

Term Dates for 2019-20

No 428 Jan 2019

Oaklands News

**Presentation of Certificates
Erasmus Trip to Poland
Rewarding Students at Oaklands**



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

Lead Stories



Oaklands
Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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From the Headteacher's Desk

We often return to school on 2nd or 3rd January which means the first edition of the Oaklands News comes out at a time when it is appropriate to still offer a happy New Year ... a Happy New Year nevertheless.

New years are always full of good intentions. For a while I have been planning to landscape part of our rear garden. This weekend I decided to get on with it. I hired a mini excavator to do the majority of the heavy lifting as well as a skip to remove the soil. All of this required a little planning, particularly so because at some point you have to get the excavator out, without destroying your creation, caterpillar tracks can be quite unforgiving!

Most of what we do requires a plan. Without some rudimentary planning you probably won't have anything to eat when you get up in the morning. And without some thought you cannot landscape your garden, let alone construct a building. If producing shelter and food and clothing and transportation is valuable, then planning is valuable. Nothing but the simplest wishes gets accomplished without some forethought, which we call a plan.

So how can we use planning as part of a new year's resolution? Perhaps we can plan how to spend time with our loved ones to strengthen the relationship. Plan how we are going to spend time playing with and teaching our children. Plan how to get the amount of exercise needed to stay healthy. Plan how to get enough sleep. Plan your next holiday so that it really gives rest and spiritual renewal and above all plan how to set time aside each day and each week to develop your relationship with God.

The greatest missionary who ever lived was a planner. God is a God who does all things according to plan. Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem because of the most loving plan ever devised. He planned for our joy; we ought to plan for his glory.



The Government is about to change the methods by which they measure schools again.

I seem to remember a recent Education Secretary talking about a period of calm and consolidation with no more significant changes to the system. I have now lost count of the number of iterations of the Ofsted framework in the last twenty years. They are consulting on a substantial overhaul of the inspection regime, probably the biggest for the last ten years. The new framework still acknowledges the importance of parental views. Every year we survey about 500 families either through postal surveys, on-line or by handing you a questionnaire to complete at Parents' Evening. Thank you for the comments that you have made. In the last Oaklands News we fed back a number of key action points. Alongside the Ofsted inspection process, Catholic schools have an additional Section 48 inspection; ours will be conducted on 11th March. We will publish more information nearer the time.



Congratulations to all students in Year 13 who have sent their applications to the University and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) well before the January deadline. Many have received offers from their universities of choice. This year we have a high number of university hopefuls with our applications.

Offers received include Oxford and Cambridge universities where three of our Sixth Form have firm offers for entry in September 2019. Their chosen courses are Medicine, French and Natural Sciences. We again wish every student in Oaklands Sixth Form the best of luck in their remaining applications. Enormous thanks and congratulations also go to the Sixth Form tutors for their preparation of references and support for personal statements.



Last week we hosted a road safety event, organised by L&S Waste Management and Pedal Power Training, to highlight the dangers posed to cyclists by heavy goods vehicles on the road. Some of you may have already seen the article in The News or on our Facebook page. The full write-up, with pictures can be found at:

[https://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/education/teenage-cyclists-who-were-knocked-off-their-bikes-beg-drivers-to-take-care-at-oaklands-school-safety-day-in-waterlooville-organised-by-l-s-waste-management-1-8772627?](https://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/education/teenage-cyclists-who-were-knocked-off-their-bikes-beg-drivers-to-take-care-at-oaklands-school-safety-day-in-waterlooville-organised-by-l-s-waste-management-1-8772627?fbclid=IwAR1dPGNKxKsOdYykVjdTvndQIElppA2C_9bwKcgNEntG9x20q7FjkM7NCUc)

