

**Term Dates and Events Inside**

**No 414 Sept 16**

# Oaklands News

**Students return from Peru**

**Summer  
Refurbishment**

**Faith and Football**

**Iceland Trip**



**A publication for  
Oaklands Catholic School  
and Sixth Form College**

# Lead Stories



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**Welcome back, I hope you all had a good summer.  
A warm welcome to all our new readers of Oaklands News.**

*Like many of you. I would imagine that your attention during August was drawn to the Olympics. I was addicted; in fact over the sixteen days I stayed up until gone 2:00am for 14 nights. I am still in Olympic withdrawal! I watched some epic action: the tennis between Murray and Del Potro, Farah on his quest for four Olympic golds, Wiggins in the Velodrome, this list goes on. Thank goodness the Paralympics started this week. The dedication and example demonstrated by these athletes is a lesson to us all.*

*Following Jesus and living a Christian life is not something we can casually approach and succeed in, any more than we could compete against Mo Farah. Like the training regime adopted by any successful sports person, our faith is something that requires training, commitment and sacrifice. It requires energy and effort. To be resolute in following Jesus we need to be committed and devoted. If you watched the interviews with the athletes in Rio most of them attribute their success to a routine of eight-ten hours' training, six days a week, it is all consuming. It defines who they are, what they do and how they live.*

*St Paul, in his letter to the people of Corinth, is saying that our trust in Jesus and the living out of our faith needs to look the same way. Living out our faith needs to be something that defines us. Being a Christian is not something we do one hour a day, one day a week; it needs to give direction to every thought, every decision and every action of our lives. This is a tough call. Following Jesus isn't something we do, as much as it is something we are and the life that we live and it means that we need always to be moving forward and pressing on in order to do it.*

### Examination Success

Yet again, students have excelled at 'A' level, and GCSE. The detail at each level can be found on Page 4. At GCSE, 71% of students achieved the gold standard of five or more grades A\*-C including English and Maths. 'A' level results were 99.4%. In addition to outstanding levels of attainment, many students exceeded expectation at all levels. It is a time to celebrate!

### Outstanding Pastoral Care

These achievements are the result of the hard work of students and our very talented and committed teachers. My thanks to the staff who came in over the holiday to administer the examination results. It is always a delight to speak to parents who are full of praise for the school and the teachers when the results are published. Whilst the comments about results are gratifying, it has been the flood of comments about the

outstanding quality of pastoral care and the superb support for the most vulnerable students from parents that creates the great resonance with our ethos. Thank you parents for this endorsement.

## **Praise and Reward**

Praise and affirmation are the best motivators – this is equally true for adults as well as young people. At the end of the last academic year we had the great pleasure of celebrating many students' talents and gifts. The first successes were applauded in July with a week of assemblies focused on the presentation of the Tutor Awards and rewarding outstanding sporting achievements (Mr Tindal on behalf of the PE Dept). These Tutor Awards, nominated by tutors, celebrate the accomplishments (be it academic, personal or pastoral) of their tutees who contribute to the life of the school.

On the final day of term we presented the final sporting honours and also the Governors' End of Year Awards. We also awarded the following shields to some outstanding students:

**Terry Stevens Award (Music)** – Verity Flood:

**The Damien Whitfield Award (Sixth Form)** – Ben Day;

**The Damien Whitfield (Main School)** – Andrew Palmer;

**The Helen Shipman Award (Sport)** – Katherine Shepherd and Morgan Dryhurst

## **Busy Year Ahead**

A busy year lies ahead of us; at the heart of a Catholic school's continual improvement must be the maintenance and development of its ethos, out of this flows our educational intent. It would be difficult for a Catholic school to call itself Catholic without this being the chief priority. Last March I published the term dates and INSET dates for this academic year. More detail can be found in the back of this edition.

## **Ofsted**

For some time, the school has been preparing for its Ofsted inspection. The next inspection could come at any time; in line with the Ofsted Framework we will only receive a few hours' notice. Since our last inspection the standards at school have continued to rise. No doubt you will have read the many articles about student success in the Oaklands News over recent years .

We have much to be proud of from academic success through to our extensive work in the community. Obviously it is important for the school and your child that the inspection goes well. As soon as we have news of the inspection, we will contact you.

## **Refurbishment Works**

Those of you who can remember back to the last Oaklands News, I detailed some of the refurbishment work that we hoped to undertake over the summer. I am delighted to confirm that we have been able to refurbish the toilets in St Thomas More block, including rectifying significant issues with the plumbing, ventilations and drainage. Two classrooms have been refurbished along with work in our kitchen. Significant refurbishment like this is not possible without the parental donations through the Governors' Fund; thank you to all our existing contributors. Work has commenced on the replacement of the roof and windows in Newman block, which will continue until Christmas. More information can be found later in this Newsletter.

## **Communication**

Please ensure that you have continued communication with the school via the normal means. Teachers for subject specific academic issues, Form Tutors and Heads of Year for pastoral issues.

Finally, the school is always in debt to the prayers offered for staff and students. Over the summer a number of families and staff experienced family difficulties or are suffering through illness or treatment. Please continue to offer up your prayers

Matthew Quinn  
**Headteacher**

## Exam Success

**S**tudents at Oaklands Catholic School have once again achieved outstanding GCSE results. Over 71% at Oaklands achieved 5 A\* to C grades including English and Mathematics maintaining the high standard set in previous years. Against the Government Ebac measures, the school continues to be one of the highest performing schools in the area. The Ebac Measure includes the tougher subjects of English, Maths, History, Geography, Science and a Modern Foreign Language.

**Many students attained gold medals including Eleanor Ferris who achieved 13 A\*s.**

The national picture confirms a fall in performance as the difficulty of GCSE exams is ratcheted up and grade boundaries move. I am therefore delighted that we have maintained our position this year compared with last. There are so many students of all abilities who have achieved their full potential. The approach of the school over a number of years has been to ensure that all pupils take a broad and balanced curriculum, with GCSE exams being at the core of this. There are a number of factors that have contributed to our success, the hard work of the students themselves, the support of their parents and the skill and dedication of our teachers are the most significant.



*Nationally the number of A\*-C results appears to have fallen. Commentators talk this year about the negative impact of retakes by post-16 students. However, if I remember correctly, thousands of post-16 students were completing retakes last year. I am told that it is statistically possible to remove all post-16 entries and this still leaves a national drop compared with 2015. So at Oaklands we did well to sustain overall performance and in many subjects, show an improvement.*

*This year the government will publish new progress measures based upon eight subjects, with different subjects weighted according to importance. Next year the standard 5+ A\*-C including English and Maths is out, as both English and Maths will be measured 1-9. The following year, the vast majority of subjects will also be measured this way. All schools will begin to feel the full weight of tougher, more rigorous qualifications. I am mindful of the complexity of these changes but unfortunately we are not even close to the end of the process; the changes to come are more monumental than what we have already experienced.*

*With all this turmoil we must not lose sight of the fact that at Oaklands, the vast majority of students have exceeded potential both at GCSE and 'A' Level and the season belongs to them. Youngsters must take time to celebrate their achievement before rushing headlong into the next stage of their education.*

**Any student who secures a pass grade (A\*-E) at A Level has worked hard for it. This year at Oaklands Catholic Sixth Form College we have seen many fantastic triumphs amongst our young scholars and students scored a phenomenal 99.4% pass rate,** which is comparable with previous years. Over 70% of grades were at A\* to C. A number of students achieved straight 'As' in 3 or 4 subjects.

The subjects in which a 100% pass had been achieved include History, Maths, English, Sciences, Geography, Business, Economics and RE, reflecting the academic profile of subjects on offer. Many other subjects were equally successful.

Our 'A' Level results are a credit to the hard work of students and staff alike. It is fantastic to see the progress made by many of our students from entry into Year 7 through to Year 13. The high grade profile achieved by our students will mean that the majority have gained entry to university, employment and training. Once again students at Oaklands will be going to some of the best universities to study demanding courses. The school continues to justify its strong reputation as one of the best Advanced Level providers in the area.

## Sports Day Results

On Wednesday 12th July, Oaklands held its annual sports day. Students compete in a range of traditional track and field events to earn points for their team house. The points are then accumulated to find an overall house winner. Large numbers of students in Years 7 through to 11 took part. Unfortunately, the event was punctuated by a short sharp shower, with some events being moved to the following day. However, whilst this might have dampened the athletes and spectators, it did not dampen the spirit. Nevertheless the atmosphere of cheerful enthusiasm and a general ethos of 'pitching in' for the team made for an extremely enjoyable event.

After a hard fought morning of activity, competition and fun, there were only a few points which separated the winners from the runners up. It just goes to show that every point counts and every students' contribution is important. Well done to all involved to make the day a great success.

