Ellora
Year 1	Cassia / Mia J.
Year 2	Carys / Leo
Year 3	Hajra / Annie
Year 4	Jessica C. / Esme
Year 5	Joshua / Harry
Year 6	Kiran / Myles



Well done to all the winners!

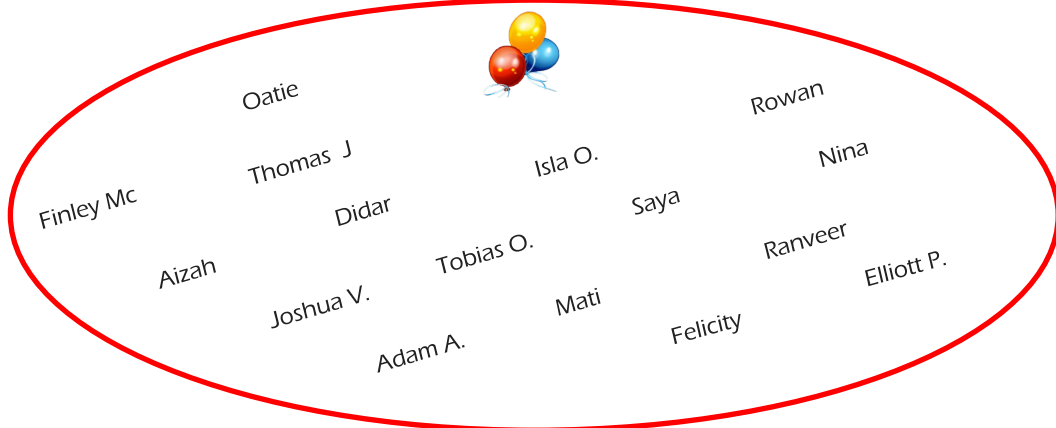
Courtesy Cup Winners ~ this week

Reception	Rishi / Esmee
Year 1	Tobias / Maiya
Year 2	Aisha / William
Year 3	Ambika / Callum
Year 4	Charlotte / Lucy
Year 5	Darcey / Kadijah
Year 6	Oliver P. / Kimran



Well done to all the winners!

Infant Birthdays



Kindness Tree Award

Last Week Infants: Everyone for Harvest Festival kindness
 Last Week Juniors: Everyone for Harvest Festival kindness
 This Week Infants: Isaac (Hedgehogs)
 This Week Juniors: Not awarded



Attendance - Leave in Term Time Requests

I would again like to make all parents aware that the Local Authority are really tightening up in relation to poor attendance at school. Over the last year our overall school attendance rate has fallen from a figure around 98% to a figure around 95%, and this has been noticed by the Local Authority. We are legally required to report our attendance figures on a daily basis, and this is one of the first things that Ofsted will look at. The main reason for this fall in attendance is families deciding to take 'Leave in Term-Time', and the vast majority of these instances are with a small minority of families taking unauthorized holidays. I will never be allowed to authorize such requests, and from this week any requests for such leave which end up being not authorised will result in letters from the Local Authority being sent to parents' home addresses, explaining how they are jeopardizing their child's education, and possibly getting into a situation where the Local Authority may decide to issue penalty notices. I'm sure you would all agree that the most effective way to ensure your children progress to their full potential is to ensure they make use of their legal right to be in school every single day!

Year 1 - Sandwell Valley

Our Year 1 pupils and staff will be visiting Sandwell Valley Country Park on Thursday 3rd November. I'm sure that they will have a fantastic time and come back full of exciting tales.



University of Birmingham Half-Term Activities

There are some exciting half term activities for families coming up soon at The Exchange, which is located in Centenary Square, Birmingham. From 26 - 28 October, they will be running free activities including giant drawing inspired by home, Rangoli pattern making and bug hotel making and it's all FREE!

I have attached a flyer to the end of this newsletter but if families would like to book a space they can do so here <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/the-exchange>

PTA NEWS - A Positive Impact for Every Child!

