

Oaklands News

No 393 June 2013

Year 11 T Shirt Signing

Students off to Korogocho Challenge Week 2013 Goodbye Year 13

Cashless Catering CAFOD IF Campaign OPA Fashion Show



A publication for
Oaklands Catholic School
and Sixth Form College

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Oaklands

Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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For the Catholic church it has been a 'roller coaster' of feasts over the last four weeks. First with Ascension of the Lord, followed by Pentecost, then Holy Trinity and, finally, last Sunday Corpus Christi. There is a particular resonance in the journey of our Year 11 and Year 13 students and the first and last of these great feasts.

On the final Wednesday of last half term Year 11 celebrated Mass together for the last time. For Year 13 their celebration occurred the following evening. Although students will see each other again during their examinations and for Year 11 at their Prom, there is a sense of saying goodbye, a final curtain call, as they know they will not pass this way again. I am sure for all of us we can understand this anguish and uncertainty, perhaps to a smaller or greater degree. Saying goodbye to something familiar, being separated from people we have confidence in and the realisation that relationships will now take on a new format, can be difficult. Moving on and saying goodbye teaches us lifelong lessons and helps us prepare for those times when saying goodbye to someone will hurt so much it makes us ache.

The journey Jesus' disciples had been on with Him must have been an emotional roller coaster; the disciples had already experienced the desolation of Jesus on the cross, then the elation of the resurrection. His ascension into heaven should have been one such heart aching event. They were saying goodbye to someone very familiar. There was the promise of a return, but no firm date, no time and no firm promise that it would be anytime soon. But if we read Luke's gospel we do not get a sense of a final curtain call, 'as he was blessing them, he departed from them and was taken up into heaven. They worshiped him and went back into Jerusalem, filled with great joy'. Their actions do not appear to be filled with despair, so either Luke was after the promotion of a favourable interpretation of events for his audience, or there was something else happening to the disciples.

So what can we take from this and what does it mean for the youngsters at Oaklands finishing this year? The promise of Jesus' return must have offered some reassurance to the disciples. He was a man of His word someone you could trust; He said He would rise from the dead in three days and He did. But beyond reassurance they were now a people on a mission. People confident in their purpose, they knew what they were to do. Someone once asked me how would I know an Oaklands student? This is my hope: When we celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi, not only do we celebrate the real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament but also Christ in His entirety amongst us, His mission and His purpose. It is this that I hope is evident in our students and that they share that ascension day confidence as they go forward from Oaklands wherever that might be.

This half term, probably more than any other, has disappeared at alarming speed, where efforts have

focused on examination classes. I would like to acknowledge the time put in by staff; it is a pleasure to work with colleagues who show such dedication to their students.

You may remember in the last edition of Oaklands News I wrote about the large number of students who in school during Lent graciously received the sacrament of reconciliation in school, often known as confession. Confession appears to be the one thing in the Church that stops everyone cold and gets adults looking for an excuse to bow out. So why do our young people at Oaklands set such an impressive example? This is what one youngster said:

During Lent all students were asked if they would like to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. I was not sure whether to go or not but that morning we had an assembly that told us what to say and do, the assembly helped me because I was nervous about it and unsure.

I decided to go and I am glad I did, as afterwards I felt like a huge weight had been lifted off my shoulders. It made me feel a real sense of relief as the priest said "your sins are now forgiven". You are then given time to reflect on what you have done and how you are going to change. I would advise anyone who is not sure next year, to go because it really is worth it!

Since going to Reconciliation I have made a huge improvement with all the things I was forgiven for and I am trying my hardest not to do again. When you say sorry for your sins you have to mean it as you are not really forgiven unless you are truly sorry. When you receive forgiveness it is time to reflect on the sins you have committed and change your ways to be a better person and that really is what Reconciliation is about.

Returning to the theme of farewells, this term is the point where we begin to say goodbye to students and some staff.



Year 11 have steered their way through five years at Oaklands. Father Kevin led the final day celebration with Mass, students took the lead in the readings and reflections. They then moved on to the sunken lawn for the traditional 't'-shirt signing. Once the examinations are finished their final swansong will be the Prom in the Historic Dockyard.