A special mention has to go to the PE Department for managing the day and the teams of staff who marshalled, kept the time and scored the events.

### Results 2016

#### Year 7

Girls	St Clare
Boys	St Teresa
Overall	St Teresa

#### Year 8

Girls	St Clare
Boys	St Stephen
Overall	St Clare

#### Year 9

Girls	St Teresa
Boys	St Dominic
Overall	St Martin

#### Year 10

Girls	St Clare
Boys	St Dominic
Overall	St Dominic

#### Overall Winners

**St Clare**

**Pictures thanks to:**

**Michael Newham-Wnuk and  
Douglas Quinn 9Cl**

## Pastoral Care at Oaklands

The quality of pastoral care at Oaklands is often cited as a reason why students are happy and successful in school. In keeping with our distinctive Catholic ethos, we make a significant investment in the provision of quality pastoral care, recognising that our mission statement of 'no-one left behind' must be a lived reality. Over the years we have continued to develop a model which is fit for purpose in an ever-changing educational and social landscape.

This academic year we have made further adjustments to ensure that pastoral provision continues to meet the needs of students and their families.

With a number of staff on maternity leave we have ensured that staff stepping into roles have the experience required to support each year group.

### ***Heads of Year and Pastoral Staff for 2016-2017:***

**Mr Whelan, Head of Year 7** & Mrs Smith as Assistant Head of Year 7

Mr Whelan was previously Head of Year 11 and Mrs Smith has been Assistant Head of Year 7 for a couple of years.

**Mrs Bonnington, Head of Year 8**, continues through with this year group having picked them up last September

**Mrs Hardaker, Acting Head of Year 9.** Mrs Hardaker was Assistant Head of Year 8 last year and is taking on the role of Head of Year whilst Mrs Mitchell is on maternity leave.

**Mrs Riddle, Acting Head of Year 10.** Mrs Riddle has been an Assistant Head of Year and is acting Head of Year 10 to replace Mrs Bradley who, for family reasons, has stepped down from the Head of Year role.

**Mrs Richardson, Acting Head of Year 11.** Mrs Richardson was acting head of this year group when Mrs Legg was on maternity leave previously and returns to that role again.

In addition, Mrs Mel Brooks and Mr Rich Jones have changed their roles to enable them to support pastoral care at Oaklands.

**Mrs Mel Brooks** is Family Support & Wellbeing Manager

**Mr Rich Jones** is Inclusions & Welfare Manager.

They, along with Mrs Oldroyd, the Pastoral Deputy Head, are Designated Safeguarding Leads and fully trained in Child Protection & Safeguarding. They will be working with trainee social workers to support students and their families.

We continue to have two staff who are qualified counsellors, Mrs Floyd, our Chaplain who also does mediation work with students and Mrs Libby who heads up Student Services.

Our student mentor, Mr Phil Hoar comes in weekly to see students on a one-to-one basis. All decisions regarding students being referred for this internal support are made by Mrs Oldroyd and the pastoral team in school.

We also have good working relationships with external agencies such as the Havant Early Help Hub, Supporting Troubled Families, SDAS, PARCS and Catch 22 and we are very well supported by our local PCSO's Carl Boxall and Terry Burke. This helps to ensure that we have access to specialist help when it is needed. We also advise parents when we think a referral to Motiv8, Off the Record, the school nurse or CAMHS are appropriate and support with these.

Often, parents find it challenging to know where to turn to when problems occur. We would encourage parents and carers to refer to the parent section of the website ('useful articles / links' section) which has updated articles posted every fortnight on topical issues. This summer we have uploaded a parents' guide to 'Pokemon Go' and also posted some advice about mental health in young people.



## **Home school communication for pastoral issues**

Parents should always use the form tutor as the first port of call when there are any concerns about their child or if there is personal information that needs to be shared with school e.g. a family bereavement. Form tutors, where possible, stay with their tutor groups from year 7 to 11; they see the children every morning and build up relationships with them over time so should be contacted with any pastoral issues.

We would politely request that parents do not discuss concerns related to students with reception or other staff; they are not in a position to help as they do not know the individual children. All pastoral issues should go directly to the tutor and / or the Head of Year.

To continue to promote good home-school communication, there are dedicated email addresses for each form tutor and Head of Year. These are on the school website with the links for ease of use and will be located in the Parents' section of the website in 'pastoral contacts'.

Heads of Year / form tutors will check this email address once a day during the working week and parents can expect a response within two working days.

We recognise that emails can be an effective and convenient way to communicate when used appropriately.

Please note that an email to your child's form tutor is not a suitable way to communicate if it is an emergency or if it is a matter better discussed on the phone or in a meeting. If it is an emergency, please phone reception. If it is something you wish to talk about on the phone or in a meeting, you can of course email to set this up.

We would appreciate any feedback on the email system at the end of the autumn term.

**Mrs J Oldroyd**



## **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Interim Headteacher: Mr. Richard Cunningham



**One of the most important decisions a parent makes.....**

### **Choosing a school for your child**

At St Peter's Catholic Primary School we understand that choosing a school for your child can be daunting. Every parent wants the best for their child and wants to make the right decision. We invite all parents who have to make this decision in the near future to join us at one of our Open Days this autumn. Come and see our school in action, talk to our wonderful children and ask the staff any questions you may have – about our school, early years or school life/ education in general. As a school we want the best for every child that joins us. We would be delighted to welcome you, and our children and staff would love to show you around.

## **OPEN DAYS**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September from 9.30 - 11.00am**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October from 1.15 - 2.45pm**

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November from 9.30 - 11.00am**

**St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Stakes Hill Road, Waterlooville, PO7 7BP**



# First Day at School

Our first day at Oaklands was really fun. At first we had an assembly that would eventually take us to our tutor form. We were separated from some friends but we would be able to see them at break and lunch.

We did a couple of ice-breakers. After, we did some tests, in other words, CATS. Break was next and after tests it honestly felt like freedom. We were lucky that it was only Year 7s and Year 11s so there weren't as many crowds. I believe afterwards we had a really fun PE lesson. So much more happened over the transition days to help us settle in.

Aniela Stunt, 7Mt



On my first two days at Oaklands, we had two Induction Days to introduce us a bit more to the school. They helped me settle in because there were lots of ice-breaker activities with the rest

of St Martin Form and our Year 11 Buddies. In the morning of the first day we had an assembly, introducing us to the school rules and the plan for the first two days. Afterwards we went to our form room and did some ice-breaker activities and then got handed our resources that we needed (eg locker keys, planners, timetables etc). I think the first two days really helped me a lot.

Annaliesa Bower, 7Mt



On my Induction Day, the things I enjoyed most were the sports. I liked doing the football with Pompey. I have lots of friends in my tutor group and also pupils in other years. I have lots of friends who used to go to my old school. Also I got nominated for Sports Captain - yay! I can't wait for the future.

Dylan Harris, 7St

## Admissions 2017

### CATHOLIC CHILDREN –

The process of applications for next year's Year 7, September 2017 is already underway. If you are a Catholic family expecting to apply for a place for your son/daughter for September 2017 and you have not filled in an application form, please contact the Admissions Secretary, Mrs Linda White, immediately.

### CHILDREN FROM OTHER CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS –

If you already have a child at Oaklands and you are expecting to apply for a place for a younger child for September 2017 and you have not already done so, you should also contact the Admissions Secretary, Mrs Linda White immediately.

### OTHER CHRISTIAN DENOMINATION FAMILIES

Families applying to Oaklands for their first child to come to Oaklands in September 2017 should also write to the Admissions Secretary, Mrs Linda White immediately.

It is essential, therefore, that all parents applying for a place for September 2017 should contact the Admissions Secretary immediately if they have not already done so. Any delay will prejudice the chances of a successful application.

**In all cases, the closing date for applications is Monday 31st October 2016.**

As mentioned in the May edition of Oaklands News several refurbishment projects were undertaken during the summer holidays.



New boys' and girls' toilets have been installed in Thomas More Block. The total cost of this project was £75,000. A grant was received from the Hampshire County Council Capital Fund for £47,000 and the balance came from the school's Devolved Formula Capital budget.

Two classrooms in Thomas More Block have been completely refurbished, including new furniture. A significant contribution of £12,500 from the Governors' School Development Fund helped meet the cost of this project. This Fund is made up from the parental donations to the school.

Essential work has also been carried out in our kitchens during the summer break to replace the floor and install a new cold room. This work was paid for through the school's maintenance budget.



In addition, work on Newman Block has started and will continue throughout the Autumn term. This involves new windows, doors, roofing and cladding. Although some classrooms will be out of action during this term, there is a phased schedule of works which should minimise the disruption to students. Oaklands have received a grant from the Education Funding Agency's (EFA) Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) for £682,000.

