

Havant Pastoral Area Easter Services

No 417 April 17

Oaklands News

**Erasmus Project
St John's Update
Ski Trip 2017**

A publication for
Oaklands Catholic School
and Sixth Form College



Lead Stories



Oaklands

Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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As a youngster I spent most of my leisure time at the church scout group – 6th Rickmansworth. It provided me with enormous freedom, camaraderie and spiritual development. Cricket was played with one pad, if you were lucky, ropes were slung from trees, half cooked sausages were eaten over an open fire. Canoeing down rapids, swimming in rivers, camping on islands without adult supervision were all part of the glorious-yet-risky childhoods of yesteryear before 'Health and Safety' was invented.

One of the yearly scout events was the Longridge Boating Regatta. Part of this event was an army-style assault course. One of the obstacles involved jumping in a dry dock, which had been flooded, and then hauling yourself out the other side. Unfortunately for me, embedded in the wall of the dock was a glass bottle. Somehow I got out of the water only to go down in a screaming heap, my friends gathered around; I remember one of them saying, "*I can see his knee cap*". I couldn't walk, I was taken to hospital, operated on, sewn up, and a few months later was fine – but I still carry the scar to this very day.

The image of Thomas seeing Jesus with the holes in his hands and feet tells us something about the long term impact of pain and suffering. Our faith certainly is not about denying the pain and suffering in our lives. Thomas could see them, feel them. The scars don't just magically disappear. They will still be there. They are significant. They are something we all share with God. But they aren't the end.

Some scars don't heal that easily, if at all; they are the Good Fridays of our lives. But they aren't the end. There is hope. There is Easter Sunday, the time of resurrection. We may still have the scars in some form when we arrive in Heaven, but they will be scars we can share with Jesus. There will be acknowledgement of their significance in our lives and in the lives of those around us, but in that time they won't hold us back from God and His message of the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

There have been a number of significant achievements over recent weeks, many of them are captured within this edition of the Oaklands News. The three performances of 'Anything Goes' demonstrated the talents of a large number of students. Well done to all the artists, musicians, performers, technicians and back stage support.

We have also hosted students and staff as part of the Erasmus project. (Please read my March Blog on the website). The time given over by staff is also beyond all expectation. It is important that we recognise the success of our students and, of equal importance, the work that we do to facilitate and encourage this.

The Easter season provides the school community with the opportunity to reflect on its importance. As usual, Ashes were distributed to students at the beginning of Lent, I encouraged students to focus on Forgiveness over the Lenten period. Lenten themes have pervaded lunch time liturgies, morning prayers, Stations of the Cross in the chapel and assemblies. This week students had the opportunity to go to Reconciliation; over 700 students received the sacrament. My thanks to the priests in the Diocese and beyond who helped facilitate this.

A number of parents have commented on the openness of our school site, asking how this would be managed in an emergency. The school has a critical incident plan. This plan considers many eventualities from a gas leak through to a situation where we would need to 'lockdown' the school site during a working day. Towards the end of the school year we will test our lockdown procedure.

Finally I wish you all a happy Easter and I look forward to seeing the students on Monday 24th April at the normal time.

Matthew Quinn

Staffing Updates

This term, we are saying thank you, goodbye and good luck to three members of staff:

Mrs Jenny Baxter - it is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Mrs Baxter at the end of April. Mrs Baxter has worked in our Learning Support Department since January 2003, giving support to many of our students. This work is a real vocation, many youngsters will have been set on the right path as a result of her commitment, dedication and professionalism. We wish her every success in her future retirement—although while we say farewell now, I am certain it is not goodbye!

Miss Charlotte Hamilton left Oaklands in February to take up a part time position within the English Department at Cams Hill School in Fareham.

Mrs Hannah Bolland will be leaving her role as a Cover Supervisor to follow a new career path.

As these colleagues all move on to pastures new, we thank them all for the contribution they have made to Oaklands and wish them well for the future.

We have recently welcomed the following new members of staff to Oaklands:

Mr Tony Whitlock is a teacher who has joined our Social Sciences team. He is a Sixth Form tutor and teaches Law, RE and PDC.

Mr Martin Burton and Mr Callum Woodard have both joined our Site Team. Mr Burton is the Site Team Defect Coordinator and Mr Woodard is a Site Team Apprentice.

Mrs Karen Davies has joined our Support Staff as the Cover and Senior Duty Supervisor.

We wish them all a long and happy association with Oaklands!

Anything Goes

A musical about the madcap antics of a group of a varied cast of characters aboard a 1930s ocean liner crossing the Atlantic would appear to be out of touch in a modern world, dominated by technology and social media. The cast, band, crew and production team of the year's Oaklands School musical proved that this could not be further from the truth.

The plot of Cole Porter's classic "Anything Goes" contains several intertwining plots connected by amazing musical numbers. The main protagonists are Billy Crocker (Archie McKeown), assistant to a rich tycoon, and Reno Sweeney (Verity Flood), an evangelist turned nightclub singer. Billy falls in love with famous heiress and debutante Hope Harcourt (Jess Fitzjohn) and can't think of anyone but her. Billy stows away on the SS American where Reno will perform; where Billy's boss Mr Elisha Whitney (Jonathan Hutchins) is on a business trip to London; and where Hope will travel back to England with her fiancé, Lord Evelyn Oakleigh (Ryan Crellin-Simpson), and her mother Evangeline (Jasmin Samuel). These characters find themselves helped and hindered by gangster Moonface Martin (Morgan Dryhurst), and gangster's moll (Emma Farrugia).



The show was adorned with toe-tapping classic numbers, superbly performed by the young cast. Verity Flood dazzled as Reno Sweeney making the timeless solos her own. Archie McKeown captured the madcap requirements of his character with a perfect voice and fantastic stage presence. Jess Fitzjohn's Hope Harcourt was truly delightful; she played her character with superb consistency. Ryan Crellin-Simpson portrayed perfectly the idiotic buffoonery of an aristocratic English gentleman; whilst Jonathan Hutchins and Jasmin Samuel brought genuine depth and comedy to their characters. A good comedy performance is one of the toughest challenges on stage, and the cast hit the note perfectly. Morgan Dryhurst's Moonface Martin was another comic masterpiece, especially when in disguise with Archie McKeown's Billy. Both principals and company engaged well in choreographed breath-taking routines; with the smaller numbers being just as impressive as their full-company counterparts; witness Morgan Dryhurst's comedic turn with a stuffed bird, and Ryan Crellin-Simpson's gypsy swagger.



The band provided a polished performance throughout the whole show, and added their own comedic contribution in the second half.

Many staff contributed in a number of areas giving up multiple weekends in the run up to the production. Thanks are due to Liam Olford and his able team for outstanding sound and lighting, to Steph Richardson for assistant musical direction, and to Fionnuala Quinn for props, additional musical direction and choreography, stage dressing and playing in the band on the violin.

Thanks are due to Laura Blackburn for the choreography of some smaller and all big chorus numbers and for contributing to direction, to Ali Wrightson for managing the costumes, notably of all principals and for liaising with the costume hire company, and to Louise Ellis for additional direction and prompt.

It is also worth mentioning a number of students who also made a significant contribution to the production: Natasha Mula for directing a number of scenes with confidence and great promise, showing strong leadership; Judy Quinn for making accessories and costumes, especially those of the Angels; Jess Fitzjohn for choreography of dance sequences and supporting younger students with the tap steps.