The vast majority of students follow the Governors school uniform policy, this can be found on the school website and in student planners. Over the last half term I have watched students arrive at school, often alighting from parents' cars, incorrectly dressed, wearing makeup and jewellery contrary to the policy. This situation makes it very difficult for the school. Please do not leave it to the school to challenge your children for something that should be managed at home. If jewellery or make-up is confiscated, parents will be called to collect it from Reception. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Finally, there are a number of families, staff and former staff who are experiencing personal difficulties at the moment. Your prayers are a source of great strength for the whole community and this is very much appreciated.

Matthew Quinn

On our way to Korogocho

From Thursday 20 – Tuesday 25 June, we will be out in Kenya accompanied by Mr Sumba visiting St John's Sports Society in Korogocho slum. The trip is a follow up to the visit of Holly and Lara nearly 2 years ago. We are struggling to put into words how we are feeling



about this trip. To say that we are excited is an understatement! The day we were told that we had been chosen to go – after a grueling interview by Mrs McConn-Finch, Mrs Paley and Sixth Form students Ammaar and Claudia, we couldn't contain ourselves! We were literally jumping up and down – lost for words!

As part of our preparation we have visited St Columba College in St Albans, Hertfordshire to meet the other students and staff who are also going on this trip. At our joint meetings we talked about the aims of the trip, what we can expect and what we would like our two school communities to gain from this trip. While the first trip's agenda was very much directed by CAFOD, this time, we are setting the agenda. We decided that our aim should be to establish a partnership with the community of St John's. We hope that we can start doing things such as sports or other competitions together, hold similar if not the same activities in our respective communities and use skype and youtube to share and exchange comments, views and ideas. We hope that we can help establish a vibrant link with our brothers and sisters in Korogocho.

We also visited Romero House, CAFOD Headquarters in Central London for a security briefing. It was a very useful day as we were helped to explore the different security issues we will have to face and how we should respond to them. The main lesson from the day was that we should do our best to avoid putting ourselves or our colleagues at risk, and the best way to do that is to be vigilant at all times and to think before we do anything.

While in Korogocho we will visit the Sports Centre to see the new community building that we have helped build with the money we have raised. We hope to take part in some of the activities that they have at the centre and visit some families as well. On Monday 24, we will spend the day in the school and see how the students learn. We hope that we will be able to have a live video link with students here at Oaklands so that students can say hello to each other and share ideas. This is really what we want to be able to do on a regular basis.

You can follow our story on our website www.oaklandskenya.co.uk as well as on the school website. We also hope that our story will be aired on BBC Radio Solent. We will let you know the dates and time through our website. Thank you and watch this space.

Londwa Dlamini, Jessica Park and Harry Hick

Winds of Change Georgina Page - 9 St. Margaret

On Friday 17 May together with 13 students, Mr Sumba and Mr Farrell, I went to Portsmouth Anglican Church to an event called "Winds of Change". It was an event that was to promote the IF campaign and help them reach their goal. The IF campaign has been organised by many charities here in the UK to highlight the problem of hunger in our world. The aim of the campaign is to present a petition to the G8 leaders when they meet here in the UK on 17 and 18 June on how they can help end hunger in our world.

The "Winds of Change" event was organised

by CAFOD, Christian Aid, Save the Children and Oxfam. The aim of the event was to inform people about the IF Campaign and also make some pinwheels (to represent windmills). The campaign intends to make a display of 2 million pinwheels in Hyde Park in London to represent the 2 million children that die every year because of hunger.

Our task was to make some of the pinwheels to help them reach their goal. We made them for an hour, making a total of 65 altogether. We also got some pictures of us at work and we made a video to promote the IF campaign. For helping out we were all given a nice lunch and there was a talk about the IF campaign and the 4 big IF's (aid, tax, land grabbing and transparency).

I decided to go because I thought it would be good to help the IF campaign as I believe that world hunger can be stopped if people try. It is really sad and unfair to know that as a world we produce enough food to feed everyone yet because of greed, 1 in 8 people in the world go without food every day. It was a good experience for me because I found out more about the IF campaign that I did not already know (for example, it is organised by many different charities coming together to help).