## Faith and Football

In January 2016 over ninety students in Year 9 volunteered to form a business and trade for four months to take part in the Faith and Football Social Enterprise Challenge Competition for this year. Oaklands has an impeccable pedigree in this event and after winning it last year AND in 2013, this year's competitors really felt that they had a great chance.



After registering their company, students met each week in the sixth form block with the Faith and Football business mentor Becki Simmons. As well, Oaklands' own marketing veteran Mr Smith from the English department, was a solid advisor and gave wise advice and energy to the budding entrepreneurs. In addition Oaklands' secret weapon has been our previous winners: Danny Brain and Ewan Elder in Year 11 along with James Saunders and Abhinav Shaju from Year 10 were present each week with scorching critiques and sublime insight regarding the challenge requirements.

All of the companies prepared well and delivered professional and thoughtfully constructed stalls at the first of the two trading days in the Cascades Shopping Centre in Portsmouth. ZigaZagz stood out a mile with their mini paddock of inflatable animals, looking to be the best idea, most innovative and best selling product. Oaklands fielded eleven teams and predominantly they consisted of tray-bakes and cupcake products. Though tasty it was hard to see how the judges would differentiate between the many similar stalls. At the second trading day in Meridian Centre Havant again we represented the largest turnout of schools in the competition. However, a team making candles took the prize for the day's trading and it seemed that Oaklands, though well represented, would not replicate previous years' successes.

As the competition drew to a close at the end of April all of the teams had to produce a detailed business report and present it to the judges. With only six teams remaining, they delivered their finished report. The standout two were Glazed with their giant cupcake half a metre tall containing their report and earnings (£1200 profit!) and ZigaZagz with their life size animal crate and dog bowl for the inflatable dachshund within! As ever Mr Quinn came and inspected the Faith and Football offerings before they were delivered to Mick Mellows who runs the charity. The Headteacher was delighted and duly proud of the impressive efforts involved.

Tuesday 14th June was the date of the Awards Presentation for the finalists who had completed a report and submitted it to finish the competition. Many teams did not and out of nearly forty which begin the competition, only twenty-seven made it to Fratton Park on this evening ceremony.

As the finishers' certificates were awarded to all of the teams we held our breath. Oaklands fielded some superb groups this year. The standard has risen consistently: Seasonal Treats; Cookie Cart; Cookie Queens; Sweeterway; SweetTooth; Glazed and ZigaZagz were our finalists as they made it to the finish line in fine style.

Firstly the Faith and Football business leaders for 2016 were identified. Fifteen students from across the competition were announced. These early winners will be attending an Enterprise Academy every week completing a brilliant course in business skills with considerable practical activities building to an authentic and applied understanding of business and the local networks available; Anastasia Lonergan; Anina Sebastian; Jessica Keeping; Bradley Harding-Martin; Jonathan Dopson; Laura Vahey and Gabriella Mula.



Finally, excitement mounted in the Victory Suite as six of the twenty-seven teams were called up to the front each winning runner-up awards for management, innovation, product design, team work, overall team accomplishments and having the best final report. We all held our breath as two teams from Oaklands were called to take their places in the top group. The winner was to be selected from these teams and would be invited to take a week long trip to Goa in India to visit the children's home, school and old people's homes supported by Faith and Football as well as resting at an occasional idyllic beach, tourist market or cliff-top restaurant at sunset!

Oaklands have done it again: GLAZED: Jessica Keeping; Susie Barrows; Laura Vahey, Anina Sebastian, Anastasia Lonergan and Anju Yeldho are the 2016 Winners of the Faith and Football Social Enterprise Challenge. They will jet off to India in early December 2016 and will be feted as the brilliant winners they are. What a fantastic team!

Very close runners up were Oaklands' other top team, Bradley Harding-Martin's ZigaZagz. These guys win a day at Romsey's Paintball Experience. They also have earned a voucher for a meal together at Nando's. Very well done to Bradley Harding-Martin; Liam Percival; Will Hamilton and Luca Viola.



Big thanks must go to the local charity Faith and Football for creating and supporting this fabulous practical challenge with a real activity and a very real prize. We love being part of it and though we feel sorry for the other schools who try to win we will keep on giving it our all!

## D of E Royal Visit

On May 29<sup>th</sup> Oaklands was honoured to be invited to showcase some Duke of Edinburgh participants undertaking their Skills section when HRH The Earl of Wessex visited Hampshire as part of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Three Gold Award participants – Molly McMaster, Alex Lane and Charlie Peach – demonstrated and discussed their engineering projects. Prince Edward was also keen to know how the school had achieved its outstanding completion rate.



## Swimming Success

Some of our students took part in the Hampshire Schools' swimming competition at the Mountbatten centre in Portsmouth on 26<sup>th</sup> June.

**George Ragg-Griffith** won gold for the 200m Fly, silver in the 100m Freestyle and 100m Fly and bronze in the 200m Freestyle.

George went to Sheffield at the beginning of the summer holidays to take part in the ASA's British and English swimming competition and will represent Hampshire at the inter county National competition in October.

Other swimmers from the school that took part in the Hampshire schools competition were :

**Olivia Burden** who won silver in the 200m Individual Medley, 100m Breaststroke and bronze for 100m Fly

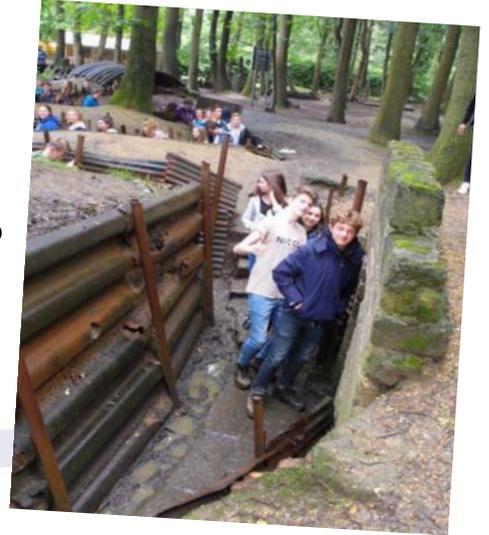
**Ivan Germanoff** who came 13<sup>th</sup> in 100 Fly, 12<sup>th</sup> in 100m Backstroke, 12<sup>th</sup> in 200m Freestyle and 10<sup>th</sup> in 200m Backstroke

**Kate Collins** who came 14<sup>th</sup> in 100m Breaststroke, 8<sup>th</sup> in 200m Fly, 7<sup>th</sup> 400m Freestyle, 9<sup>th</sup> in 100m Fly and 11<sup>th</sup> in 200m Breaststroke.

Congratulations to them all !

# Belgium Trip

On Friday June 17<sup>th</sup> we arrived at school in the morning ready to board the coaches that would take us to the Eurotunnel station. We finally arrived at the Eurotunnel excited for the trip that lay ahead. Once we were there we had a bit of time to hang around the shops and visit Starbucks etc. before our train arrived. When we were on the train it was a short journey until we were greeted by the beautiful France. We then travelled to Ypres and visited the local Sanctuary Woods. Here we got to walk through the trenches and also visit the museum. It was a bit wet and muddy but we managed to get through with only a few wet feet! We later went for a meal and then we went bowling which was a lot of fun. After a fun evening we arrived exhausted at the accommodation and after finding our rooms we all stayed up late talking because we were still so excited to finally be there!



The next day, we visited some local commonwealth graves as well as a German gravesite. We were lucky enough to have a guided tour and we all learnt a lot. It was very emotional to hear about the soldiers and how young some of them were when they joined. We also visited Tyne Cot which was so brilliant. The sheer amount of graves of people lost to the war and just one battle was horrible and eye opening.

We visited the site where Flanders field was written. In the afternoon we had a bit of time to look around the local shops before heading into the Flanders field museum. It was an incredible museum and had a lot of interactive things for us to do and it was a really informative visit. We later visited a chocolate shop where we were greeted by an

enthusiastic and friendly manager and were treated to a great discount as well as deals. We finished our day with a meal and then the Menin Gate memorial.

The Menin Gate memorial was really emotional. With bagpipes and drums it had a touching atmosphere. The gate itself was a surreal thing. Thousands of names were inscribed upon the walls and after we laid the wreath the service was too soon over. It was incredibly moving and is something everyone should experience in their lives. After the memorial we headed back to the hostel for some well needed rest and to pack up for the next day.