[fbclid=IwAR1dPGNKxKsOdYykVjdTvndQIElppA2C_9bwKcgNEntG9x20q7FjkM7NCUc](https://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/education/teenage-cyclists-who-were-knocked-off-their-bikes-beg-drivers-to-take-care-at-oaklands-school-safety-day-in-waterlooville-organised-by-l-s-waste-management-1-8772627?fbclid=IwAR1dPGNKxKsOdYykVjdTvndQIElppA2C_9bwKcgNEntG9x20q7FjkM7NCUc)

Finally, at the beginning of a new term it is important that the school maintains its normal rhythm as quickly as possible and students continue to deliver the high standards that you and we expect.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Matthew Quinn

The school hall was packed full of staff, former students and their guests on Tuesday 8th January 2019 to celebrate the school's examination success at A Level and GCSE.

The evening started with an address from Mr Quinn. He noted in his welcome the outstanding achievement of students of all abilities and the contribution parents make supporting students at Oaklands. He went on to talk about the importance of hard work and the success that comes from this.



The school was delighted that former students Nicola and Rosie Dempsey, otherwise known as *Flo & Joan*. They are a multi-award winning British musical comedy duo. The piano/percussion pair have headlined and played to sold-out audiences across North America and the UK. Their third Edinburgh show, 'Alive on Stage', completely sold out its run at the Festival and they had to add extra shows to keep up with demand.

Nicola and Rosie talked about their time at Oaklands and how this shaped their career, drawing reference to how they learnt music and their time at university.

The celebration was concluded with a vote of thanks from Sixth Form Student Leaders.

At the end of the evening Nicola and Rosie stayed and chatted to students and staff as they mingled and enjoyed refreshments.

During the ceremony students were also entertained with excerpts from the next school production, *Half a Sixpence*.

Flo and Joan can be seen at the Wedgewood Rooms in Portsmouth on 12th May 2019. For more information see <http://www.wedgewood-rooms.co.uk>

For those students unable to be present at the recent Presentation of Certificates Evening, GCSE and 'A' level Examination Certificates are now available for collection from Main Reception at the school for the academic year 2017/2018.

Please note, these are valuable documents which are expensive to replace and we are only permitted to retain them for one year, after which time they must be destroyed.

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**



The long dark nights and cold weather mean it's time to turn our thoughts to what our students are wearing. We ask you to help us maintain high uniform standards by supporting the uniform rules:



- Scarves: the striped school scarf available from the OPA OR a **scarf in co-ordinating school uniform colours. Team sport scarves (eg: football etc) are NOT suitable.**
- Coats: these should ideally be either plain navy blue or black without a logo. Coats should be worn over the blazer. We are permitting the light reflective jackets to be worn as they are a good way for students who walk / cycle home to be visible. **Hoodies, in any form, are not an acceptable item of uniform and will be confiscated, as will gilets. Leather jackets are not permissible.**
- Shoes: formal black shoes (girls – heels should be lower than 2"). Plimsolls, ankle boots and trainer-type/ canvas and suede shoes are not permitted.
- Girls skirt length: we are concerned that some girls are wearing their skirts at an inappropriately short length and we would appreciate your help. Please ensure they are bought at the correct length – ie: knee length – and that you check the length before they leave home. Jumpers should not be tucked into skirts. Skirts rolled up at the waist are not acceptable and students will be sanctioned if they do not wear uniform correctly.
- Boys trousers must be navy formal trousers. Slim style is permitted; skinny and super skinny are not; neither are chino-style trousers.
- The school uniform policy on make up (including fake tan) and nail varnish is quite clear – it is not permitted. If students continue to show a blatant disregard for the school rules they will be placed in Inclusions. Your co-operation in getting false and acrylic / gel nails removed and ensuring nail varnish is cleaned off is appreciated.

Where can I buy Uniform?