On our way back home, we went into the Catholic Cathedral and saw the faith exhibition that was on display. There were different displays to represent how God has interacted with people since the beginning. We saw displays about creation, crossing the Red Sea, wandering in the desert, the work of the Prophets, the Tent of Meeting, Baptism and the Transfiguration. It was a very spiritual experience, I only wish we had more time to experience it properly.

Mollie Hale - 7 St. Martin



Oaklands Memorial against Hatred and Intolerance

We are getting closer and closer to our goal – to have this memorial built in our school grounds. It has been a long journey and sometimes we were not sure how we were going to move forward but we now feel we are on the right path. The big questions were what would the Memorial look like? How would we present the buttons we have been collecting and counting?

As we write, we have collected over 1.5 million buttons. Thanks to everyone who sent us their buttons. We hope that all the buttons received will be part of the Memorial in one way or another. Back to the design, you might be wondering what we have decided on. We have come up with an idea of a path made of button shaped concrete slabs leading to a pyramid shaped object that will hold 1 million buttons. Along the path, there will be 'stations of reflection' written by the students as well as by others that will be relevant to the theme of genocide, hatred and intolerance in our world.

We came up with a sketch of what we wanted the Memorial to look like and then invited an architect to discuss it with us. We had very fruitful discussions and now he is going to have a look at it in more depth. With the blessing of the Head, we have also identified the area where the Memorial will be built.

One thing we are very proud of is that we can honestly say that this is our project – we the students are the ones coming up with the ideas and the teachers are just helping us on the way. After our exams, we hope that we can dedicate more time to the project and start a fundraising drive to try and get the funds that we need to complete our vision.

If you have any questions about the project or are interested in it in any way, then please contact Mr Sumba, the teacher who is working with us.

Tess Barrows, Isobel Johnson and Alice Windebank



Former member of staff received into the order of Saint Benedict (OSB)

On Saturday 13th April a number of staff and former staff along with Fr Kevin Bidgood attended the Solemn Procession of Stephen Wilson, who is now Brother Gabriel, at Douai Abbey where he was received into the Order of St Benedict. It was a very moving occasion led by the Abbot and afterwards at high tea all the guests along with members of the order joined together in congratulating Brother Gabriel. Stephen was a member of staff at Oaklands covering in various departments (mainly Drama and Art) from 2006 - 2008 when he left in July of that year to join the monks at Douai.



OPA Fashion show



The OPA Fashion Show held on Friday 3rd May was a roaring success raising £740 for Naomi House and Jacks Place and £600 for the School. All the clothes on show were donated and available to buy during the evening. This was the second year running that the OPA have held an event in support of this local charity. The show opened with students and members of the OPA modelling outfits. They were not the only models, a number of staff also took part in the parade. All the models were resplendent, they exhibited the garments with a professional sashay, gliding down the catwalk showing off fashions from many high-street stores including a number of designer labels.

Creative Writing Competition

On Wednesday 24th of April, Mrs Brooks' Year 8 Set 1 English class went on a Creative Writing workshop at Southampton University. For the past couple of months we have been working with some English undergraduates who used what they had learnt on their degree course to help us develop our own Creative Writing skills.

Upon arrival, we were welcomed with a delicious free lunch. We were not the only school there; other schools included St. Anne's and Chamberlayne. After a few sandwiches, we were seated in a lecture theatre where a published performance poet called Joseph Coelho greeted us. He read a few of his poems before giving us the task of writing a poem similar to one of his own entitled 'If All the World Were Made of Paper,' full of stationery themed metaphors for friends and family members.

Split into mixed school groups, we started to mind map our ideas for a poem using the acronym M.O.R.E.R.A.P.S (Metaphor, Onomato-

poeia, Rhyme, Emotion, Repetition, Alliteration, Personification, and Simile). After about 45 minutes of mind mapping together, we went on to write our own poems.

Some people shared their poems with the groups and Joseph Coelho picked out Panashe's as a great example. Some of the poems were to do with art, music, colours, and even doughnuts!

After the poetry session, we had the opportunity to talk with some undergraduates about their experiences doing English degrees before receiving some complimentary Southampton University pens. We arrived back at school at around 16:00, after a very educational and inspirational day.