However, none of this would have been possible without the dedication, leadership and enormous commitment of Sadie Whyte as Director, and Estelle Flood as Musical Director. Thank you to all staff involved in a wonderful production.



View from the band

Anthing Goes has been my third show as a member of the band, having previously been in Oklahoma! and Kiss me Kate. I have played the bass part (on a keyboard) for all three shows.

To begin with, there were the usual issues with the music – the music was a few weeks late being delivered, and when the music did arrive, we discovered that it was the wrong copy! Once the problems were sorted out, rehearsals began in earnest, around a month before the show. These took place in C3 every week on a Monday or Wednesday after school (or sometimes both), where various cuts were made so that our copies of the music matched the music that the cast had rehearsed with for months on end. The band were needed for two Sunday afternoon rehearsals, including the dress rehearsal, which was the first time that all members of the band had played together. The week before any show is often busy, but this one was especially so because of the limited rehearsal time - we were required in nearly every lesson from Tuesday–Friday along with the cast. However, the hours of practice certainly paid off eventually, with the jazzy numbers of ‘Friendship’ and ‘Anything Goes’ sounding particularly effective by the opening night of the show.

This year, there were twelve members of the band: Mrs Quinn on strings, David Vahey (student), Mrs Richardson, Anni Walmsley (ex-teacher) and Angharad Hsia (student) playing the reed parts. There were two trumpet parts, played by Sam Gibb (guest) and Eleanor Ferris (student) on a Soprano Saxophone; one trombonist, Andy Hill (guest); one French Horn player, Daniel Mann (ex-student); Nicki Tabcart (guest) on piano, with Connor Lyster (student) on percussion (he created the sound effect for a bluebird by using a whistle filled with water) and finally myself on the bass. Ms Flood took on the difficult task of attempting to keep us in time with the singers, although during one particular number, the power was given to Archie (with varying success).



As always, being in the show band was a very enjoyable experience, as it gave me an opportunity to meet people who I otherwise wouldn't have known, not to mention the endless stream of food that is always present at rehearsals. Every year the band find something in the performance to place bets on and this year was no different – along with betting on the finish times each night, we played a variation of ‘pin the tail on the donkey’, wagering (not for money of course) where the shaving foam would land on Jonathan's face. On behalf of the band, I would like to thank Ms Flood for her tireless work with us and also thank Mrs Quinn and Mrs Richardson for their help too.

William Udy Year 12

Science Week

During British Science Week, Oaklands Chemistry Club took a break from their current crest award project work to host an open day in which students could drop in to get involved in some scientific demonstrations as well as take part in competitions to win prizes.

During the lunchtime session, we had many visitors ranging from Years 7 to 9, all of whom were able to get involved in one of the activities being hosted by the club members themselves. There was something for everyone who attended from blasting rockets to making rainbows.

There were three competitions being run by the club – the biggest and longest lasting bubble, highest film canister rocket and best acid/alkali rainbow. Students who were taking part had to experiment with the different chemicals involved in each competition to come up with the most suitable mixture to produce the best result.

All involved had a lot of fun and the competition was rife with a running table of the winners!



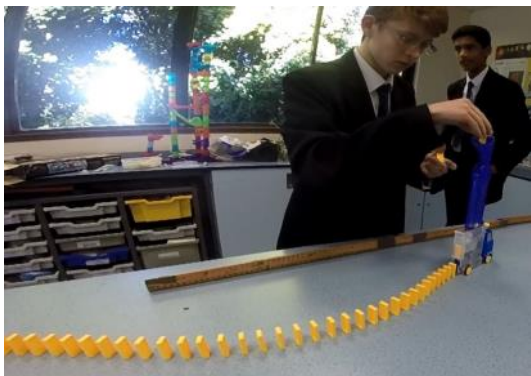
Our A Level Biology students performed a rat dissection during Science Week.

Dissection is a fascinating part of learning about anatomy and physiology.

The process of dissection is slightly macabre but all those students who participated enjoyed it, learned a lot and will be better Scientists as a result. The students were guided by Mr Charig and assisted by Mrs Draycott and Mr Krysz. Thanks to Dr Read for her support.

On the Monday of Science Week some students took on the challenge of the Science Domino Rally. The task: with only one marble can you knock down 360 dominos?

They were able to knock down over 200 dominos but they had to go along science benches, in a circle and across the room. It required patience and a steady hand.



Big Bang Science Fair

Early on Saturday morning on 18th March, fifteen students, with Mr and Mrs Hardaker, clambered into the minibus and set off for the Big Bang Fair at Birmingham NEC. Despite queuing for an hour to get off the motorway they arrived in high spirits, entertained by sights of people in costumes arriving for the Comic Con event.

The arena was packed with exhibitors from areas which included industry, career advisors, Universities, the Army and even a magician! There were opportunities to try out virtual reality games, take infra-red selfies, climb into an armoured vehicle, enter competitions, build models, fly drones and speak to people to get information about ground breaking scientific technology as well as STEM careers. There were fantastic insights into technology, which are already becoming more commonplace such as 3D printers, robotics and BBC micro-bits.



After four hours of walking around and having fun, it was sadly time to depart. Just enough time for a team photo and quick comparison of freebie gifts which had been collected during the day. What a great way to end British Science Week; tired but feeling really inspired and enthused about the future of Science!



Crest Awards at Chemistry Club



Congratulations to three Year 9 students who achieved Bronze CREST awards. Nathania Kan, Lucie Dowie and William Beacon were presented with their certificates after completing an investigation into bath bombs at Chemistry Club, which they have attended regularly since Year 7.

The students created various recipes for bath bombs and then tested them using experiments, compiling results and summarizing their findings in a power point presentation which they submitted into the 'Scrub up on Science' competition. They are hoping to work towards Silver CREST awards this year and are investigating soap solutions.

For more information about Chemistry Club, which takes place during lunch every Thursday in Lab 7, please contact Mrs Lenton or Mrs Hardaker in the Science Department.

CAFOD Young Leaders

CAFOD's Young Leaders are sixth form students from across the country who inspire other young people to support CAFOD and take action, from fundraising to raising awareness of the issues CAFOD campaigns on.



This Lent, the Young Leaders have been learning presentation and communication skills to speak at school assemblies and Mass to help fundraise for CAFOD's work.

Here are some of our Young Leaders' reflections.



Ronan Kalinski Over the past 5 months or so, being part of the CAFOD Young Leadership Programme has changed my outlook on CAFOD as I know it. Before being a part of the group, I knew nothing about CAFOD, other than what my school, and now college had taught. Now, I am a lot more educated in the charity; Catholic Agency For Overseas Development, and have CAFOD to thank for that. After attending assemblies and different training days, I can easily say that I am more educated in who CAFOD are and what they do. Being part of the CAFOD Young Leadership Programme has given people the opportunity to take part in fundraising events such as cake sales, and other events that we have planned to happen soon; Rave for Refugees (disco for Years 7-9) and Walk for Water (sponsored walk).

Mileine Ward Before joining the CAFOD Young Leadership Programme, I only had a basic idea of what CAFOD was all about, but obviously knew all the fundraising my school had done went to a good cause. By taking part in the training days during college with the CAFOD Team, I have gained skills and a deeper insight into everything CAFOD does globally, and how I can train myself to become the next generation to make a difference alongside CAFOD's amazing work. By working as a team and creating new and exciting ideas to raise more and more money for the charity, we have collectively created plans for throughout the year to contribute to Oaklands continuous money raising for CAFOD. This includes things such as discos, food sales, sponsored walks and much more.