All items of our uniform are available at Skoolkit in Havant or Fareham – embroidered or logoed items must be purchased from this supplier however, in order to offer more choice to parents you may buy any of the plain items at high street stores providing that they meet the uniform guidelines (eg: the skirt should be plain navy with sewn down pleats etc). Skoolkit also offer an online ordering service

SchoolKit Havant

31 Meridian Centre, Elm Lane, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 1UN

Telephone: 02392 455795

Skoolkit Fareham

149, West Street, Fareham, PO16 0YA
Telephone: 01329 822509

Opening hours:
9.00am - 5.30pm Monday - Fridays
9.00am - 5.00pm Saturdays

Since last September, we have operated a uniform report card. If a child is placed on this monitoring card and they either improve enough to come off, but then matters slip again, or if the child does not show any improvement whilst on card, this could eventually result in a fixed period exclusion for persistent defiance, particularly if lesser sanctions have failed to have the desired outcome. Your co-operation in ensuring full and correct uniform is critical in maintaining the high standards expected at Oaklands.

Nearly New Uniform

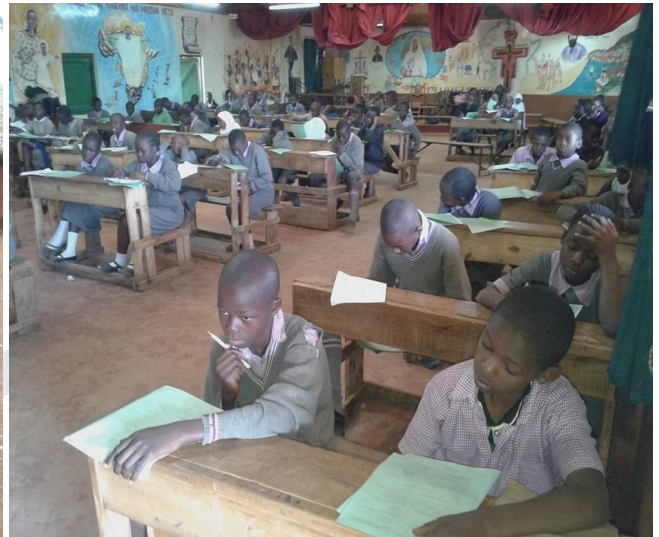
The Oaklands Parents Association is very keen to build up a stock of second-hand uniform (particularly blazers and jumpers) which can be sold to parents at Parents Evenings and other evening events. If your child has outgrown ANY item of uniform and it is in good condition please launder and leave at Reception where we will arrange for the OPA to collect it. If you are interested in purchasing second hand items please make contact either via Reception or by email: opa@oaklandscatholicschool.org

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact Mrs Oldroyd (Deputy Head) or your child's Head of Year/Tutor.

Update from St John's Korogocho

End of Year 2018 Report on Oaklands St John's Scholarship

By Opondo Elloh Geoffrey, Headteacher



Programme Objectives

To help the less fortunate in our community acquire education by paying school fees, exam fees and other basic needs to the learners.

St John's Achievements and Impact on the Community

- ♦ St John's school has transformed the life of many youths in Korogocho, some of them are now employed and today they lead decent lives outside the slum.
- ♦ The school's sports and music clubs have had a remarkable impact on the social and economic life of people in the slum. They not only nurture talents and help pupils to realise their potentials, but have also created jobs and opportunities that have enhanced personal and social transformation.
- ♦ This year the school sent 50 pupils to the National Music and Drama Festivals at Muthaiga Primary in Nairobi whereby they performed well. Some of the children have also earned scholarships in decent high schools across the country due to talents nurtured at St John's School.
- ♦ The school has helped to rehabilitate and educate many children whose lives could have been wasted by drugs and alcohol; it has also protected many others from becoming gangs and criminals by offering free and affordable education. In short, St John's is here to transform the lives of poor people in Korogocho.
- ♦ We have been able to organise educational trips for all pupils and graduation for pupils joining class one, which has also been driven by the parents.
- ♦ Our students pay a visit to the national assembly and the senate each year to learn more about the parliament.