On behalf of Set 1 we would like to thank Mrs Brooks, Mrs Harris and Miss Hamilton for accompanying us on this trip. We would also like to thank Southampton University for the day, which we all enjoyed very much, and hope that other students get the same experience as we did in the future.

By Lauren Hogg 8 St. Clare & Ella-Rose Gover 8 St. Catherine

Havant Federation Careers Fair

The Havant Federation of Schools held their annual Careers Fair at South Downs College on 25th April 2013. This gave students in Year 10 an opportunity to think about post-16 destinations of a more vocational variety. Later this year – July 10th 7-8pm - parents of Year 10 students will be invited to Oaklands Sixth Form to discuss the post 16 provision but in the interim the Federation Careers Fair gave students an initial taster to see what else can be studied at 16 that involves more practical learning in comparison to A Levels.

Students had the chance to sample rock climbing, hair dressing, animal care, child development, forensic sciences, electronic and mechanical engineering, film making, careers in the police force, motor vehicle maintenance, textiles and a range of other interactive introductions to education

and training choices post-16.

Many thanks to Mrs Payne (Oaklands Careers Co-ordinator) for organising Year 10's participation in the fair. Students were delighted with the stalls and learnt a great deal about

the choices now available to them.



Monday 8th July is Professional Day for all Year 10 students. We invite parents, ex-students and local professionals to support this event by sharing their career experiences with small groups of students. Can you spare a few hours on that day to get involved in this event?

We need people from all career areas who are prepared to share their journey. Please contact Mrs Payne for further information and offer your support to the Careers Development of our Year 10s.

Further information is available on the school's website, or by contacting Mrs Payne by email:

careers@oaklands.hants.sch.uk



parentport.org.uk

ParentPort – helping parents make their views heard on inappropriate programmes, adverts, products and services.

ParentPort is a new website giving straightforward information on what you can do if you have seen or heard something in the media that is inappropriate for your children. It might have been a programme on TV or online, a film, an advert, a video game or something in a magazine.

Challenge Week 1st - 5th July 2013

Challenge Week is an Oaklands tradition dating back to 1987. Over that time successive dedicated teams of staff have formed a Challenge Week Group who work to put together a fantastic week of enrichment activities. Three years ago we launched a 'new look' Challenge Week and whilst the response has been overwhelmingly positive, this year again adjustments have been made to take on board the feedback received from parents, staff and students. The most notable additions this year are the trip for Year 7 students to the Globe Theatre in London, the extension to the challenge activities for Year 8 once they return from Thorpe Park and the involvement of the Southampton University Robotics Team for the Year 9 students.

Challenge Week is intended to allow students to have fun whilst learning; spending time with teachers and other students outside of the classroom environment, free from the constraints of a timetable. It is a genuine opportunity to work in a cross-curricular way and to learn new information and skills that we could not deliver through our normal curriculum and timetable structure.

Staff have worked incredibly hard to put together imaginative, creative and student-friendly activities which have educational value as well as allowing students to have fun and work with each other to produce something which is both tangible and meaningful.

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have had an assembly outlining the 'theme' of their respective weeks. The booklets will give you all the information you need as parents / carers about what your child will be doing each day of the week and so I would encourage you to read it carefully and keep it somewhere safe. Copies can also be found on the school website.

Parental support for the week is vital if it is to be a success. We hope that by reading through what your child will be engaged in you will recognise the wonderful learning opportunities that your son or daughter will be involved in and you will encourage them to take a full and active part in the week.

Finally, we have been able to subsidise Challenge Week again this year to try and offer a full and fun week at a reasonable price to yourselves. The cost of your child's activity is, we hope you will agree, excellent value. I would encourage all parents to use the new online payment system and further details about this can be obtained from the website or from the school Finance Office.

My special thanks go to this year's Challenge

Week Group and to all our dedicated staff who have worked hard to plan and prepare this week for our students.

We look forward to spending the week with the students and hearing about their activities in the next edition of Oaklands News.