Megan Moretti By joining CAFOD Young Leaders I have put my skills to use, I enjoy working in a team of young people who are passionate about making a difference and learning about the important jobs that CAFOD does. The assemblies we led recently were very useful as we put all the skills we learnt in the training sessions to use, by promoting the importance of CAFOD and giving aid to people in countries of need. I have enjoyed being a CAFOD Young Leader as it means that I am helping people and am part of something life changing.

Rachael Butler The training days held by CAFOD are a very important part of being a CAFOD Young Leader. It has helped me learn about how we are helping people and also meet other people and see what they are doing to contribute to the charity. These training days have made me realise that we are making a difference and has helped me feel more involved with CAFOD and the work they do.

St John's Update

In the last edition of this publication, I shared with you how our partnership with St John's started, why we took up the challenge and how we are running the programme. I also thanked all who have supported us to set up such a wonderful programme for the people of St John's.

We have continued to support many children this academic year. It was good to hear in January that all the children we sponsored who had taken their national examinations had secured a place in secondary schools. The exams are taken at the end of primary school and are equivalent would be Year 6 SATs. Other well-wishers are now supporting these children to continue with their education because we helped them get to the end of primary school. If we had not been there to pick them up, these well-wishers would not be picking them up now! So thank you everyone who has contributed to this wonderful life enhancing initiative.

We had intended to do some lessons via Skype with the teachers and children of St John's this term but that has not been possible because they have been having problems with their internet provider. We are really hoping that they will solve the problem so that next term we can interact with them. The Headteacher of St John's, Mr. Augustine Amuka, is very keen to have our students speak to each other because he believes that this interaction is having a big impact on the lives of the children at St John's – it gives them hope when they can speak to young people like themselves who are doing something to help them. Recently, he sent us a short message.

Little things done by many people generate huge results. In Kenya, big storied buildings are built by fixing a single stone after another until the building is whole. The question should always be "What is my little thing to change the world to a better place?" Here in St John's Korogocho we highly appreciate your support: It may be little to you when you give, but to us it is really big, in fact huge.

I wish you and your families a blessing filled Easter and I pray that we will continue bringing light to many families and children in Korogocho.

Mr Sumba



Holocaust Memorial Service

On Friday 27th January 2017 I went to the Havant cemetery to join in the Holocaust Memorial Day Service. My tutor, Mrs Cunningham, chose me to attend. The service was very touching. They used people's personal stories such as Otto Frank, Anne Frank's father. This gave the service a personal feel. Many people laid wreaths including the Mayor. I am honoured to have had the chance to join in. After the memorial, I went to the Havant Civic offices where earlier the other students and I that attended from Oaklands had put up a display. I spoke to the Mayor about the button project and I looked around at the other displays. Today I learnt a lot about the Holocaust and I am very lucky to have been able to join in on the service.

Lizzie Hopkins 9CL



Today I went to the Holocaust Memorial service in Havant. I felt very honoured to be there and to listen to the service that was based on 'How can life go on?' I took part in the minute silence to remember all those who lost their lives through genocide and the horrible mass destruction and discrimination committed by the human race. I really connected to the service because I strongly believe we should treat each other equally no matter their race, colour or faith. Everybody is equal in God's eyes and that is how we should treat each other. After the Memorial, I went with the other students to the

civic offices/plaza to show people the exhibition I helped put up. I spoke to people along with a few other students about the Holocaust and what a horrible event it was. I then looked at some photos on a display of Auschwitz Birkenau and they were very moving. I felt sorrow when it hit me that thousands of people died there and were tortured there. The pictures helped me realise the scale of the huge camp and the vast number of lives lost because of discrimination

Rosie Hurd 9DO

Friday 27th January 2017 marks the 72nd anniversary of the closing of Auschwitz death camp, which was liberated by allied forces. As a mark of respect was paid by the theme of today, 'How can life go on?' During the four years of existence Auschwitz and its satellite camps killed between two and four million people, the reality dawned upon me at that moment. I understand that life must go on as a form of respect for those killed and I learnt that a variety of attacks continue to happen today.

Reverend Penny Pane explained how she had been in a situation of injustice. Penny had heard support of Adolf Hitler and the Nazis being called out as though nothing was wrong with it. Penny could not just stand by and watch so she stood up to the man and explained how the devastation and destruction to all of the many lives was wrong.

Making a stand for what is right is important, never should we forget any of the people who were

gassed and overworked for being themselves. I must try to do the right thing and stand up for what is right.



Lucy Dowie 9MG

Havant Youth Conference

On Friday 10th March, Mr Jones and Miss Calvert took seven Year 9 and Year 10 students to attend the annual Havant Youth Conference. The event, held at the Plaza civic offices, is designed to inform young people of the opportunities available to them in the local area, introduce them to the world of local governance and give them skills that will be useful to them as they approach their GCSE year. Oaklands students were part of a group of 70 students from local schools who attended the event.



The morning was kicked off by local council leaders who welcomed the students and explained why they felt it was important for young people to be involved in their local areas. This was followed by an introduction to the National Citizen Service and a talk by Joe Wells, local comedian and author. Joe talked about his struggles at school as he balanced his studies and increasing OCD tendencies. His message was one of courage, strength in adversity and hope and was very inspirational for both the young people present and the adults in the room!



Next, there were workshops by two local charities. MIND, a local mental health charity, ran an informative session on exam anxiety and gave strategies on how to deal with it. The Southern Domestic Abuse Services then gave an enlightening presentation on healthy relationships. This sort of out-of-class education is so important for young people, and all the students engaged very well.

After lunch there was the opportunity for everyone to get involved in a bit of democracy! Three charities, Motiv8, Music Fusion and Beat the Bullies each gave a 3-minute presentation about the services they offer, including a self-penned spoken word performance by former Oaklands student and Beat the Bullies founder, Chloe Hine. The young people then had the opportunity to cast ballots to decide how £4,000 worth of grants would be dispersed. Once the votes had been counted, it was announced that Music Fusion would receive £2,500, Beat the Bullies £1,000 and Motivate £500. The students had taken part in a genuine display of democracy and their voice had had real impacts on these three very deserving charities.

The Havant Youth Conference was a great event for our students to attend and they were, as always, a credit to their school, their families and the borough of Havant

School Meals

During the week beginning 6 March, Oaklands celebrated International School Meals Week and our Catering Team treated the students to a wide range of exciting traditional dishes from Thailand, the Caribbean, Brazil, South Africa and Morocco. Thank you to the staff in the canteen for a delicious variety of international food!



Ski Trip 2017

On Friday 17th February, 107 students from Years 9 and 12 accompanied by 15 staff started the 24 hour journey to Andalo in Italy. The journey was a long and tiring one but it was certainly worth it once we were able to witness the beautiful scenery of the Alps. Our hotel was just a 10 minute walk from the ski slopes and the view from the hotel was stunning with the Dolomites stretching out before us.



However, there wasn't much time to settle in as we walked to the ski hire shop to get ourselves kitted out with skis, boots, poles and helmets ready for the first of the 5 days skiing starting on the Sunday. It was an exciting time for the first time skiers as they would be seeing the sort of equipment that they would be using for the next week. It was also exciting for the experienced skiers as they knew that they would be conquering the slopes with that gear for the next few days.