Our wonderful PTA have been very generous in transferring some funds that they have been raising with your support. These funds will contribute towards the buying of new musical instruments, historical artefacts, CGP revision books for our Year 6 pupils, Bug Club reading and phonics resources for the whole school, SEND reading books and fine motor tools, and £5 towards every child's ticket to the theatre when we go to see the pantomime in Lichfield this Christmas. Thank you for supporting them by taking part in the events and let's see how much we can raise through our traditional annual 'Smartie Tube Challenge'!

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Halloween Discos- Monday 31st October £2 /child

Wear what you like or dress up in your spookiest costumes!

Infants 4:30pm-5:30pm (disco, tuck shop, drinks, tea, coffee, cakes for grown-ups)

Juniors (pizza party) 5:45pm-6:45pm (as above + pizza!)



Please buy your tickets online with the link below. Please note ticket sales close the night before the event.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/four-oaks-primary/#.Yz2CcOzML-Z>



At the end of the disco all parents will need to collect their children via the back door going through the playground and will need to leave via the front door. I must remind all parents that no children are allowed to bring mobile phones to the disco, and all children should be collected by an adult as by the end of the disco it is already dark and therefore unsafe for any child to walk home alone.

200 Club

It's not too late to sign up to our wonderful 200 club. Tickets only cost £10 per number which will give you the chance to win a first cash prize of £50 or a second prize of £20 in our monthly draw as well as some bonus prizes each month which are kindly donated by our wonderful local businesses. Just visit <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/four-oaks-primary> or pop into the Infant office for a form to complete.

October Half Term 'Smartie Challenge'!

All children should have received a box of Smarties to take home this week. Once the box is empty, children help out at home to earn a few coins for their school, and they fill the box with them. Then, they return the coin-filled box to class when they come back to school and all children in the classes who have earned the most will be awarded a GIANT tube of Smarties as a prize! There will be one winning class in Infants and one in Juniors.



No cash in the house? No problem! Use our pta-events website to do it online! (Select your child's class online so the donation counts to their class total). <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/four-oaks-primary/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=52992#.Yz16tOzML-Y>

Playgroup Macmillan Coffee Morning

Our community Playgroup will be holding their Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Infant Hall on Monday 31st October between 9am and 10.30am. It would be great if parents could come along and help Playgroup raise as much money as possible for this very worthy cause.

Milk—Infants

A reminder that if your child no longer wishes to have milk next half term then you should contact Mrs Underwood in the Infant office **before** the end of this half term. We are unable to cancel payments midway through term as the milk is already ordered. Thank you.

Odd Socks Day—Monday 14th November

On Monday 14th November, we would like the children to come to school wearing odd socks!! Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week and helps raise awareness of bullying. The theme for the week this year is 'Reach Out' and our assemblies in school on this day will focus on bullying.



Half Term

We break up for half-term today and I would like to wish all of our families a well-earned rest from the hustle and bustle of school life. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 31st October.

ICT Tip of the Week

BeReal is the latest trending social media app popular with youngsters. Each day at a random time, users are simultaneously notified to take a photo of what they're doing. You have a 2-minute window to post a photo of what you are doing and your surroundings.

Some risks to be aware of:

- 1. Strangers can be added as friends*
- 2. Other users can send inappropriate photos*
- 3. BeReal shares the exact location that photos have been taken.*
- 4. Personal information can be shared if not careful.*
- 5. Photos could be shared publicly by others so while you may only follow friends they could potentially share things far and wide.*

If you have any queries regarding any of the above please do not hesitate to contact me.
Yours sincerely

Mr M Benton
Head Teacher

Half-Term

at The Exchange

Free

26–28 October

Home can mean different things to different people. Express your own idea of home in a creative and fun way this half term.

Rangoli pattern making
Thursday 27 October

Make a bug hotel
Friday 28 October

Giant home draw
Wednesday - Friday

Diya lamps for Diwali
Thursday 27 October

Find out more

www.birmingham.ac.uk/the-exchange

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 THE
EXCHANGE



Book here

MAKING HOME