Challenge Week 2013 Challenge Week 2013

Goodbye Year 13

There are still plenty of exams to face but the Leavers Mass marked the end of the formal time of Year 13 at Oaklands. Student life finished at Oaklands as it had begun with the celebration of Mass making it perfect in every way. Students were joined by staff in the Chapel. This occasion is always an emotional one, celebrated with reverence, prayerful contemplation and reflection. Our thanks to Father Kevin for leading the celebration and the Sixth Form team for the organisation.

After Mass students and staff headed to the Brookfield Hotel in Emsworth for a celebratory dinner which provided staff and students with the opportunity to socialise together. There were lots of form photographs, lots of memories, much laughter and no doubt a few tears too. Most of Year 13 joined Oaklands as youngsters seven years ago, and those that joined in Year 12 slipped seamlessly into Oaklands life. They now they leave us as young men and women ready to take their place in the world. May God bless each one of them in their future lives.

Oaklands Catholic School the International Element

Oaklands Sixth Form decided to open its doors to students from the European Union this year, so six students arrived last September to join the Sixth Form for between four and nine months, through a partnership with Interstudies - an English organisation who arrange for students between 16 and 19 years of age to spend an extended stay in a country of their choice. Six young people were allocated South East Hampshire and Oaklands Catholic Sixth Form to try their hand at A Levels. The prospective students passed through rigorous language and medical tests so that they could qualify to come and spend time in our country and study in their choice of education institutions across Europe. We were concerned that students from other countries might feel isolated or would cling to each other and end up in a group alone. None of these fears were founded and our trepidation receded.



Carlijn Hilgenhof from Holland and Alice Cardella from Italy stayed for one term and made many friends during their visit in autumn and winter. In addition, their English speaking was outstanding and they both completed successful projects for History, Health and Social Care and Drama A Levels in a second language that many of our finest stumble with.

The remaining four students chose from the outset to remain for nine months. They were not allowed to return to their home countries during their stay. Though they maintained regular contact with family through internet and phone calls it must have been hard to be far away from loved ones at Christmas and birthdays. However, they have managed it and as they leave us this week to return to Demark, Sweden and Germany each of our long stay students have written down their thoughts about being here at Oaklands. From left to right: Marco Sergio (Italy); Jasper Berding (Germany); Johan Berthelsen and Cecilie Larsen (both from Denmark)



From Marco Sergio, IT:

Oaklands School: a dream which came true.

I am just an exchange student who has made the crazy decision to come over to England and attend the sixth form - I would add the best one! Maybe Oaklands students do not say how amazing this school is, but I do. I really appreciate everything in this school, I feel at home. The staff are awesome, teachers are always available, even for a little chat; if you need, there is always someone ready to help you.

I really want to thank everybody, both students and staff! I have spent a fabulous year in this school and now am feeling like the saddest guy in the world because I am leaving. I know it may seem silly to you all, but I am not good with words (not because of the language) especially in this case where there are not any words to describe how 'everything' this school is and means to me.

From Johan Christopher Brash Berthelsen, DK:

In the time I have been at Oaklands Catholic Sixth Form I have only had good experiences. All of the members of staff and students have been very supportive and friendly towards me and the other international students. I have never felt the same positive atmosphere in my previous school. During my time at Oaklands I participated in the school production of The Wizard of Oz. It was an experience which I will remember for the rest of my life. Throughout the musical I met a lot of people who taught me both the English culture and who made me feel like a member of the Oaklands community.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Oaklands and I hope to keep in contact with the people I have met.

From Cecile Elisa Larsen, Dk:

I found school really good and I really like it here. The lessons were good and I felt that I learned a lot. The teachers were/are nice and they all try to help every one of their students but especially us exchange students. All my teachers made sure I understood before moving on and if any questions occurred to me they would answer them. The school itself has been very welcoming, students and staff included. The school is a fun place to be in breaks or free lessons but also a quiet place to study (when that is needed).

I have enjoyed myself a lot here and will be sad to say goodbye to the school, the teachers and my fellow students. Thank you for letting me be here this year and supporting me.