Excitement on Sunday morning was the main feeling amongst the students, but there was a sense of nerves too. With an early start we ate at 7.00am so that we were ready and fuelled for the big day ahead. Breakfast was always a very social event and there could be nothing to complain about as the variety of food spread from cereal to cakes. The nerves stemmed from the fact that 6 of the 9 ski groups had never skied before. However, any fears were soon eradicated due to the excellent tuition from the ski instructors and also due to the fact that each of the ski groups also had an Oaklands member of staff with them to provide support.

Progress was steady for some and rapid for others, but after a few changes to the groups, we found ourselves skiing with people with similar ability.

"I was in Group 1 as I had skied before. It was great to explore a new place and see if I could perform to the usual ability in with different slopes." (George)

"As a first time skier I enjoyed every moment of the newly discovered experience. Progress was fast and exciting, definitely something I would want to go and do again." (Isaac)

After the second and third day the groups were taken higher up the mountain and we believe that everyone got to the very top of the mountain by the final day. Those that did were fortunate enough to see great views of the western Dolomite mountain range, Lake Garda and were also able to identify the glacial features that had been taught to us in Geography in Year 8 (and Year 11).



Year 9 during night skiing with Mr K Quinn

The resort introduced night skiing last year under flood lights and Groups 1, 2 and 3 were given the opportunity to do this on the Tuesday night. Although a little cold, this really was a memorable experience, the highlight of the trip, and it was a shame when we had to finish for the evening. It was a fantastic experience as we got to see lots of amazing performances from the local ski school as well as some fantastic tricks from some amazing freestylers in the snow park. The fireworks were good as well as we were so close to the action and each stunt was followed by an array of spectacular fireworks. This made the night even better. *“This was definitely the highlight of the trip in my opinion. The amount of work that must have been put into the show is jaw dropping and it was a night I will not forget.”* (George)



Skiing wasn't the only part of the trip though. We attended Mass on Sunday evening and it was interesting to see how Italian Mass compares to our Mass in England. It is crazy how understandable it was even though it was in a completely different language. This was a really good experience as it demonstrated to us how we are so different yet so alike. Some went swimming on the Wednesday and visited the town of Andalo on the Wednesday and Thursday evenings, this was to give us a chance to stock up on goods for the way home, as well as get some time away from the hotel. Given this schedule - combined with the skiing – we were glad to get some rest on the coach journey back. However, almost all of us left the resort with a degree of reluctance, such was the enjoyment of our time there.

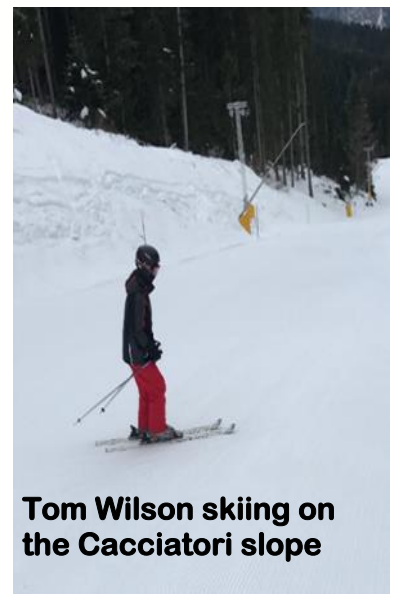
We would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all the Year 9 and Sixth Form students to thank Mr Bamford for organising the trip and also to the other members of staff who joined us on the trip: Mr Smith, Mr Turner, Mr K Quinn, Mr Wade, Mr Johnson, Mr Cunningham, Mr Shaw, Miss Dugan, Mrs Harris, Miss Gingras, Mrs Payne, Mrs Hoar, Mrs Riddle, Mrs Carruthers and Mrs Gomez-Lopez.

We had such a good time skiing and spending the week with our friends. We thought it was an amazing experience and would encourage those in Years 8, 11 and 12 to go on the trip next year. It is definitely worth it!

George Quirke and Isaac Bailey (9 Dominic)



Ski Group 4



Tom Wilson skiing on the Cacciatori slope

World Book Day



On Friday 3rd March, Oaklands Catholic School celebrated World Book Day.

To mark the 20th anniversary of the day, Year 7 students were invited to dress up, in addition to staff, who dressed up for a second year running! Here are some comments from two participants:

"I dressed up as a character from the Alex Rider series. I enjoyed the opportunity because I have a lot in common with the character! I'd like to do it again."

"I dressed up as Dora and it was fun because I really loved Dora when I was in pre-school!"



The day started off with a quiz in registration and a contest in Y7 assembly; there were some extraordinary costumes ranging from a young Sherlock Holmes to an Alice in Wonderland!

After the excitement of the morning, at lunchtime, nearly sixty students had signed up to 'Meet the Author'. We were lucky enough to meet Andrew Lane, the author of the 'Young Sherlock' series; he came to give us a presentation on his work and to answer questions from aspiring writers!

Mr Lane talked about his youth and life growing up. He then talked about his love for Sherlock and his work on 'Doctor Who'. It was really exciting. We found out that he had even written the scripts for some of the programmes of 'Doctor Who'! He then described how he had always wanted to write a Sherlock novel but that everything had been completed...From 'Tom and Jerry' to 'My Little Pony'. However, he then said that he'd realised that there hadn't been a young Sherlock series yet. We know that Sherlock had had a tough youth so Andrew Lane decided to explore it.



It was a really interesting talk and gave us a lot of insight into an author's life and how to write a brilliant novel. We asked him lots of questions!

In addition to the author visit, students also had to guess who certain members of staff were from pictures of the books that they were reading. Y7 certainly found this to be a challenge. Overall, it was a brilliant day and fun for everyone involved and we got a lot out of it.

By Andrew Palmer

Literature Quiz 2017

On 1st March, Oaklands were invited to host the annual School Library Service's Literature Quiz. Schools travelled from across Hampshire to celebrate and be quizzed on their knowledge of the wonderful world of books...

William Beacon, who was our very own Team Captain, writes:

We spent much time during our lunch breaks and at home preparing for the quiz. We had to read as much as possible as quickly as possible and we also practised the Hampshire Literature Quizzes from previous years.

The night itself had arrived! We were all tense and nervous as all the other schools came along and we gathered in our library. Mr Quinn took our photograph and wished us luck!

When we sat down in the hall, the thought of winning overcame our nerves as pride set in...

There were different questions that suited all of us from classics to film based books to disheartened families to books featuring places from all over the world such as Chris Bradford's 'The Young Samari' in Japan to a murder in Britain!

At the interval, we were coming third but first with the best teamwork. After the interval we had the next four rounds in which we did really well! We worked so well together.

We were so excited to have the winners announced but unfortunately, we came third, missing first place by just five points! However, it was so enjoyable, fun and exciting that we had such a great time and hopefully, next year we will win!"

A special thanks to our School Librarians and Literacy Ambassadors who kindly dedicated their evening to helping and supporting us through it!



Sixth Form Visit the Globe

Beware the green-eyed monster, Jealousy!

On a windy weekend in March, the intrepid theatre-goers of Year 12 and 13 trekked to London on Saturday and Sunday to witness the tragic drama 'Othello', performed in the world-famous Sam Wannamaker Theatre at the Globe. 'Othello' is Shakespeare's tragic tale of the complexities of love and jealousy in our relationships with one another.

