



Friday 10th November 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of Oaklands,

Welcome to our November Newsletter! We hope you enjoy reading about some of the activities that have been keeping us busy over the last month.

Latest School News:

We've had an exciting and busy last few weeks with many events and activities taking place across the school:

- On Thursday 26th October we welcomed families, friends and staff along to our very first **Oaklands Family Film Night**. We had a great time and enjoyed a very relaxed performance of the spooky and spectacular **Hotel Transylvania**. Families, siblings, pupils and staff shared popcorn and snacks and relaxed on bean bags and comfy chairs for the performance. Some sensible people even turned up in their pyjamas so they could go straight to bed when they got home!
- We will be hosting our second **Oaklands Family Film Night on Thursday 14th of December**. It will be a **Christmas special – Elf!** We really hope many of you will be able to make it. (And special thanks to Jack's brothers Harry and Archie for the fantastic film suggestion!)
- The Senior class launched **Oaklands Tuck Shop** in spooktacular style last month! They celebrated with a variety of Halloween themed games where everyone got involved and more than a little messy! Everyone then visited the Tuck Shop where Seniors had been working really hard to put on a fantastic range of treats. These included **Oozy Eyeballs** and **Dracula's Gnasher biscuits!** The launch was a huge success with pupils, staff and therapists from across the school coming along. Tuck shop is a wonderful whole school activity that promotes our positive ethos here at Oaklands. It provides a lovely opportunity for our young people to work on a wide range of physical, cognitive and social skills. We can't wait for the next one which will take place on **Wednesday 15th of November (2-3pm)**.
- Today we held our annual **Remembrance Assembly**, this was led by Rebecca and our school chaplain Dan. Each class made a poppy wreath to lay while we had a time of reflection and remembrance. We all joined together to sing 'Peace in My Fingers' at the end and were delighted that our Nursery pupils were able to join us to share this special time.



- Following on from our alpaca visit last term We hope to have more **pet therapy** type sessions later in the year. We have recently been in contact with Gill (the owner of a cockapoo) called Molly May. We hope that Gill and Molly May will be able to join us soon and that they become regular visitors to the school.
- Oaklands School has been lucky enough to be given an **Innowalk Pro** for a 4-week trial.



The Innowalk Pro is a motorised training device which allows the user to change their postural position by safely and comfortably transitioning from sitting to standing to moving. Using the Innowalk gives users the chance to experience assisted, guided and repetitive movement in an upright or semi upright position as well as a leg pattern which is similar to normal gait.



Several pupils have had the chance to experience this amazing equipment earlier this week with very positive results. During the next 4 weeks, we will try to give as many pupils the opportunity to try the Innowalk. We will also be gathering some data relating to range of movement, circulation, digestion alertness and general well-being.

We are hoping that the data can be used to support our request for funding, (if Oaklands decides to start raising the funds to buy our own Innowalk). They cost around £34000 each (and dare I say it: Anke would like two: a small one and a large one!)
The Innowalk will be on display during next week's parents' consultations.

More information can be found on the website:
<http://madeformovement.com/products/innowalk-pro/>

Building Works

During the October holiday there had been a plan to complete remedial works required on the school building. This work is isolated to the four corners of the building and those of you who have been to the school recently will have noticed some temporary fencing. The building work is now planned to start next week and we will have a system of internal decants as this work is completed. We're hoping that this will not affect the day to day running of the school.

The planned dates are:

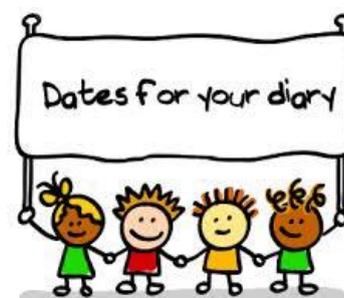
- Keycomm - 22nd November
- Therapy Base - 4th December
- Nursery - 8th January
- Pool - 15th January

Parent Council News

The next Parent Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday 22nd November at 6.30 pm**. We had a great turnout for our AGM and we would be delighted to see as many of you there as possible. All parents, carers and family members welcome!

Dates for your Diary

There's lots happening at Oaklands over the next few weeks. Here are a few key dates for your diary:



Thursday 16 th November	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 22 nd November	Parent Council Meeting - 6.30pm at Oaklands School ALL PARENTS, CARERS AND FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL WELCOME
Tuesday 12 th December	Family Panto (More information coming home soon!)
Thursday 14 th December	Family film night at Oaklands – Elf! (More information coming home soon!)
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Show (More information coming home soon!)
Friday 22 nd December	Christmas Jumper Disco and End of Term

Thank you very much for your continued support.

Kind Regards

Morna