In September 2013 we look forward to our second group of students from a range of both EU and international countries. These students bring an infusion of culture and imbue the Sixth Form with a sense of the global stage onto which all our young people must now set foot. We have arranged for 12 students to join us in September 2013 from Belgium, Italy, Spain, Chile, the Czech Republic and Slovakia. They will join our A Level courses both for their own experience and accomplishment but also to enthuse and inform our own native Hampshire students and to fully embrace Oaklands Sixth Form life and study.

Oxford Conference

On a cold Friday morning we (a group of Year 11 students) headed to the 'Gifted and Talented' Student Conference in Oxford Town Hall. The line up included: Does a snail have a conscience? The Philosophy of an Embryo and an Animal Rights debate.

With the backdrop of the beautiful Oxford Town Hall, we heard inspiring lectures which not only pushed the boundaries of Science and Ethics but also expanded our world view.

A break for lunch was then followed by the most musical of all the presentations – Rock in Two Dimensions; Albert Einstein meets Jimmy Hendrix. Dr Lewney, a man whose name speaks for itself, gave us a glimpse of the complex idea of string theory using his electric guitar.

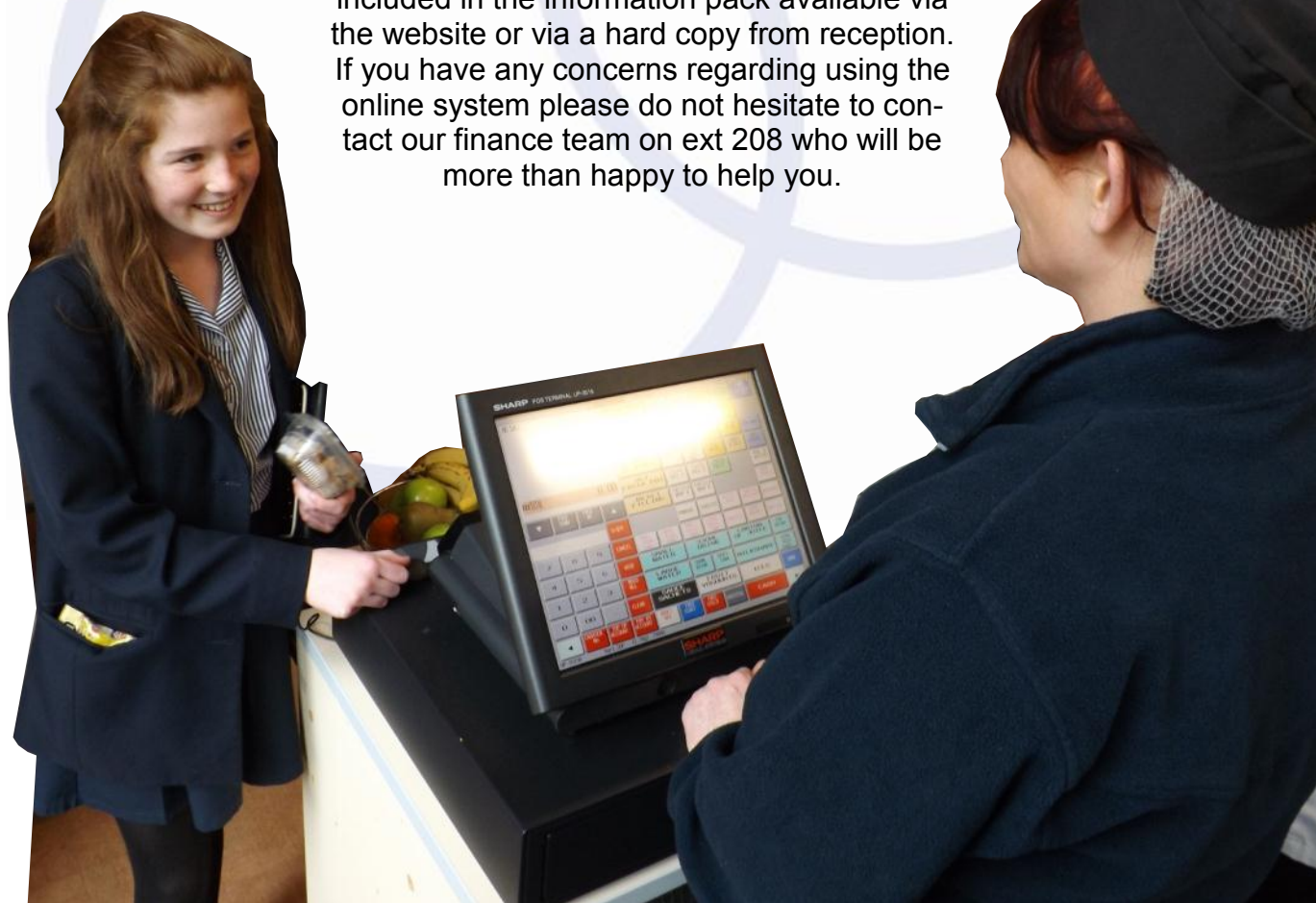
With sore heads we headed back to Oaklands and reflected on the experience. We think that the entire group would agree that the trip was much valued and allowed us to think outside the box. We would like to thank Mrs Palfreyman and Mr Sutton for organising the trip and taking us on this memorable day.