After a morning spent shopping in Covent Garden, one step into the Globe Theatre felt like travelling back through time; the candlelit stage helped to create a scene of Jacobean beauty that no other theatre could hope to match. The production itself featured ingenious interpolations of pop-songs, simplified language, and cross-gender casting, such as the marvellous 'Michelle Cassio', whilst retaining the classical Shakespeare we know and love to create the perfect balance between traditional and modern stage-writing (truly a job well done for the director). This helped clarify the production as a play that anyone could understand and enjoy. As the crimes of passion unfolded on the tiny stage, we were gripped by the horror of Othello's enslavement to the demi-devil Iago, a truly Machiavellian villain. My one criticism would be the 'mobile phone moment' at the closure of the production; this was a frivolous moment that many of my peers felt undermined the tragic tone and impact of the production. Thank you Mrs Harris for organising this double visit.



By Joshua Mills Y12

Maths Challenges

On Wednesday 8th February 2017, Oaklands held this year's second Primary Maths afternoon. A total of 12 teams from local primary schools came along to compete against each other in a series of maths challenges. Each team had their own Year 9 helper to record their score, mark their answers and help them with questions if needed.



The first round saw a relay taking place; a series of questions increasing in difficulty where the more you answer in the given time, the more points the team will end up with. The second round was a problem solving round where teams were challenged to make the numbers 1 to 30 using the numbers from the year 2017. Some of them even Mr Keer couldn't do! The third and final round, was a problem solving crossnumber puzzle.

Overall there was a great, enthusiastic atmosphere in the room and real passion for mathematics from the Primary school pupils. A great afternoon had by all.



On Wednesday the 22nd of March, a team of two year eight and two year nine students took part in a Maths competition at Churchers College in Petersfield. Mr Turner took us to the event and we competed against 34 other schools from a wide area. Our team was Ania Savage and Chris Rose from Year 8 and Helen Johns and Daisy Hazell from Year 9.

There were four rounds, a team challenge where we answered ten questions, a shuttle round in pairs, a relay which had us running across the hall, and a crossword in pairs.

We all enjoyed taking part and placed 12th out of 34 teams. (Last year we came 24th) Thank you to Mr Turner for taking us to the event and Mr Quinn for organising the team.

IT Donations

Have you ever wondered what happens to the school's old IT equipment? For the last few years, we have donated this to IT Schools Africa who put it to great use to help transform the education of students in Africa.

Our recent donations have helped pupils in these schools in Zambia:

- Kavumbu Secondary School, Mpulungu
- Matero East Primary School, Lusaka
- Silver Rest Secondary School, Chongwe
- Chizuzu Primary School, Chipata
- Kitwe College Of Education, Kitwe
- Nelson Mandela Secondary Schooo, Lusaka
- Luagwa Secondary School, Luangwa



Sixth Form Fundraising



On 14th February 2017 Sam Osborne and myself, John Clarke, decided to dedicate our Valentine's Day to a very worthy cause, Stand Up To Cancer.

Over the years, Oaklands has lost a number of students and teachers to cancer. Having experienced the shock and loss of bereavements amongst loved members of our community, we took it upon ourselves to attempt to make a difference.

We concluded that the best way to show our support was to lose the thing we both treasured most: our hair (especially my beard)!

With an audience of one hundred students and staff, we gathered in the hall with support high but regret soaring. With the aid of Miss Evans and her hairdresser friend, Jackie, we saw our precious locks fall from our heads and whilst this caused us great distress we knew that the money raised would help to fight such a horrible disease.

We successfully raised over £300 in donations; although this is only a small amount we hope to inspire others to do similar acts in the name of charity.

We would like to thank everyone in the Oaklands community for helping us smash a goal of £200 and supporting such a worthy cause. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of all those lost.



Refurbishment News

If you have visited the school since February half term, you will have noticed that the considerable external works on Newman Block are now complete and students and staff are enjoying their new surroundings both inside and out.

We hope to continue with an ambitious programme of work despite finance being so tight in so many areas. Plans are in place to fully refurbish the inside of Newman Block, extend the Canteen dining area, upgrade our heating and lighting systems and refurbish more sets of toilets and classrooms.

We are currently bidding for funding from the DfE Capital Improvement Fund and the SALIX Energy Efficiency Fund. In addition, the generous parental donations to the School Community Fund also help finance these projects.



Erasmus+ Visit to the UK



During the week beginning 6 March, we welcomed staff and students from Finland, Portugal, Hungary and Italy to Oaklands as part of the Erasmus+ project.

Activities during the week focussed on exploring the idea of 'Eudaimonia - Wellbeing'. Visiting students stayed with Oaklands students and staff to experience family life in the UK. Here is what some of our host students said about the week:

Monday 6th March

Monday was the first day we came to school with our exchange students. I was quite nervous and apprehensive as I was unsure about how it would go. When we arrived at school we went straight to my tutor group (9CL) and had registration with Mrs Cunningham. After that we went to the Sixth Form with the other exchange students and played a series of games to help us to get to know each other, such as global bingo and marshmallow and spaghetti towers. I enjoyed the towers a lot as it was fun, exciting and we got to work with new people to achieve something. When we had all got to know each other we presented our logo designs for the project and England's won. After this we made and designed posters on our schools and ecosystems. We then had break and then Eszter came to my lessons 3 and 4.

We then had lunch and I got to know my friend's exchange partners, Veera from Finland and Francesca from Italy. In the afternoon we had a yoga session which was very relaxing. Mrs Tyler took us through poses such as the tree, cat and dog. We finished the afternoon with a meditation session.

At the end of the day Eszter came back on the bus with me to my home. We then went to Gunwharf where we met up with other students and their partners. We went bowling which was good fun (I beat Eszter by one point- 104 and 105) and then we went out for an Italian meal. The portions were huge! We then went back home and relaxed.

By Ella Mulcahy (Year 9) and Eszter Farkas



Tuesday 7th March

On Tuesday 7th March I had four different styles lessons which was fun and last we all played badminton. My four lessons were Italian, Hungarian, Finnish and Portuguese lessons.

All of these were interesting and different to my normal lessons but they were fun. The one that I liked the most was the Hungarian because I had never understood before what they taught us! I also liked the Finnish lesson because we learnt something new and at the end we relaxed and had fun.

Badminton was also fun because I never really played it properly before, but once I got into it I was good. I enjoy doing sports as it gets people active and you have fun whilst doing exercise.

When I got home with my partner (who is from Portugal) from a long bus journey we sat upstairs in my bedroom and talked about loads of things. After a while we had dinner. Then my grandparents came round with some presents.

After about 15 minutes we all left to see the school play 'Anything Goes' and sat with my other friend.

The play was really good and I would see it again if I had the opportunity.

When we got back we went straight to bed as we would have to get up early in the morning.

By Alannah Nolan (Year 8)

Wednesday 8th March

On Wednesday, we went to London. We went to the Natural History Museum where we saw exhibits from all around the world; there were many artefacts like dinosaurs and many animal sculptures; there was not enough time to visit the whole museum because there was so much to see. We also went to the Kew Gardens. It was really nice and sunny. The flowers were blooming and there were many attractions like the greenhouses and sky paths. There were many nice paths to take and exotic plants and fish I had never seen before. I liked the Japanese Gardens because a lot of effort was put into it and it looked lovely. The European students also liked it because there were many new things they had never seen and they thought the puffer fish was funny.