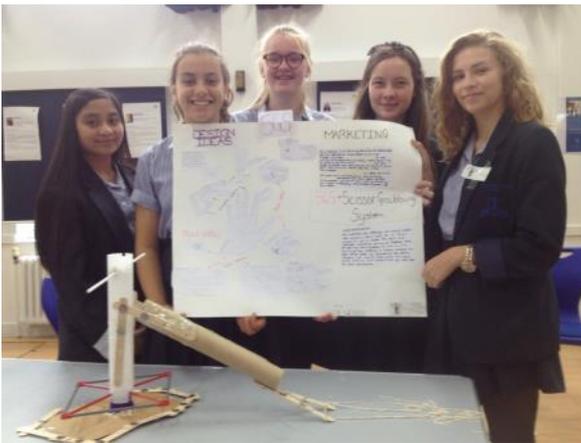
On Sunday it was, unfortunately, time to leave. However we still had a visit to France to look forward to on our way back. In France we started a tour with a visit to Lochnagar Crater. The size of this crater was unimaginable and it was all done in one go. We then went on to a couple more places including Theipval and some other places. Each and every one was so interesting and great that it took longer than planned to get to the ferry port.

Finally we arrived at the very port and after a lot of security checks we were finally on our way home. It was such an emotional and amazing trip and I would like to say a big thank you to all the teachers that went on it and helped organise it. It is definitely a trip worth going on and if not something to do later in life. So many thanks to everyone (Mrs Cunningham, Miss Hogan, Mr Sumba & Mr Horrod) involved; it was a brilliant weekend!

Anastasia Lonergan

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June was National Woman in Engineering Day. To celebrate and promote this day in schools, a special girls only engineering challenge day was organised by Qinetiq, a defence technology company. The day was hosted by Portsmouth Academy for Girls and teams from seven local schools entered the event. Oaklands were lucky enough to be entering two teams into the competition.

On arrival the girls were asked to complete a worksheet to identify their personality strengths. This was used to identify an engineer's profile for each of them so that they could compare themselves to current female engineers working for Qinetiq. The first task of the day was to create an alternate solution for the use of a paperclip. Team Oaklands A: Gabriella Mula, Katie Merritt, Hannah Rowlands, Danielle Abat and Niamh Cooper came up with using the paperclip to increase grip on a pencil for people with reduced mobility. Team Oaklands B: Cody Luter, Erin Luter, Laura Vahey, Anina Sebastian and Anjo Yeldho came up with a range of jewellery from their paperclip reuse. This was merely the warm up exercise to get the girls' creativity and practical minds going.



The teams' main focus and task of the day was to create a robotic arm that could be used to pick up a plastic cup 40cm away and lift it up over a height of 15cm. Both divided up the problem and assigned members specific roles to work on. The girls had basic materials to make their robotic arms from which included cardboard, string, elastic band, straws and other commonly found craft items. The teams were given three hours to create their solutions. At the end of the day, the teams presented and demonstrated their working creations.

Oaklands A came up with a pulley solution to grip and lift a plastic cup. This was mounted on to a base that was able to rotate 360°. Oaklands B came up with a solution that looked like a mechanical arm. It had hand that used a range of string systems to grip the cup and lift it up and down at an elbow style joint. Both teams worked non-stop for the

three hours and managed to finish their robotic arms and test their prototypes, ensuring they worked as designed.

After lunch, the teams were given 30 minutes to finish and perfect their robotic arms, create a poster and practise their presentation explaining the solution to the design brief. Both teams presented their solution well, articulating how and why they came to that final design. Once all the teams had presented, the judges (who were all female engineers from Qinetiq) deliberated and decided on the winners for the five different prizes.



The five prizes being awarded were for 'Most Creative use of the Paperclip', 'Most Innovative Robotic Arm Design', 'Best Presented Robotic Arm', 'Best Working Team' and 'Overall Winner'. We were pleased to bring back a prize with Oaklands A winning 'Best Working Team Award'.

I would personally like to thank all of the girls for all their efforts that they put in throughout the day and the enthusiasm that they showed for the tasks and challenges.

**Mr Horrod**

# Iceland Trip 2016

School finished a few days later for 36 students and 6 members of staff in July, but there were very few complaints as the group spent a memorable week in Iceland – the land of ‘Fire and Ice’.

This was the eighth time the Geography department has taken students to the country and this trip was just as successful as previous visits. As in previous years, the students were captivated by the sheer scale and variety of landscapes experienced.



On arrival, we visited the Blue Lagoon spa, which is actually the industrial discharge from a geothermal power station. The power of the inner heat of the Earth was a constant theme as the students climbed volcanoes at Kerid and on the island of Heimaey, bathed in outdoor pools, watched geysers erupt and stood in almost disbelief as the pools of water in front of them bubbled and boiled as they watched.



The volcanism on the island has produced mountainous regions too and this, combined with the northern latitude, has enabled glaciers to form. In fact, we walked on the Solheimajokull glacier kitted out with crampons and ice axes and the meltwater from such glaciers also enabled us to view truly magnificent waterfalls. Walking on the glacier was a real highlight for many of us.



The students didn't expect the glacier to be so 'dirty' as it was covered by ash - mostly from the 1918 eruption of Katla, but finer ash deposits were present from the 2010 eruption of Eyjafjallajokull, which caused all of the flight disruption across Europe. Katla, which is covered by the Myrdalsjokull ice cap, from which the Solheimajokull glacier originates is still exhibiting signs of unrest and a large eruption could occur in the not too distant future; such an eruption would be on a far greater scale than its neighbour, Eyjafjallajokull. In fact on the 29th August a 4.8 earthquake at Katla has led to some suggesting that an eruption may be imminent.

The students were also given the opportunity to visit the capital, Reykjavik, on the final morning, where we visited some of the famous sites including the concert hall, the distinctive church built in the style of basalt columns in 1974, the City Hall, the Reagan/Gorbachev meeting house from their 1986 summit where they started to make progress in the reduction of nuclear weapons and also the main shopping area. We were also treated with the most beautiful sunset the night before in Reykjavik bay with the sun finally setting about 11:15.

I could not have run this trip without support from my colleagues and I was very fortunate to be accompanied by Mr. Wade, Mr. Finch, Miss. Helyer, Mrs. Masson and Mrs. Broadway and I would like to thank them for all that

they did, but also on behalf of the students who attended the trip too. Moreover, I would like to thank the students for the way they behaved, although some did moan about the amount of walking we did!

Plans for the 2017 trip have already been started; the trip will be open to Geography students in Years 10-13. More information will follow shortly and students should see me for more information.

**Mr Bamford**



# *Oaklands Catholic School Christmas Craft Fayre*

*Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016*

*12.00-3.00pm*

*Handcrafted Gifts  
Grand Draw  
Fun & Games  
Bottle and Chocolate Tombola  
Face Painting  
School Band and Choir  
Winter BBQ  
Refreshments and Cakes*

*To reserve a trading table,  
(1 table £15, 2 tables £20, 3 tables £25)*

*contact Maria Ellis  
07950 225862*



**Oaklands Catholic School, Stakes Hill Road, Waterlooville, Hampshire PO7 7BW**

# Peru Expedition 2016

## A Teacher's View ... by Mr Jones

The envy in friends' eyes when they heard we were to be spending four weeks in Peru this summer quickly faded when they realised that we would be accompanied by fourteen teenagers. The laughter would generally begin when told that said teenagers would be responsible for arranging all in-country transport, accommodation and budget management. At the news that they would be buying and cooking the vast majority of our food, some would become genuinely concerned for our welfare. One non-teacher friend told me, in all honesty, that this was the first time they'd not been jealous of the long summer holidays we were fortunate to get. The consensus seemed to be clear: Peru, as amazing a country as it is, would be wonderful, if somewhat tarnished by the responsibilities we held for our students. With four weeks ahead, visiting rainforest, desert and mountain, we'd certainly find out!

Travelling in a foreign country not only allows you to discover more about your destination, but also to learn more about yourself and your travelling companions. After two flights, three airports and over 36 hours of travel, we had an early insight into everyone's tolerance levels, but upon arrival in Lima, given the opportunity to rest, explore and eat, moods were high as we rose early to return to the airport and catch our flight to Puerto Maldonado, in the Amazon Rainforest. Almost immediately the students were put to work, particularly our travel, budget and catering teams. The most pressing of jobs was the creating of a menu which needed to cater for seventeen people, three meals a day, for four days. With a bit of guidance from the hostel owner, decisions were made and people were dispatched to the supermarket, while others went to book transport and explore our dinner options. Lessons were being learnt fast, which would stand us in good stead for the weeks ahead, and the expedition was well and truly underway.