Hollie Marriott-Veck, Hannah Homer-Ward and Esme Scott

Cashless Catering

The new system is due to be installed soon and all parents will have received instructions as to how to register their child's account with our online payment system. We are already training staff and will be talking to students shortly to explain the changes and the benefits they will see from a faster, more efficient canteen service. The increased security for students and improved allergy control are just some of the other benefits

included in the information pack available via the website or via a hard copy from reception. If you have any concerns regarding using the online system please do not hesitate to contact our finance team on ext 208 who will be more than happy to help you.



Duke of Edinburgh Award

A group of participants continue to take part in the Silver Award and four teams have now successfully completed a practice expedition over three days in the New Forest. In between examinations these participants are now planning for their assessed expedition which takes place at the beginning of July on the Isle of Purbeck. It is encouraging to note that a number of these participants have completed other sections of their Award and once the expedition has been completed will be well on the way to achieving their Silver Awards. I would urge all participants to try to complete their Award particularly when the public examinations are over – this would be an ideal time to finish.

Another group of 52 participants are undertaking the Bronze Award and it is very encouraging that a number have already completed the sections organised by the participants themselves namely Volunteering, Physical and Skills. Well done and again I would urge you all to get your books completed and upload the evidence so that it can be approved. The practice expedition in our local area took place on 18/19th May and this will be followed by the assessed expedition in June again in the South Downs National Park area. Let's hope the weather is kind.

Our groups who completed their Awards last year are also to be congratulated because we have recently heard that Oaklands has been placed third in the County for our completion rate for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Our school has been awarded a prize although as yet we are unsure what this is! Well done to all those who contributed to this achievement. If there are any participants who did not finish but would like to, then the door is still open as you have until your 25th birthday to complete any award! If anyone either former or current participants needs any help to complete their Award please get in touch with me via eDofE or leave a message for me at Student Services.

Later this term we will be giving presentations on the Award and 'signing up' participants who would like to start their Bronze

Award next academic year. Year 9 students please listen out for announcements and look at the D of E noticeboard opposite Mrs Oldroyd's office for further information.

Mrs J Hoar - D of E Co-Ordinator

Student Success in National Competition

2013 was another highly successful year for Callam Lee (10 St. Catherine) at the Dwarf Association National Games in May where he won Gold medals in 100m Freestyle and 6 person Relay and Silver medals in the 50m Freestyle and 50 Breaststroke events. Callam also achieved a personal best in the Power Lifting under 65kg category lifting 75kg and winning another Gold medal. Callam told 'Oaklands News' how much he enjoyed taking part in the games and meeting up with his friends.



Once again this year, Ellie Simmons was present at the event together with the actor Warwick Davis.

Keeping up with on-line safety

Our students live and function in an online world – homework, information, news, chat, socialising – and this world is constantly changing as new websites and functionalities are developed. As ever, we urge you to ensure that you monitor your child's use of the internet; ask yourself the following questions:



How often do I check their Facebook page and look at their posts?

How many of their Facebook "friends" do I actually know?

Is the computer located in a central place in the home where I can easily see it?

Do I use filtering software to keep my child safe?

Do I check the browsing history on the computer to see which other sites they have visited?

Do I check the browsing history on their smart phone?

Have I talked to my child about how to stay safe online?