School Fees and Others

School fees and exam fees were paid during the year for up to 181 pupils. 82 pupils benefitted from full sponsorship, while 101 pupils benefitted from partial sponsorship. A total of Ksh 677,000 (£5,039.67) was received in 2018 for school fees and sanitary towels.

The Benefits of this Scholarship Programme

- ♦ Continued increase in school capacity since we were able to bring more children to the school and continue with their education, especially the ones who had dropped out of school because of lack of school fees.
- ♦ We were able to support the needy and vulnerable children and maintain our pupils' population. This to us is very good because without the support, the number of children in school would have gone down.
- ♦ The academic performance of the majority of the 181 children has improved gradually and consistently each time we do exams, though some are still on their way to improvement. We hope we will make the average good, the good better, and make the better best, as we make the best of the best through your continual support. We have eight students who have done their national exams and they have performed well. They will now join good secondary schools in 2019.
- ♦ We have also managed to keep children in school without sending them home for money which has also lessened teachers work in class as well since very little time is wasted.
- ♦ The children have been more comfortable in school since at least their needs in the school are catered for, hence they have very little worries.
- ♦ Purchasing sanitary towels for our girls has built their confidence and helped them not to miss lessons every month.

Challenges

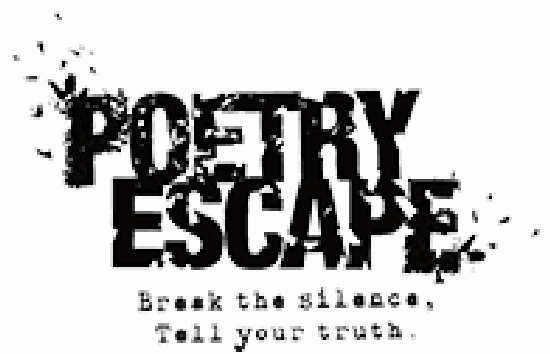
- ♦ The high population in our school (654 pupils). Most of them are undergoing the same difficulties hence it becomes so hard to accommodate each and every person in the school.
- ♦ Communication was made difficult due to problems with the internet, especially skype sessions, which were not carried out due to technical problems with our computer components.
- ♦ The demise of four of our parents during the year.
- ♦ Air pollution due to emission of toxic gasses during the burning of garbage from the dump site.



Creative Writing Club

This year, the Young Writer's Association began their annual poetry competition and received over 8,000 student entries from across the country!

The 'Poetry Escape' competition invited students to explore the poetry maze, forge ideas and discover inspiration along the way. Each of the eight pathways outlined provided either a theme or a writing constraint, challenging students to break their imaginations free and embrace their creativity.



I am extremely pleased to announce that ten of our incredibly talented young writers have been specifically chosen to be published in a national compilation of poems, hand-picked for their sheer creativity, guile and innovation.

Huge congratulations must go to the following students for their magnificent effort and achievement:

Georgina Mathieu (8TE)
Libby Hardwick (8VP)
Julianne Jandusay (7DO)
Ruthie Quinn (9CL)
Alexandra Iacob (8TE)

Samuel Frost (7MT)
Mary Beswick (8MT)
Amelia Page (9CA)
Freddie Fincham (7MT)

As well as having ten brilliantly crafted pieces nationally published, there is also another outstanding milestone that has been reached by the young writers of Oaklands. Since the Creative Writing Club began in 2015, we have now reached over 100 nationally published pieces - including odes, short stories, haikus and much more.

A fantastic effort and an incredible legacy; laced in the riches of the written word. It seems that Oaklands is steeped in creativity and I am sure there is much more to come:

Mr C Osbourne

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."

Maya Angelou



Harry Potter in the Snow

On the morning of Thursday 12th January, 24 students and three teachers understandably excited, set off for the 'Warner Bros Studio Tour' in Watford, London. When we arrived, we had an amazing view of the studios! It was remarkable! We met one of the school leaders and got a 'passport' to collect stamps that were hidden around the studios. Before we were allowed in, we had to go through a security check to make sure we were not bringing in anything suspicious.

