



**Christmas jumper disco tomorrow 10.00 - 11.00.
All (suitably attired!) families and friends welcome!**



Thursday 21st December 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of Oaklands,

I am very proud to say that the last few weeks in school have been an incredible example of fantastic teamwork and commitment by our staff to ensure the very best care and education for all of our children and young people.

There have been numerous trips out of school to experience opportunities all over the city. All the classes have been out on a Christmas trip. The venues for these included the Christmas Market, a barge along the canal, John Lewis for Christmas shopping and Dobbies for a Christmas lunch!

Within school, there has been the usual buzz of the Christmas period. Thank you to everyone who attended our second film night and enjoyed the showing of 'Elf' on the big screen. I think it's my new favourite Christmas movie now!

It was lovely to welcome brothers, sisters and other family members to our pantomime performance of Sleeping Beauty on Tuesday 12th December. This was a great opportunity for all our Oaklands families to come together and share a special festive experience together.

There was a huge amount of preparation for the Christmas Show and we were delighted to welcome so many guests into the school on Tuesday for our 'Christmas Movie Madness'.

We are incredibly grateful for your continued support that helps with the smooth and effective running of the school and helps to make Oaklands School the best learning environment possible for our children and young people.

Staffing:

- As the end of term approaches, we would like to wish **Class 3's** teacher **Nancy Dundas** the very best of luck and good wishes as she goes on maternity leave. We will all miss Nancy's calming and kind presence in the school but are delighted that **Marie Sneddon**, an experienced and well known face at Oaklands will be covering Nancy's maternity leave. Marie has spent time in Class 3 over the last few weeks and she and Nancy have worked closely together to ensure the transition will be a smooth one for the pupils of Class 3.
- You will be delighted to hear that **Lucy Smith**, our Nursery **Principal Teacher**, welcomed a healthy baby boy on Sunday. There's no name yet but we wish Lucy and all her family every happiness with their new addition.

CHRISTMAS MOVIE MADNESS

Welcome

Introduction Inuwalk Song
Staff Choir Silent Night
Nursery Frozen
Class 2 The Grinch
St Crispin's Wizard of Oz
Class 3 The Snowman
Class 1 Elf
S1-S3 Santa Claus the Movie
Class 4 Polar Express
Seniors Happy Feet
Staff Choir Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
(for those no longer with us)
Everyone We Wish You A Merry Christmas

Goodbye

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ALL OF US AT OAKLANDS SCHOOL

With Special Thanks To:
SORAN Academy
State Street Bank
Blackhall School
Ben Harrison (Lighting)

Teas and Coffees will be served in the conference room

- We are also delighted that **Frances Duncan**, former Principal Teacher at Oaklands and Depute Head Teacher at Braidburn, will be joining our **Nursery** team as a teacher on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the New Year to cover Lucy's teaching remit. Frances has already been in the Nursery this term to get to know the pupils and we know she will be a fantastic addition to an already very strong Nursery team.
- In January, we will also welcome **Angela Mulhern** as our temporary **Principal Teacher**. Angela will cover Lucy Smith's maternity leave, but with a different remit, focusing on the **Senior** phase. **Fiona Smith**, our existing Principal Teacher will expand her remit to take in **Nursery** as well as elements of Senior Phase.
- Our **Family Link Worker, Kirsti Willis**, should soon complete the final employment checks and we are incredibly keen to get her started as soon as possible. We know Kirsti will be a very valuable member of the Oaklands staff team.

Fundraising

I'm sure that all of you are now aware of our new fundraising campaign to enable the school to purchase two Innowalk machines. We've set up a crowdfunding page and in the last two weeks have had numerous donations totaling over £3000!

We've been bowled over by the generosity shown in the first 10 days and cannot thank our contributors enough for this incredible start to our fundraising campaign.

We will be setting up a fundraising group in the New Year, so look out for further details and do let us know if you wish to join this group or have any lucrative fundraising ideas! All welcome.

Please do share the link widely to friends, family or anybody who may be able to help.

#WalkTallWithOaklands

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/oaklandsschool-innowalkappeal>

<https://www.facebook.com/stvnews/>

As we move forward, we want to continue to build and develop our Oaklands' community. Over the last term, it has been fantastic to see so many parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and siblings in school. Look out for many more invitations that extend opportunities to our families, friends and partners in the New Year.

We really value your partnership and support and wish all our wider Oaklands family and friends a happy and peaceful Christmas break, and every good wish for 2018.

Kind Regards,

Morna Phillips

Head Teacher

Have a look on our website for a wee Christmas message from the Oaklands staff team!

www.oaklandscedinburgh.co