The Amazon Rainforest is one of the most vibrant, spectacular and biodiverse parts of our planet, offering us the chance to see monkeys, caiman, macaw and wild pig, and it was a personal highlight to visit. The experience was made all the more special, however, as we were able to see this experience not only from our own perspective, but also through the eyes of the students. Their interaction with and experience of the environment around them and the people who inhabited it, so alien from the comforts and security of life on the South Coast of England, was incredibly heartening and rewarding to see. Far from diminishing the experience, the presence of the students, so eager and open to all around them, enhanced it considerably. I found that my interest was not merely reflected by them, like a mirror, but more that it was magnified, enhanced by their enthusiasm until I could almost forget my status as 'teacher' and learn with them.

Having revelled in the splendour of nature while in the Amazon, we returned to humanity, gratefully accepting the comforts of a major city, Cusco, including the delights of hot showers and actual beds! High in the Andes, Cusco sits at around 3500 metres above sea level, and we spent two days in a state of 'active rest', with plenty of light exercise, sleep and hydration helping us to acclimatise to the paucity of oxygen available to us. Having self-catered for four days, and with the savings made by the catering and budgetary teams, we were able to enjoy the restaurants on offer, overlooking the Plaza del Armas, which was packed with locals, tourists and friendly dogs at all hours. Over the next few weeks we'd come to know Cusco very well as it would serve as our base while in the Andes, but for now, having completed another four-day food shop, it was time to make the short journey to Oropieza, where our project was based, Azul Wasi Boys Home.

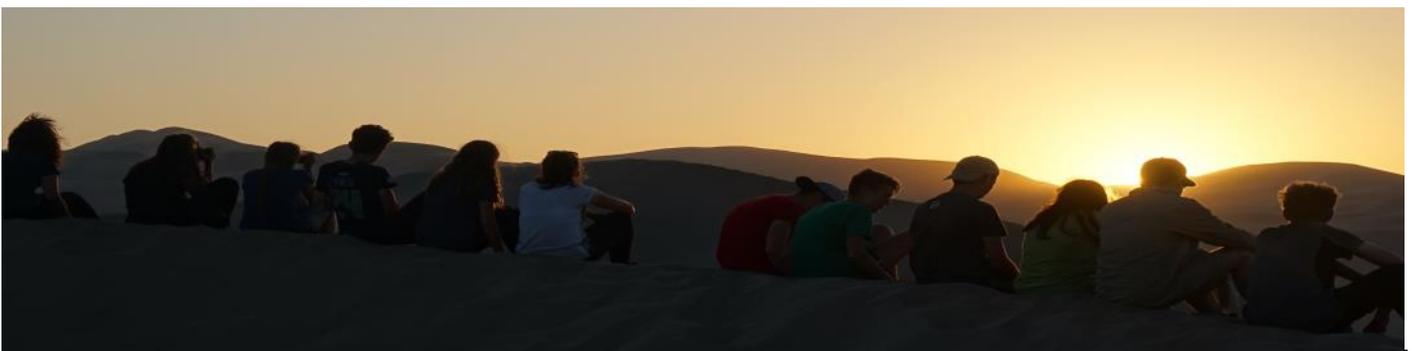


While daydreaming about Peru in the months leading up to our expedition I'd mainly thought about seeing jaguar in the Amazon, or spotting Condor in the Andes (neither of which I actually saw!). I spent too little time thinking about our project. Thus, I was unprepared for the astonishing warmth of our reception. Stepping off the bus at Azul Wasi we were welcomed by Alcides, a former police officer and the home's founder, and approached and hugged by each and every child (although called a 'Boys Home' Azul Wasi has recently begun to admit girls as well and currently homes 5 girls alongside 14 boys), welcomed and thanked when all we'd done was arrive. Over the next few days we'd, amongst other things, help build a retaining wall along the boundary of the property, paint walls of the new dormitory, play football, paint a mural, make a chess board, learn Spanish (and Quechuan) and teach English, all of which were very useful, perhaps even necessary, but the greatest thing we did was simply offer our time and affection. Upon our leaving the hugs were longer and returned with a little more appreciation of how giving a little can mean an awful lot. Any damp eyes dried in the wind which swept through the valley and we were waved off into the Andean sun, sad to be leaving so soon but feeling rightly proud of the connections which had been made.



The next stage of our expedition was our 8 day trek, encompassing the largely untouched ruins of Choquequirao and crossing high passes peaking at 4,660 metres before finishing at Hidroelectrica, where we would continue by train to the foot of Machu Picchu. Unfortunately, I am unqualified to talk about the first 6 days of the trek as I was unwell and had to return to Cusco to go to hospital. By the time I had returned to the group I had missed six days and could only look forward to the last two days, including the 4,660 metre summit on day seven. While disappointed to miss such a significant part of the trek, my absence allowed me to witness a startling change in some of the students upon my return. The early mornings (up at 0330 for 0500 departure), daily physical exertion and necessary team approach had toughened any remaining soft edges and imbued everyone with a healthy stoicism which had clearly benefitted them as they crossed high passes, camped on stony ground and endured the harsh sun and wind. As we began our climb on that seventh morning I was impressed with the change. As the ascent got steeper and the air thinner we continued to beat our path. The mist closed around us as we approached the snow-line and my lungs and muscles burned with the effort, but I was inspired by the metronomic perseverance of my team-mates as they continued to climb and I pushed myself to stay with them, pulled along by their willpower as much as my own.

Finishing the trek was a significant achievement for the whole team, indeed our expedition leader, Bug, felt it was the toughest he'd completed in Peru due to the constant climbing and descending. As such, everyone was very happy to arrive in Aguas Calientes, the small town which sits at the foot of Machu Picchu, perhaps Peru's most iconic and well-known tourist attraction. In three weeks our small group had achieved an awful lot and was now approaching the end of a long journey, the rest and recuperation phrase which would encompass Machu Picchu and the desert oasis town of Huacachina was well deserved. We experienced Machu Picchu in our first rain of the expedition, surrounded by uncharacteristic fog which clung to the mountainside and crept icily between mortarless walls and over the familiar terraces which frame the ancient city. With the most challenging part of the expedition now over a more relaxed atmosphere had settled over the group, which remained for our farewell meal and our brief R&R phase in the desert. Returning through Lima airport there was a noticeable difference in the students who had been ushered through the opening days of the summer. Now, they were shouldering their responsibilities on backs broadened through experience and endurance, allowing us a satisfied glimpse at the adults they were fast becoming. And yet, the touching scenes of reunion as we were met by parents and siblings at Gatwick Airport offered a pleasant reminder that as far as they'd come and as much as they'd grown, they were still very much at the beginning of their journey, even as ours had come to an end.



# Behaviour and Standards

At Oaklands, there are two main ways we encourage our students to move towards self-regulating their behaviour to a high standard; one is through the use of praise and reward, the other is through the use of appropriate sanctions.

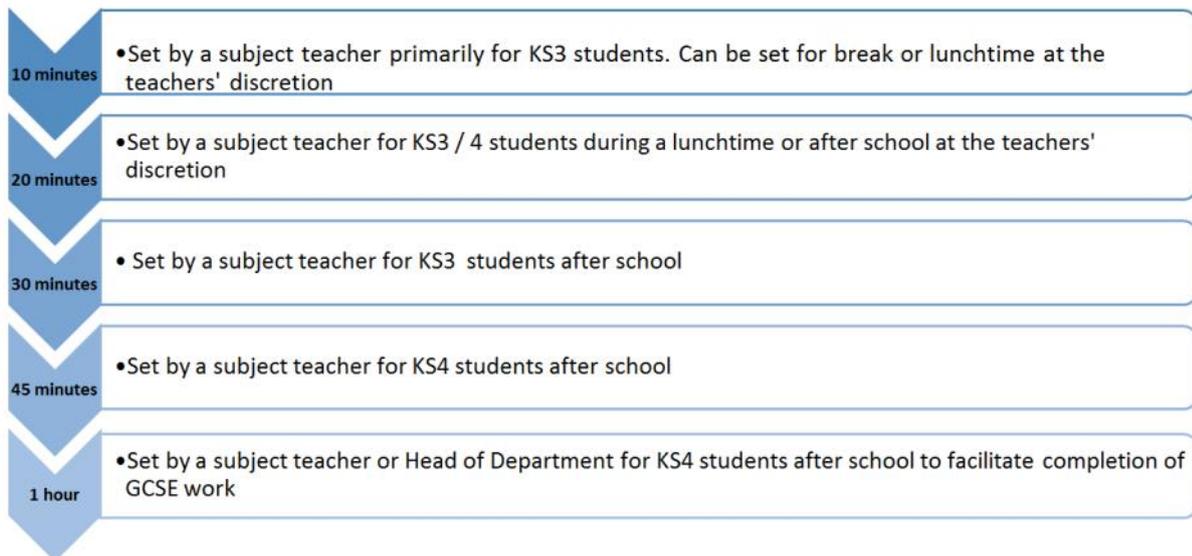
EPraise continues to be the main vehicle through which staff can reward students and this year we will be focusing in particular on recognising the effort students put into their work or activities in school, especially where they have showed determination and perseverance. Students are very quick to shrug off what they regard as 'meaningless praise' so we will continue to focus on recognising the worthwhile and significant personal achievements of students to help them really value the praise when it is given.