Do they know what to do if they are suspicious of someone or something online?

There is a new website called www.ask.fm which has recently become very popular. It looks harmless enough – young people join and create a profile and can then ask and answer each other's questions. However, this is where the sting is – they ask the questions anonymously. This means that people can post cruel comments or nasty questions without the person having any idea who sent it. As you can imagine, this opens up a hideous forum of nasty, hurtful and potentially damaging torture. Please ensure you check if your child has been using this website – and if they have, make sure that you witness them deleting the account and profile. We have had recent experience in our school of girls who have been victims of cowardly cyber bullies on ask.fm – don't let it happen to your child! Take action now!

Text Books

With the imminent departure of our Year 11 and Year 13 students, a reminder that it is very important to return all school text books once GCSE and 'A' level examinations have been completed.

Text books are a very expensive resource and should be returned to the Library at the school as soon as possible please.



Situations Vacant

Learning Support Assistants

Our Learning Support Department requires Learning Support Assistants for the new academic year starting in September to provide in-class support to some of our more vulnerable students. A good standard of general education is required along with the ability to be flexible and committed to working as part of a team. Previous experience is desirable but not essential as full training will be given. Closing date 14th June 2013.

Chaplains Assistant

Oaklands are offering the opportunity to a young person who has recently completed their education to fulfil the role of Chaplain's Assistant at the school. This will be primarily within the Chaplaincy Team and may also involve providing learning support to students in the classroom. This role requires excellent communication skills, a commitment to Catholic life and reliability with an enthusiastic approach to working with young people in a Catholic education setting. The post would be for one academic year and could be full or part-time. It could be suitable as a gap year project or for someone discerning their vocation. The position has currently run successfully for two years and provides a wide range of experience and opportunity. A generous bursary is available to pay living expenses over the 40 week commitment.

All successful candidates will be subject to checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service and other relevant pre employment checks.

For further information and an application pack for either of these positions please contact:

Mrs Kay Hopkins, PA to the Head on 023 9225 9214.

Farewells

During this academic year we have said farewell to a number of staff: **Mr Paul Gamblin** (Site Team), **Miss Juli-ana Woolcock** (Support Staff) **Mr Jordan Chapman** (LSA) and temporary teachers **Mr Nick Wyatt** and **Mr Mike Bruce**.

Leaving at the end of the Summer Term ...

Miss Marianne Brogan who joined the R.E. Department in 2012 leaves to take up a new post in Bournemouth.

Mr Jonathan Adam, Mrs Julia Platt and **Mr Freddie Wood** have been teaching at Oaklands for three years in the English, R.E. and P.E. Departments respectively. Mr Adam leaves to take up a post at All Hallows School in Farnham. Mrs Platt is taking up a post in London with CAFOD and Mr Wood is leaving to get married and emigrate to Australia.

We thank all these colleagues for their contribution to Oaklands, we will continue to remember them in our prayers and wish them success and fulfilment in all they do in the future.

Term Dates

Term Dates 2013

Summer Term 2013

Monday 15th April—Tuesday 23rd July*

Inset Days: Please note new end of term date for students —Thursday 18th July 2013.

Term Dates 2013/2014

Autumn Term 2013

Tue 3 September 2013 to Fri 20 December 2013.

Half Term: Mon 28 October 2013 to Fri 1 November 2013.

Christmas Holiday from Mon 23 December 2013 to Fri 3 January 2014.

Spring Term 2014

Mon 6 January 2014 to Fri 4 April 2014.

Half Term: Mon 17 February 2014 to Fri 21 February 2014.

Easter Holiday from Mon 7 April 2014 to Mon 21 April 2014.

Summer Term 2014

Tue 22 April 2014 to Wed 23 July 2014.

Half Term: Mon 26 May 2014 to Fri 30 May 2014.

Inset Days for 2013/2014 will be advised in due course.



Oaklands Catholic School
GCSE & A Level
Art Exhibition

Thursday 13th June
5-7pm
In the Gym

Please join us for a drinks reception and light refreshments as we celebrate the work of our students

✉ **Stakes Hill Road Waterlooville P07 7BW**
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☎ **023 9225 9214**



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