Once we were in, we had our photo taken and walked through a long passageway until we got to the main area. When we got there, I found out that I was the same height as Dumbledore! We then went through to a room where they explained about the Harry Potter fans around the world and how one of the producers loved the book so much he couldn't put it down.

After that, we went into the theatre room where Daniel Radcliffe (Harry Potter), Emma Watson (Hermione Granger) and Rupert Grint (Ron Weasley) explained about all the filming of all of the Harry Potter films. They spoke about all the highs of filming, and all the lows. The quick film finished and we then walked onto the stage and pushed the door, into where we entered 'Hogwarts'. The food looked so genuine, and we went through into a **vast** room which turned out to be the banquet hall! Next we walked into a different room which had lots of amazing things - wands, the boys' dormitory, the multicolour taps, the lot!

We walked around for around an hour until we had a lesson in one of the restricted areas of the studios. During the lesson, we handled some props from some of the films. The props were used as inspiration to write a story on a genre of our choice. It was a great lesson and we all got prizes for our excellent stories. The teacher told us that script writing is a frustrating piece of work; it **has** to be in 'Courier New' font and size 12 otherwise the readers will just put it straight in the bin, without reading it.

After our lesson, we continued with our tour and we went onto the 'Hogwarts Express'. During lunch, we were very near to 'Privet Drive'. Lots of people had 'Butterbeer' and 'Butterbeer' ice-cream. We were running out of time, sadly! We went through the last little bit, and right at the end there was a huge model of 'Hogwarts Castle'. After the quick visit to the gift shop, we got on the road.

On behalf of all the students who went, we would all like to say thank you to Mrs Harris for organising our trip and Mrs Cook and Mrs Berogna who accompanied us during the day.

Joe Harper,
10Do



We all know that by positively reinforcing good behaviour or work we can inspire young people to aim higher.

Here at Oaklands we have a school rewards system which awards individual Reward Points, House Points, stickers and praise postcards. Students are often rewarded for outstanding work, excellent effort, attendance or contribution to school life.

We also have an online reward system called **epraise** which gives each student their own Reward Account, where they can see which tutor group or House is in the lead, where they can redeem their points in the online shop or donate them to charity. Staff award points electronically so that students can see why they were awarded a point and by whom. They also earn epraise points for uniform, literacy, numeracy and lots more!

Staff can also award Accolades (individualised praise messages), and students reach Achievement Milestones on the epraise system. To show our students how proud we are of their achievements we award them with a special badge and certificate when they achieve their milestones: Bronze for 40 points; Silver for 70; Gold for 100; Ruby for 130 and Sapphire for 150.

Heads of Year and Tutors enjoy being able to give pastoral reward points to those students who contribute to school life in other ways - helpfulness, resilience, Chaplaincy and contribution to student council can all be rewarded, for example. With our new focus on "The Oaklands Way", each half term a special reward point can be given in the category of our half-termly focus. These have varied from "ready to learn" to "keeping safe". These Oaklands Way reward points have become one of our most well used categories.

Students can also spend their points in our online "shop", which offers great purchases such as phone cases, notebooks, pens, key rings, footballs, earphones, stress animals, food and activity vouchers and much, much more.

Students order on line and then collect their purchases during Tuesday breaktimes from our Business Support office in the White House.

An important new addition to our rewards categories are our "ultra-rare" Head of Year and Headteacher's Awards. These badges are awarded for outstanding special achievements and our Year Heads are currently choosing which students should receive these special awards in 2019!

We know that our students value their badges and rewards, but we're about to launch a student and staff working group to consider how to reward the excellent achievements that our students make in so many directions, and how to reward them in a manner that they really strive for - watch this space!

We hope that this system highlights the motivation and commitment of our students, and continues to build positive relationships between staff and students.

Why not have a look at your child's account and see how well they are doing?