Thursday 9th March

Today was REALLY FUN!!!! We did a lot of activities, some inside and some around the school, but my favourite was the cooking lesson. We got to not only make scones, which failed for me, and carrot cupcakes, but we also got to taste some of the lovely snacks from Hungary, Italy, Portugal and Finland. Afterwards we walked around the school and looked at different places where we could put a new bench. Later we took the data we collected and put it onto our school's map using a new program called 'Aegis' and then we went into separate groups where we collected all of our data and put it together on a poster.

By Dominika Malecka (Year 9)

Friday 10th March

Today, we did many things:

In Period 1, we evaluated our data that we collected yesterday while we walked round school to find where was best place to put a new bench.

In Period 2, we had a mindfulness session with Mrs Whyte. We watched a video and then completed some mindfulness exercises, that involved thinking about the present moment and not worrying about the future or the past.

In Period 3, we raised some money for St Johns in Kenya. The students all learned about Korogocho and how Oaklands helps. We had the opportunity to swap unwanted items and donate money to our partner school. We managed to raise over £43 which means we can sponsor a child to go to school for a year.

In Period 4, we completed some questionnaires about the project and said goodbye to the Portuguese and Finnish students

In Period 5 we wrote about our experience on the Erasmus Project and how we all had an interesting and fun time.

By Gabriella Mula (Year 10)

Mrs Broadway would like to thank all host families – the students had a wonderful time with them and were all very complimentary of the Oaklands families. Once again – a huge thank you! We would not be able to run this project meeting without your help and support.



Erasmus+ Visit to Poland

On 19 March, three Oaklands students and three teachers (including the Headteacher) travelled from Gatwick to Krakow airport for an Erasmus+ exchange trip. It all started at 3.00am when we were all getting ready to meet each other at school. Our flight from Gatwick was at 8.00am in the morning; none of us liked the early rise including the teachers. At the airport, we did some shopping in the duty free areas and Mr Quinn tried to win an Aston Martin! The flight was good and we were all eager to meet our exchange students who we had been emailing and snapchatting for weeks previously.



Once the plane had landed, we got a mini bus to a salt mine in Wieliczka and had a guided tour around the mine. It was an underground marvel! At 125 meters, there were many chapels with salt chandeliers and replica paintings carved into the wall. There was even a restaurant where we all had a lovely meal. After this experience, all six jumped back into the mini bus and drove to the hotel to meet our exchange students. I think all of us (including the teachers) had an early night!



Monday 20th March

Monday started with a 1-hour bus/car journey from the hosts' houses to the school. At school things started slowly with a welcome in Polish from the Headteacher and then some ice-breaker activities. After this we got to know each other a little more. We made posters about our schools and abuse in different forms (cyber bullying, physical abuse, football hooliganism and vandalism). We then presented our posters to the rest of the group. After this, each school showed a presentation of their school life in a short video. Some of the videos were not short! After all this brain power, all the students were a bit hungry so we walked down to the Club99 restaurant and had chicken broth followed by chicken nuggets and chips! This was a great meal and it tasted delicious. Next, we all walked back to the school and went home on the buses to spend the evening with partners.

Tuesday 21st March

Tuesday was a day full of trips and excitement. We all met up behind the school and got on a coach to Kraków. In Kraków we had a tour in golf carts that looked like miniature buses. It was really interesting to discover the pasts of this city. After the tour, we had free time in the old city square where most of us went to McDonalds and Starbucks! We also explored around the shops in the undercover markets and listened to the trumpeter from the Mariacki Church. This was quite fascinating as well.

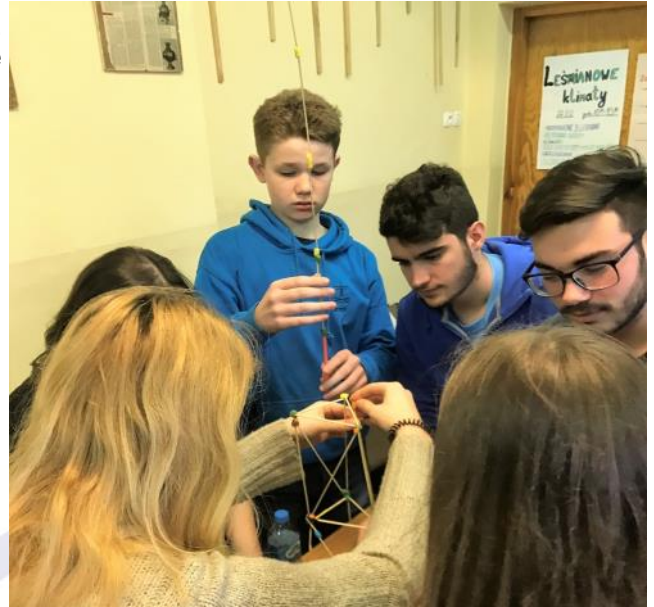


After visiting Kraków, we all got back into the bus and drove to Auschwitz to learn about the Holocaust. It was a good experience but also very sad and emotional. Something that we think that everyone should know about.

After Auschwitz, we drove about ten minutes to Birkenau. This was the hardest part to take in because of the scale of the camp. After this trip, we drove back to school and then spent the evening with our families.

Wednesday 22nd March

In the morning, we did more icebreakers such as the spaghetti and plasticine tower challenge and the 'Learn the Name' game. This was really fun and energetic. After this all the students sat down and watched more presentations on the schools. In the afternoon, we were supposed to have a tour around Katowice but it was raining so it was called off. Instead, we went home early and spent time with our families. Some of us went to the shopping mall and bought presents for our families back in England. This day was quite short because of the cancelled tour.



Thursday 23rd March

On Thursday, we drove on the coach to the silver mine and to explore the underground water passages in mini boats. This was quite scary but it was all the same, once you have seen 5 meters, you have seen all 600! When we got off the other side, we walked back up the hill and got on the coach for a second time. Next stop was the silver mine itself. Once we had reached the silver mine, we had to get in a lift and descended 50 meters to explore the tunnels with our guide. The height of the tunnels was sometimes only 1.4 meters! Once we emerged from the mine in the lift, many of us were in the shop buying stones and charms for friends or family. We spent the evening with our exchange students.



Friday 24th March

Friday was our last day in Poland! We had a great time and would definitely come back. The day started with a football match in the gym. Because England only had one willing player to play football, the English and the Italians played together with one Spanish student in goal. Sadly, we lost to Turkey on penalties! After football we played basketball. This was more fun but we still lost! Many of us sat out and watched one of the Polish students teach martial arts to many other people. This was really interesting and fascinating to learn all these self-defense moves. After the exciting morning in the gym, we all walked back to the Club99 restaurant for another meal. This time it was cucumber soup and chicken with cheese inside and some mash potatoes. It also came with a side of salad. Once the meal was over, we had to depart from our exchange students. For some, not all, this was very hard. There were tears and hugs!



Finally, we walked back to the school to collect our luggage and got in a taxi back to Kraków airport then flew back to England. Huge thanks to all the teachers who took us on this trip.

By Douglas Quinn, Dominika Malecka and Isabel Rushmere

Oaklands Parents' Association

The Oaklands Parents' Association (OPA) are a group of parents and staff whose purpose is to raise funds to help provide those little extras that will benefit your children and enhance their time at Oaklands.

We organise and run events throughout the year, including our major fundraiser, the Christmas Craft Fair. We are always present at Parents' Evenings, school concerts, the Open Evening and the Year 7 Induction Evening serving refreshments. We regularly donate to various departments throughout the school and are still saving more to donate to the next big school project.