When it comes to sanctions, there are many reasons why a student may receive one but failure to complete homework is a common reason. Students in Year 7 have a phased introduction to homework to ease the transition between primary and secondary school. This ensures students are given the support they need to develop good habits around the completion of homework.

At Oaklands we use 'Additional Learning Opportunities' (ALO's). These are entirely **supportive** and they are set by subject teachers, to be used incrementally to ensure that a student really understands the work and what they have been asked to do. They can be set when a child has not completed homework or not finished work which they could reasonably have been expected to in the lesson.

They can also help remove some of the barriers which prevent a student from not completing work to a level commensurate with their ability. ALOs will be recorded in the student planner. This **must** be countersigned by parents / carers to acknowledge that their child is being given additional support with their learning and **a signature is required for those which need a student to stay after school**. There is an expectation at Oaklands that parents / carers will ensure their child attends an ALO as they would want to support their child in overcoming any barriers to learning. There is a clear distinction between ALO's which are supportive and NOT recorded on the school system and detentions, which are a sanction.

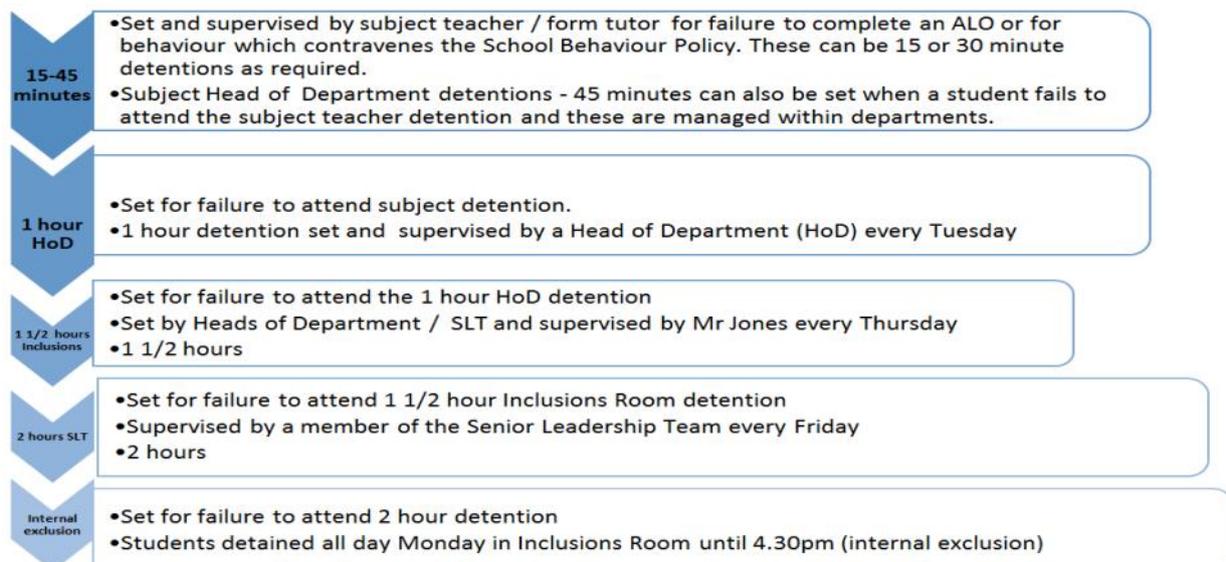




If a student fails to take up an ALO or their behaviour necessitates a sanction, again our system ensures an incremental progression.

In all cases, detentions are recorded and detention letters are used to inform parents / carers. Signed slips must be returned to acknowledge the detention and to give consent. Whilst consent to detain a child after school is not legally required, at Oaklands we work hard to maintain good home / school communication and so will continue to ask for the reply slip to be handed in. However, if a child turns up for detention without a slip, all efforts will be made to contact the parent / carer for verbal consent as failure to attend a detention will result in an escalation in sanctions. Again, the expectation is that as parents /carers have signed the home-school agreement, they will support the school's behaviour policy in this regard.

Detentions move swiftly up the scale if there is non-compliance on the part of a student to ensure the matter is resolved within a two week timeframe at the most.



**Behaviour is very good at Oaklands and standards remain high.** This means that overall, we spend more time praising and affirming students than we do sanctioning them. However, this does not happen by chance and we continue to be proactive in maintaining those high standards and seeking ways to work in conjunction with parents and carers to ensure that is the case. Our systems are regularly reviewed to ensure we are maintaining the correct balance with reward and sanction.

## Attendance Matters

When parents are choosing a school, one of the key indicators to consider is the attendance rate – this is because it is a good indicator of pupil success and pupil wellbeing. Students who achieve well and progress well, attend well! It is the single most influential factor in a student's success and here at Oaklands we are delighted to inform you that our figure for 2015 - 16 was **96.2%** which is **OUTSTANDING**. This would not be possible if we did not have your parental support.

### Leave of Absence

All parents/carers should please note that **we do not authorise holidays taken during term-time**. The Department of Education has instructed all Headteachers that they cannot authorise absence due to holiday unless there are very exceptional circumstances. The Headteacher will decide as to what might constitute exceptional circumstances and each request will be considered on an individual basis. The school will not accept as an exceptional circumstance the fact that a holiday is cheaper during term-time, or that grandparents have booked a holiday, or it is a family celebration, or that it is an opportunity to spend time with cousins who you have not visited in years. An exceptional circumstance is much more likely to be a one-off, for example, a significant trauma in the family or for **Forces** personnel whose duties and leave is inflexible due to deployment. More detail can be found in the policy. The school will also look very carefully at the child's previous attendance record.

### Fixed Penalty Notices

Oaklands must be compliant with Hampshire County Council (HCC) policy of issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) for poor attendance, unauthorised absence or poor punctuality. Despite the current legal uncertainty, there are no changes to the way holidays are authorised and if parents take their child out of school without authorisation this will be recorded; unauthorised attendance which constitutes irregular attendance may result in a penalty notice may being issued.

### Reporting General Absence

Don't forget that you can report an absence for the school to authorise by sending an email to Mrs Richardson, our new attendance officer at: [absence@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:absence@oaklandscatholicschool.org) instead of sending in a note. We do random checks to ensure validity and authenticity of the email. You may also use the school's texting service if that is more convenient.

### Persistent Absence

If your child is **persistently absent** (ie: falls below new tough Government minimum of **90%**) you will receive a letter or telephone call from Mrs Oldroyd or the Head of Year. **90% attendance is the equivalent of a half-day absence each week of an academic year, that is four whole weeks of lessons missing in one year!** We categorise our attendance in a "traffic light" system – green, yellow and red. There are varying degrees of support available and this will be discussed in a parental meeting with SLT/Head of Year.

### Punctuality

Punctuality to school and to individual lessons is an area which the school monitors very closely. All students are registered electronically for all lessons and teaching staff also input additional information into those registers – minutes late on arrival to school, and minutes late on arrival to lessons. We will monitor this data and certain individuals may be highlighted for closer inspection. If this is the case with your son/daughter, you will receive notification either from the Head of Year or by letter from Mrs Oldroyd of the number of learning minutes missed; as a consequence your son or daughter will be required to "catch up" those minutes after school (this is non-negotiable) and, if the pattern persists, you will be invited in for a meeting to discuss improvement strategies. Your son or daughter may also be placed on Report Card to monitor their punctuality. Lateness to school due to external bus services is not a viable excuse and parents must take responsibility to ensure their children arrive to school on time; this may require organising students to catch an earlier bus.

## **Top Five Attendance Tips for Parents**

- Direct telephone number for reporting Year 7 –Year 11 student absence and off-site appointments is **023 9224 8053**. A message detailing their name, tutor group and brief explanation can be left out of school hours. Please use this and not the main school number.
- Alternatively, please use the dedicated email address to report a student's absence or off-site appointment, giving their name, tutor group and a brief explanation: [absence@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:absence@oaklandscatholicschool.org). Please also ensure you leave a contact number, in case a follow-up call is needed.
- If you have received an email or text via the school's Keep Kids Safe/RS Connect system, you can also reply to this in the usual way to report an absence or attendance issue.
- Students should always come to Student Services to sign in if they are arriving after 9.00am. (Even if it is only 9.05am, please do not go straight to Registration or Assembly).
- Students who have to leave school for a medical or other off-site appointment during the school day must report to Student Services. They must have written evidence (appointment card or parental letter) or have an adult contact the school in advance or collect them from the White House Reception or main school drive. Without this, students will not be permitted to leave the school site.