Ms S Whyte

Please can you ensure that if your child is absent from school that you notify the school before 8.30am or as soon after that time as you can. It is a requirement that parents notify the school when their child is absent and to state the reason for that absence with an indication on the first day as to whether it is likely to be a longer term absence.

Any absence of five days or more **must** be supported by medical evidence (eg: letter from GP or Consultant; copy of the appointment card, prescription; named and dated medicine etc)

If it is a planned absence eg for a medical or other off-site appointment, please let us know in advance to ensure that no child is delayed in being signed out of school. Students leaving must sign out at the attendance window. An adult must contact the school in advance of collection with a reason for absence. Without this, students will not be permitted to leave the school site

Parents can communicate via one of four ways:

- By email on **absence@oaklandscatholicschool.org** (leaving a contact number on the email for verification purposes).
- By phone using the main school number **02392 259214** and selecting option 1
- By phone directly through to the Absence number **02392 248053**
- By letter, addressed to 'Attendance Officer', which your child should hand in at the attendance window.

Students should always come to the attendance window to sign in if they are arriving after 9.00am in the morning (please do not go straight to registration or assembly). Any students returning during the day from an appointment should also ensure they sign back in at the attendance window, even if it is during break or lunchtime.

Holiday requests must be made on the correct Leave of Absence form (see the school website). However, holidays will not be approved unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Punctuality

Students who accrue minutes late to school or are late to lessons will be asked to complete a sanction until their punctuality improves. Currently, if a student reaches 30 minutes late in total they will have a lunchtime detention. If they get to 60 minutes or higher they will be given an after school. We hope that these sanctions will teach the students the importance of punctuality and help them to understand that every minute late is lost learning time. Once the students have had a sanction, if they continue to accrue late minutes, they will have an additional sanction which could include a 2 hour SLT detention on Friday evening, a 'breakfast detention' starting at 8.00am or a Saturday morning detention.

Detentions

All parents know that from time to time youngsters step the wrong side of the line. With good parenting comes the responsibility for setting clear boundaries and, where necessary, taking action when these are pushed. In school one of the sanctions we have at our disposal is a detention, which can occur during or after school, Inset Days or Saturday mornings.

If your child is detained during school time then they will normally be asked to write in their planner so that you are aware.

With both in and after school detentions, the 2011 Education Act, in addition to giving schools the power to search students and sanction students for behaviour outside of school, **states that parental consent is not required for detentions** and detentions outside school hours can be issued on the same day. Whilst the law is quite unambiguous, at Oaklands we are aware that for some students transport to and from school creates issues for same day detentions. In most circumstances parents will be given advanced notice of a pending detention. However, in the final analysis, if a parent does not agree to a detention then the sanction can escalate to the point where a youngster is excluded. I am sure all parents would want to avoid this.

Finally, if you do receive a detention letter for your child, please remind them of their responsibility to attend the detention as directed.

“Traditions and Modern Technologies”

ERASMUS

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE UK ACROSS EUROPE

On Saturday 10th November we travelled from school to Stansted airport where we flew to Poznan airport in North-western Poland. We arrived just before midnight local time. This was where we met the families that we would be staying with for the course of the trip.

The next day, Sunday 11th (Remembrance Day and Independence Day in Poland) we visited Poznan by coach where we went to the St Martin's Fair. Here, we bought the St Martin Croissant, which can only be baked in Poznan. They were very good! Then, just after midday, we gathered in a big crowd to watch the St Martin's Parade. Each of the characters and floats in the parade had something to do with St Martin and his story. After that we returned to Rokietnica where we spent the evening swimming with the families.

On Monday, a bank holiday in Poland, we once again visited Poznan but by train this time. We walked from the train station to the old market square in a big group. Whilst we were there we took part in an activity that took us around the centre of Poznan as we gathered information that linked to the final phrase which was 'The Birth of the Emblem' – the white eagle. We then returned to Rokietnica where we spent the evening bonding with the families.