Over the last few years, we have been able to purchase the following which have helped enhance the Oaklands experience for the school community:



Covered seating area
Outside the canteen



New ciborium for
use in Mass



Plotter for use in
Technology lessons

We are now actively seeking new members to join our group so if you can spare a few hours a year it would be great to meet you. Equally, if you wish to be involved in events occasionally, without the commitment of regular meetings, please contact us to add your name to our brilliant team. We are always happy to hear from new parents and get some new ideas, so please come along. Our next meeting is on Monday 8 May at 7.30pm and we look forward to seeing you there!

For more information on what we do and how you can help, please visit our 'new look' page on the school website via the Parents section <http://www.oaklandscatholicsschool.org/opa> or contact us via our email address opa@oaklandscatholicsschool.org

Current Vacancies

We are currently seeking a new Treasurer to join our friendly committee. Our current Treasurer has been with us for a number of years, but as his children will have left Oaklands in the summer term, he will be giving up this role.

The role includes basic book keeping, preparing and collecting floats for functions and managing the bank account activities.

This will ideally suit someone who has some book keeping experience, however this is not vital as a full handover and support will be provided.

The Treasurer would be expected to attend our Committee meetings (approximately 7 throughout the academic year) but there is no obligation to support other events during the year.

If you are interested in the post, please contact Mr Andy Burridge on 07971 198734 or email him on andy.burridge@arcfiresafety.co.uk

50/50 Club

This is a brilliant way to donate to the OPA and school and have a chance of winning a cash prize!

Parents, staff and friends of Oaklands can purchase a number in our monthly draw for only £1.00; you may have as many numbers as you wish. Each month's subscriptions are divided into two, one half allocated as a cash prize and the other half added to the OPA funds. Every month a draw is made and the winner will win the cash prize. Please click [here](#) to download our 50/50 Club application form or visit the OPA section on the school website.

Our latest lucky winners for January and February were K Jenkinson, L Carden and G Coleman.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

On Friday 31st March, Oaklands was delighted to host the Annual Presentation of Awards for the Havant and Waterlooville Local Committee. We were delighted to welcome the Deputy Mayor of Havant with special guests Councillor Roy Perry, Hampshire D of E Award Forum Vice President, and Martin King, Chair of the Hampshire D of E Award Forum, together with many parents, siblings, relatives, D of E participants and Leaders from the area.

As people were gathering they were entertained by a group of musicians and singers from Oaklands – Fionnuala Quinn, Eleanor Ferris, Verity Flood, Judy Quinn, Emma Farrugia, Jessica Collins, Jess Fitzjohn, David Vahey, Ryan Crellin-Simpson, Morgan Dryhurst and Archie McKeown ably led by Estelle Flood.


The evening opened with the entry of the guests who were officially welcomed by Maureen Cawte, Chair of the Local Award Committee. The Deputy Mayor of Havant congratulated and then presented Bronze certificates to the following Oaklands participants:

Lara Bailey	Sophie Beacon	David Beard		
Abbey Blackmore	Andrew Bray	Joe Codling		
Jessica Collins	Mia Cotton	Ryan Crellin-Simpson		
Maria Czoch	Luke Dancey	Morgan Dryhurst		
Joseph Ellul-Turner	Emma Farrugia	Cameron Fawl		Megan Hancox
Jiji Jiphonse	Emily Johnson	Kara Leigh		Jack Lindsay
Isabel Lipman	Angus Lochrane	Liberty Loftus		Eliza McMaster
Henry McPhee	Amy Mitchell	Matisse Moretti		Francesca Parris
Nicole Phillips	Judy Quinn	Layana Sani		Abhina Shaju
Ben Strutt	Thomas Sullivan	Matthew Sweetman		Nicole Terry Cho
Ania Townsin	Nicholas Tyler	Tamia Varghese		Daniel Whitty

Following further musical entertainment from the Oaklands group, including songs from the recent production 'Anything Goes', the Silver Award certificates were then presented by Martin King. We were delighted that every participant from Oaklands who started the Award completed it despite also having to cope with the added pressure of public examinations. Many congratulations to:

Chris Ashberry	Rebecca Barrows	Rebecca Berry		
Sophie Carabott	Benjamin Colclough	Joseph Crouthers Camacho		
Antonio De Abreu Faria	Samuel De Vos	Craig Dickinson		
Lily Ellis	Eleanor Ferris	Rebecca Galbraith		
Lauren Hogg	Jonathan Hutchins	Joseph Marinaccio		Kira Mulcahy
James Pragnell	Thomas Reha	Abigail Reynolds		Eloise Smith
Sophie Tarling	Faye Thompson	David Vahey		Lydia Weedon

The evening continued with the presentation of the prestigious Gold Award by Councillor Roy Perry. He spoke about how the Award was valued, particularly at Gold level, by employers. We are delighted that the Gold Award was presented to a number of Oaklands students. This is a stunning achievement as the Award requires participants to undertake two of the sections for twelve months with the third for six months as well as completing an arduous four day expedition in wild country and a residential experience of five days. To complete this while studying for their A levels is impressive. Congratulations to:

Emilio de Abreu Faria	Holly Reynolds	Thomas Ellis	
Bethany Harrison	Joseph Hurd	Cebastian Nunez	
Jonathan Peach	Catriona Robinson		

The Presentation Evening was a great success and congratulations to all those who received Awards. Our thanks in particular to the music group led by Estelle Flood, to our announcers – Tom Ellis and Jonathan Peach and to sound technician Luke Dancey. In addition, many thanks to all the expedition trainers who gave of their time to ensure all the participants could undertake their expeditions – Mrs K Speller, Mr J Turner, Mr R Jones, Mrs J Stirling, Mrs J Tyler, Mrs N Riddle, Mr C Wade, Mr K Geddes, Mr L Tindal, Miss H Roberts, Mrs C Wise, Mr B Wrightson, Mr T Brinnen, Mr C Walder, Mr P Hoar and Mr & Mrs C Matthews.

Mrs J Hoar

Havant Pastoral Area Easter Services

Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Peter the Apostle, Waterlooville

Thursday 13 April	8.00pm	Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 14 April	10.00am	Good Friday Stations of the Cross for parents and children
	11.15am	Ecumenical Procession of Witness begins at Sacred Heart
	3.00pm	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
	7.30pm	Prayers around the Cross (informal service of readings)
Saturday 15 April	8.00pm	Easter Saturday Vigil
Sunday 16 April	8.30am	Easter Sunday Mass
	10.30am	Easter Sunday Mass

St. Patrick's, Hayling Island

Thursday 13 April	5.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
	7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper with watch until midnight
Friday 14 April	10.00am	Stations of the Cross for children
	11.00am	Walk of Witness (starting at St Mary's)
	3.00pm	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
	6.00pm	Via Dolorosa
Saturday 15 April	8.00pm	Easter Saturday Vigil
Sunday 16 April	10.00am	Easter Sunday Family Mass

St. Joseph's, Havant

Thursday 13 April	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 14 April	3.00pm	Solemn Liturgy with Veneration of the Cross
Saturday 15 April	7.00pm	Easter Saturday Vigil
Sunday 16 April	11.00am	Easter Sunday Family Mass

St. Thomas', Emsworth

Sunday 16 April	9.00am	Easter Sunday Mass
	6.00pm	Easter Sunday Mass

St. Edmund's, Horndean

Thursday 13 April	4.00pm	Children's Stations of the Cross
	7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Adoration
	10.00pm	Night prayer and watch until 12.00 midnight
Friday 14 April	10.00am	Good Friday, Churches Together Walk of Witness from Blendworth Methodist Church
	3.00pm	Good Friday Liturgy of the Passion
Saturday 15 April	7.00pm or Sunset	The Easter Vigil
Sunday 16 April	8.30am	Easter Sunday Mass
	10.30am	Easter Sunday Mass

St. Michael and All Angels, Leigh Park

Thursday 13 April	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Adoration at the altar of repose
Friday 14 April	3.00pm	Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Saturday 15 April	8.30pm	Easter Saturday Vigil
Sunday 16 April	10.00am	Easter Sunday Mass for the Feast of the Lord's Resurrection

Your Voice Matters - Youth Poll

In 2018, Pope Francis will invite Bishops and others to Rome to talk about Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment. At this gathering they will discuss how the Catholic Church can accompany young people in their faith and help them to hear God's call.