## **Welcome to New Staff**

As well as welcoming our new Year 7s and other students new to Oaklands, we also have plenty of new staff who have joined our school community. We would like to wish them a long and happy association with Oaklands.

### **Teaching Staff:**

Alison Bailey	(History)
Tom Barrett	(Geography)
Rachel Colvin	(History)
Miriam Cope	(PE Dance)
Jack Dawson	(Maths)
Louise Ellis	(English)
Aurora Garcia de Veas Gimena	(Head of MFL)
Lauren Hall-Stride	(Social Sciences)
Alice Hounslow	(English)
Holly Over	(PE and Geography)
Richard Neil	(PE)

### **Temporary Teaching Staff:**

Alison Dawson	(RE)
Andy Gough	(Maths)
Phelim Rowland	(English)
Matthew Johnson	(PE)
Sarah Shepherd	(Geography)

### **Support Staff:**

Dean Ponsford	(Facilities Manager)
Helen Richardson	(Attendance Officer)
Emma Newton	(Sixth Form Admin and Pastoral)
Julie Kendrick	(Business Support)
Sarah Lewis	(LSA)
Beth Moore	(LSA)

## Reminders

**P**lease do not come onto the campus and park before the end of the school day unless you are collecting your child for an appointment and have made prior arrangements with the school. **The school gates are closed at 3.00pm** each day.

- Try to time your arrival to collect your child at **4.00 p.m.** when you will avoid queues outside the school gates.
- If arriving early before the school gates are opened at **3.50 p.m.**, do not park on the zig-zag lines or in the bus bay on Stakes Hill Road.
- Under no circumstances should parents park on the opposite side of Stakes Hill Road in the vicinity of the gates, as this can prevent traffic moving along the main road.
- Only collect your child inside the school grounds, do not meet them on the road outside.
- Drive slowly when on the school campus. The speed limit is 5 mph.
- Do NOT attempt to pick up your child before going around the school roundabout and always park in the designated pick-up area.
- Drive to the furthest point on the pick-up area to maximise the use of this section of roadway. Do NOT park near or on the roundabout.
- Take particular care when pulling out from your parking space – there have been a number of minor bumps over the years.
- Never call your child across the main drive – they must always cross at the designated point near the steps adjacent to Kolbe Block.

**Parents are asked to act with courtesy and consideration at all times in the interests of other road users and for the safety of the students when on the school campus.**

## Visiting School

**O**aklands is an orderly safe place, where relationships between staff and visitors, especially parents/carers, demonstrate mutual respect and recognition of shared responsibility for pupils' welfare and educational progress. Parental involvement is an important factor for a successful education and in dealing with emerging problems at an early stage.

If you need to come into school please ring ahead and book an appointment. It is not appropriate just to 'turn up' and demand to see a member of the teaching or support staff.

On occasion, the behaviour of a few parents/carers has caused severe disruption or worse, resulting in abusive or aggressive behaviour towards staff, pupils, or other members of the school community.

The governors are responsible for protecting the health and safety of their staff and pupils. Behaviour which includes abusive or threatening language, inappropriate demeanour or invasion of personal space against school staff or other members of the school community will not be tolerated. All members of the Oaklands community have a right to expect that the school is a safe place in which to work and learn. There is no place for inappropriate threatening behaviour or abuse in schools.

Where such an incident does occur, the governors will play a proactive role in taking all possible action to deal with it. Day to day access to a school is within the control of the Headteacher.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Parking

**A** reminder to parents who are collecting and dropping off their children at school mornings and afternoons; please do not to block driveways, park on the white lines or double yellow lines or grass verges in local residential areas such as Durham Gardens, Place Crescent, Shaftesbury Avenue and Lombardy Rise. It is important that consideration is given to residents who live in these areas around the school.



Parking outside the school on the ZIGZAG lines is an endorse able offence. We have been told that this will be enforced.

## Contact Details

**P**arents are asked to ensure that any change of contact details are communicated to the school as soon as possible to enable us to keep our records up to date. This includes changes to other family members or friends who are listed as back-up emergency contacts. Thank you.

## Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College - Alumni



Were you a student here ... ? Stay in touch with us and help ...

It doesn't matter when you left school, whether you're in further education or employment or where you live - Oaklands still needs your help! If you would like to see our exceptional school continue to thrive, please let us have your details by signing up to the Future First database.

- Go to [www.futurefirst.org.uk](http://www.futurefirst.org.uk)
- Go to the 'Sign Up' tab
- Click 'Former Student'
- Type in **Oaklands Catholic School**



## Deutsch ist wunderbar!

### German conversation class

- ☛ Brush up your German
- ☛ Small friendly class
- ☛ Emphasis on spoken language
- ☛ Tailor - made contents for students' needs
- ☛ Run by experienced qualified native speaker

Date: Starts September 7<sup>th</sup> for ten weeks

Venue: Oaklands Catholic School  
(6<sup>th</sup> form block)

Price: £80 for ten weeks  
(concessions for over 60ies)

To book a place or for more information please contact:

[utacolbey@hotmail.com](mailto:utacolbey@hotmail.com)

07587 053110



## ARE YOU LOOKING TO HIRE A GREAT VENUE

Oaklands has a number of facilities available to hire.

Theatre Style Hall    Sports Hall & Gym    ICT Suites  
Classrooms    Kitchen & Catering Facilities

\*\*\*

We can also facilitate

Meetings    Conferences    Training Days

\*\*\*

Our extensive grounds and sunken lawn provide the perfect setting for Social Gatherings & Weddings

If you are interested in hiring any of our facilities or would like more information please contact  
Claire Pasterfield

Telephone 02392 259214 EXT 294

Email

[lettings@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:lettings@oaklandscatholicschool.org)

Scan our lettings QR Code



## Term Dates 2016/2017

Autumn Term 2016  
Half Term;

Fri 2nd September to Fri 16th December  
Mon 24th - Fri 28th October

Spring Term 2017  
Half Term:

Tues 3rd January to Fri 7th April  
Mon 20th - Fri 24th February

Summer Term 2017  
Half Term:

Mon 24th April to Fri 21st July  
Mon 29th May - Fri 2nd June

INSET Days are as follows:

Friday 2nd September, Friday 23rd September,  
Friday 30th June, Friday 21st July.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Parents Evening	6/4/17	10/11/16	1/12/16	11/5/17	9/2/17	3/11/2016 27/4/17	3/11/2016 27/4/17
Transition Reports	19/10/16						
Assessments	7-8/9/16 CATs 12-22/9/16 Baseline 22-26/5/17	24-28/4/17	Core tests: 16 -25/11/16 5-9/6/17	31/10 – 4/11/16 15-16/2/17 Eng & Maths	24-25/11/16 Eng & Maths 13-15/3/17 Eng & Maths		
Written Reports	5/7/17	22/6/17	12/7/17	21/3/17	11/11/16	13/2/17	7/2/17
Progress Review	28/2/17	15/2/17	30/11/16 (Including core test results)	5/12/16 (Nov tests) 18/7/17 (mock grade report)			
Present Attainment Grades						20/10/16	20/10/16
Mock Exams				21-29/6/17	9-19/1/17	3-7/7/17	16-24/3/17
Options Evenings			2/2/17				
Predicted Grades				21/3/17	26/4/17		7/4/17