If you are aged between 13-29 years old, the Catholic Church in England and Wales would like to hear from you, we want to hear what life is like, your thoughts on faith and how you connect with the Catholic Church. To help you, we have created a Youth Poll that you can access at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/parish-youth-poll.

If you're not in this age group but would like to help, please encourage the young people you know to respond to this poll by giving them the link. For queries about the Youth Poll please email:

synod2018@cbcew.org.uk.

Alumni

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

Go to the 'Sign Up' tab

Click 'Former Student'

Type in **Oaklands Catholic School**



If you have already signed up to our Alumni, don't forget to follow us via the following ...

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ocsofficialpage/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/OaklandsCSchool>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/oaklandscatholicschool/>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com> Search "Oaklands Catholic School"

School Hashtag: #LYDOCS

Daniel Phillips is a former pupil (previously known as Darren Phillips) who was at Oaklands from 1973-1978. He has had an impressive career in film and television as a make up/hair design artist, working on films such as The Queen, The Duchess and The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel.

Daniel attended a school reunion, held at Oaklands in January, and was proud to announce his recent BAFTA nomination for his work on Florence Foster Jenkins. At the Ceremony in February, J. Roy Helland and Daniel Phillips won the BAFTA Award for the Best Makeup and Hair for the film.

Congratulations to one of our ex-students!



Important Reminders



A number of students have started to wear their Smartwatches to school. Many of these watches can receive and send texts and connect to social networks and some have integrated cameras. I am sure all parents can see the issue this presents in the classroom and in addition they are costly items to bring into school.

I would like to remind you, once again, that the school's current policy bans Smartwatches.

Similar to mobile phones, they are not to be seen **during the school day (8:50-3:40) and must be switched off at all times including break and lunchtimes.**


Our normal disciplinary sanctions will apply, which in most cases will include the temporary confiscation of devices by staff and appropriate arrangements being made for their return to parents.

Now that the weather is getting warmer, we have an increasing number of unnamed coats and blazers in our Lost Property, which students take off during break and lunchtime and forget to pick up. Please remember to label all items of clothing so that they can be returned to their owners when found.


Parents are reminded that if their children have or develop medical conditions, they should complete a Medical Information Sheet - this includes hayfever medication, including eye drops. In addition if students have regular prescribed medication, ie, epipens or inhalers, parents should complete an Administration of Medication Form. Both forms are available to download via our website and should be returned to Student Services. Thank you.

Please remember to let us know if any of your personal/contact details change – the school is contacting parents increasingly by email and mobile. Current contact details are important should your child be unwell and we need to inform you. Thank you.

Oaklands
Catholic School and Sixth Form College



**Oaklands Catholic School
SEN information sharing evening
on Wednesday 10th May 2017
Time 4.00p.m - 6.00p.m.**



**Do you have a child with SEN starting at
Oaklands Catholic School this September?**

**If so, we would like to invite you to visit our
Learning Support Department for coffee and
a chat with a member of our team.**

**This will be an opportunity for you to provide
us with information to help us support your
child as well as see some of the resources
regularly used here at Oaklands.
We look forward to meeting you.**

Term Dates 2017/2018

Autumn Term 2017

Half Term:

Fri 1st September to Thurs 21st December

Mon 23rd - Fri 27th October

Spring Term 2018

Half Term:

Thurs 4th January to Thurs 29th March

Mon 12th - Fri 16th February

Summer Term 2018

Half Term:

Mon 16th April to Fri 20th July

Mon 28th May - Fri 1st June

INSET Days are as follows:

Friday 1st September, Monday 4th September,
Friday 22nd September, Thursday 21st December,
Friday 20th July

Tuesday 5th September will be a phased return for new
Year 7 students and Year 12 and Year 13.

Wednesday 6th September all students will return to school

Term Dates - Summer 2017

Monday	24 April	First Day of Summer Term
Wednesday	26 April	Year 11 Final Predictions Home
Thursday	27 April	Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening (4.30pm)
Monday	1 May	School Closed—May Day
Tuesday	2 May	Year 10 Book Sharing Week Science GCSE Preview Evening (Y9) (7.00-8.30pm)
Monday	8 May	Governors' Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting OPA Committee Meeting + AGM (7.30pm)
Wednesday	10 May	SEN Information Sharing Evening (4.00-6.00pm)
Thursday	11 May	Year 10 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)
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
Mon-Fri	29 May—2 June	Half Term
Wednesday	7 June	SEN Parents' Evening (5.00pm)
Monday	12 June	Governors' Business & Collaboration Committee Meeting
Tuesday	13 June	Open Morning (11.40-13.40pm)
Thursday	15 June	Peripatetic Music Concert (7.00pm)
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	Open Morning (11.40-13.40pm) Year 8 Reports Home
Monday	26 June	Challenge Week
Friday	30 June	Inset Day—School Closed
Monday	3 July	OPA Committee Meeting (End of Year Celebration)
Tuesday	4 July	Year 10 Post 16 Information Evening (7.00pm)
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	Last Day of Term
Friday	21 July	Inset Day—School Closed

Dates and times are accurate when going to press. The school reserves the right to make alterations.

Sports News



Well done to Ben Wilding, Imogen Curtis, Athene Ryan, Megan Farrer, Samuel Thompson, Lawrence Sheard (Year 7) and Jake Webb (Year 8) who all represented the school in the South East Hants area cross country competition in February.





Congratulations to James Colley, 11TE, who has been chosen to officiate as referee at a Hampshire Cup Final. There are 30 games and over 1,200 referees, so quite an achievement as the youngest referee to be selected. Well done James!

Oaklands have enjoyed plenty of success with our Year 8 and Year 9 rugby teams this term.

The Year 8 rugby team travelled to Southampton to take part in the Hampshire Schools Rugby Festival in March. They started really well winning 30–0 against Applemore School, followed by another strong victory against Meoncross School winning 25–0. They then moved on to play Hounslow School, a tough contest but we came out victorious 15–0. The last game of the morning was against a strong Toynbee side who had many good runners, Oaklands once again worked hard and managed to come away with a 20–0 win. The afternoon saw us placed in the top pool alongside other unbeaten teams; Oaklands played really well and managed to win the first game in a nail-biting 15–10 against Romsey School. The rest of the games proved to be much tougher and Oaklands were unlucky to lose by 1 try in each of the three remaining games.

Well done to all the boys involved for all of their hard work during training and fixtures to come away 4th out of a total of 34 schools.



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