# Term Dates - Autumn 2016

Friday	2 September	<b>Inset Day—School Closed</b>
Monday	5 September	Phased Start - Years 7, 12 and 13
Tuesday	6 September	Years 7-11 Students in School / School Photographs
Thursday	8 September	<b>KS4 Induction Evening (6.30pm)</b>
Monday	12 September	Oaklands Parents' Association (OPA) Committee Meeting (7.30pm)
Tuesday	13 September	<b>KS5 Induction Evening (7.00pm)</b>
Wednesday	14 September	Full Governors' Meeting
Monday	19 September	Governors' Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting
Thursday	22 September	HPV (1) Vaccinations (Y8 Girls)
Thursday	22 September	<b>Open Evening (5.00-8.00pm)</b>
Friday	23 September	<b>Inset Day - School Closed</b>
Monday	3 October	OPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm) Governors' Business & Collaboration Committee Meeting
Friday	7 October	<b>Open Morning (11.40-1.40pm)</b>
Tuesday	11 October	<b>Open Morning (11.40-1.40pm)</b>
Wednesday	12 October	Full Governors' Meeting
Wednesday	19 October	Year 7 Transition Report Home Year 7 Disco (6.00-8.00pm)
Thursday	20 October	KS5 Present Attainment Grades Home
<b>Mon-Fri</b>	<b>24-28 October</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
Monday	31 October	Year 8 Book Sharing Week OPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm)
Wednesday	2 November	<b>Y7 SEN Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>
Thursday	3 November	<b>Sixth Form Parents' Evening (4.30-8.00pm)</b>
Monday	7 November	Governors' Ethos Committee Meeting
Thursday	10 November	<b>Year 8 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>
Friday	11 November	Y11 Written Reports Home
Saturday	12 November	<b>OPA Christmas Craft Fayre (12.00-3.00pm)</b>
Monday	14 November	Anti Bullying Week Governors' Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting
Thursday	17 November	<b>KS5 Options Evening (5.30-9.00pm)</b>
Monday	21 November	Year 9 Book Sharing Week
Monday	28 November	Governors' Business & Collaboration Committee Meeting
Wednesday	30 November	Year 9 Progress Review & Core Test Results Home <b>Peripatetic Music Concert (7.00pm)</b>
Thursday	1 December	<b>Year 9 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>
Monday	5 December	Year 10 Progress Review Home Governors' Admissions Meeting OPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm)
Wednesday	7 December	Full Governors' Meeting + AGM <b>Christmas Music Concert (7.30pm)</b>
Monday	12 December	<b>Presentation of Certificates Evening (7.00pm) - TBC</b>
Wednesday	14 December	<b>Christmas Carol Service (7.00pm)</b>
Friday	16 December	<b>Last Day of Term</b>

# Term Dates - Spring 2017

Tuesday	3 January 2017	<b>First Day of Spring Term</b>
Monday	9 January	Year 11 Practice Exams Commence
Monday	16 January	Governors' Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting
Monday	23 January	<b>Faith Unity Week</b> Governors' Business & Collaboration Committee Meeting
Monday	30 January	Year 11 Book Sharing Week
Tuesday	31 January	Class Photographs (Y7, 11, 12 and 13)
Thursday	2 February	<b>Year 9 Options Evening (6.00pm)</b>
Friday	3 February	Year 11 Mock Grades Home
Monday	6 February	OPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm)
Tuesday	7 February	Y13 Reports Home
Wednesday	8 February	Full Governors' Meeting
Thursday	9 February	<b>Year 11 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>
Monday	13 February	Y12 Reports Home
Tuesday	14 February	<b>Year 12 Post-18 Information Evening (7.00pm)</b>
Wednesday	15 February	Year 8 Progress Review Home <b>SEN Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>
Friday	17 February	Ski Trip Departs
<b>Mon-Fri</b>	<b>20-24 February</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
Tuesday	28 February	Year 7 Progress Review Home
Friday	3 March	Non-Uniform Day
Monday	6 March	Governors' Ethos Committee Meeting
Tuesday	7 March	<b>Whole School Production</b>
Wednesday	8 March	<b>Whole School Production</b>
Thursday	9 March	<b>Whole School Production</b>
Monday	13 March	<b>Maths GCSE Preview Evening (Y9) (7.00-8.30pm)</b>
Wednesday	15 March	Full Governors' Meeting
Thursday	16 March	Sixth Form Practice Exams Commence
Tuesday	21 March	Year 10 Reports Home
Wednesday	22 March	HPV (2) Vaccinations (Y8 Girls)
Monday	27 March	Year 7 Book Sharing Week
Thursday	30 March	<b>Design Showcase (5.00-8.00pm)</b>
Monday	3 April	<b>English GCSE Preview Evening (Y9) (7.00-8.30pm)</b> OPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm)
Thursday	6 April	<b>Year 7 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7 April</b>	<b>Sixth Form Practice Grades Home</b> <b>Last Day of Term</b>

**All dates and times for the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms are accurate at the time of going to press. The school reserves the right to make alternations.**

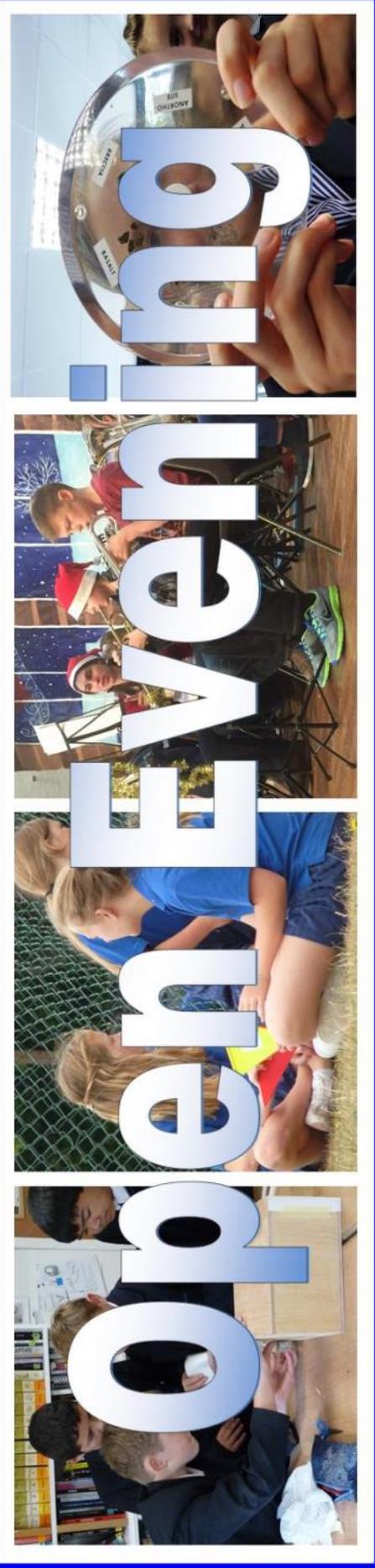
# Term Dates - Summer 2017

Monday	24 April	<b>First Day of Summer Term</b>
Wednesday	26 April	Year 11 Final Predictions Home
Thursday	27 April	<b>Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening (4.30pm)</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>1 May</b>	<b>School Closed—May Day</b>
Tuesday	2 May	Year 10 Book Sharing Week <b>Science GCSE Preview Evening (Y9) (7.00-8.30pm)</b>
Monday	8 May	Governors' Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting OPA Committee Meeting + AGM (7.30pm)
Thursday	11 May	<b>Year 10 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>
Wednesday	17 May	Full Governors' Meeting
Thursday	18 May	Final Day Year 11
Thursday	25 May	Year 13 Leavers' Mass and Meal
Friday	26 May	Final Day Year 13
<b>Mon-Fri</b>	<b>29 May—2 June</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
Wednesday	7 June	<b>SEN Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>
Monday	12 June	Governors' Business & Collaboration Committee Meeting
Tuesday	13 June	<b>Open Morning (11.40-13.40pm)</b>
Thursday	15 June	<b>Peripatetic Music Concert (7.00pm)</b>
Monday	19 June	Year 10 Professional Day Governors' Ethos Committee Meeting
Tuesday	20 June	Year 10 Professional Day
Wednesday	21 June	Year 9 Relationships Day Year 11 Prom
Thursday	22 June	<b>Open Morning (11.40-13.40pm)</b> Year 8 Reports Home
Monday	26 June	<b>Challenge Week</b>
Friday	30 June	<b>Inset Day—School Closed</b>
Monday	3 July	OPA Committee Meeting (End of Year Celebration)
Tuesday	4 July	<b>Year 10 Post 16 Information Evening (7.00pm)</b>
Wednesday	5 July	Year 7 Reports Home
Monday	10 July	Sixth Form Taster Day
Tuesday	11 July	Sixth Form Taster Day
Wednesday	12 July	Sports Day Year 9 Reports Home Full Governors Meeting
Friday	14 July	New Year 7 Induction Day
Monday	17 July	New Year 7 Parents' Induction Evening (7.00pm)
Tuesday	18 July	Sixth Form Summer Carnival Year 10 Exam Grades Home
Wednesday	19 July	Year 12 Exam Grades Home
Thursday	20 July	<b>Last Day of Term</b>
Friday	21 July	<b>Inset Day—School Closed</b>



# Oaklands

## Catholic School and Sixth Form College



**Thursday 22nd September 2016 5.00 - 8.00pm**

**Oaklands has a strong reputation for the highest academic standards within a strong caring Christian community where each individual student is valued.**

 Stakes Hill Road, Waterlooville, Hants, PO7 7BW  
 (023) 92 25921 4 Fax: (023) 92 230317  
 oaklands@oaklandscatholicsschool.org  
 www.oaklandscatholicsschool.org



Community Unity Opportunity