On the Tuesday, we went to the school that our students we were staying with, attended. We got a warm welcome from the Headteacher of the school and the Borough Leader of Rokietnica. Then we had the presentations concerning the celebration of St Martin's day in which each country talked about the things they do in their culture to celebrate. After that, there was an assembly from the students and the teachers of the school, commemorating 100 years of Independence.

We then had a traditional Polish meal. For the starter we had a freshly cooked tomato soup with rice, then, for the main, we had chicken with herbs and butter sauce coated in breadcrumbs and then fried along with mash potato and more herbs. Finally we had a delicious '100 years of Independence' birthday cake made for us by the school.

After lunch, we had a session where we looked at different computing tools used for education. Next, we went to a famous Tennis Centre (CTS) where we played bowling. This is where Mrs Broadway won her first sports medal!



On Wednesday we got to school and did some 'relaxing' exercising for about 20 minutes. After that we read about F4R (Fight 4 Rights) where there was information about women who were being unfairly sentenced. In one case there was one woman who had been killed for fighting for basic human rights in Brazil. Then – with our hosts – we wrote a letter defending one of the people. Then just before midday we watched a talent show presented to us by the students. They showed talents including, some football skills, electric guitars, dancing, Rubik's Cube solving and plenty of singing. It was wonderful to see all of the talents. We once again had a lovely traditional Polish meal, which was different to Tuesday's meal. Later on in the afternoon we added our favourite photos from the trip so far. In the evening we went (with our host families) shopping and to the cinema where we watched 'Bohemian Rhapsody' which was incredible!

On the morning of Thursday we had the summary session and the handing out of the Certificate of Attendance. We once again travelled to Poznan by train to visit 'St Martin's Croissant Museum' where we learnt to make the famous Poznan croissants. After we saw the famous goats of Poznan at the top of the town hall. We then had an hour break to shop and have lunch. We went to get a traditional Polish meal, McDonalds, where a Polish lady started speaking to us in Polish. To which we replied "English?" which made us all laugh. We also visited a museum where we learned about the history of Poland and its first capital city in Gniezno. In the evening both families met at a shopping centre where we shopped, then went to a trampoline park and had fun with the families.

Friday was our last day in Poland. We spent morning with our families and then went to the airport. We all met each other and said our final goodbyes.

Overall the trip to Poland was amazing and something we will never forget. We think Erasmus projects are good because you get an idea of what lives are like in different countries.

A huge thank you to Ms Juncklaus and Mrs Broadway for organising our trip to Poland!

Oliver Sadler and Daniel Lamer (9CI)



Congratulations to the Year 9 netball (Green) team who were league winners last season. They won their pool, beating Havant Academy, TPS Pink, Park Community School, Warblington and Purbrook B and only conceded 7 goals along the way. The final was played against TPS Purple who were winners of the other pool and the player of the match was Hannah.

The final score was Oaklands 6 - TPS 4.

Hannah (9Te; player of the match), Maddie (9Te), Olivia (9Te), Nadia (9St), Althea (9St), Annaliesa (9Mt), Blessing (9Mg), Harriet (9St)

Special mention should also go to Nadia and Maddy who have been superb playmakers throughout the season.



The Year 7 and Year 8 girls' football team represented Oaklands in the 2018/2019 Portsmouth FC Qualifier EFL Girls' Cup competition on Thursday 15th November at ROKO.

They played tremendously well, beating Priory School, Warblington and Carisbrook in the group stages but unfortunately lost against Mayfield, with a final score of 2-3. This meant that they did not progress to the knock out stages.

The girls gelled together very well and demonstrated passion and perseverance on the pitch throughout the tournament. The local area league commences in January and we have high expectations for this team in the future.

Girls football currently takes place on Mondays (1.45-2.15pm) in the Sports Hall and new players are always welcome.

The newly formed Oaklands' Equestrian Team put in a fantastic performance last term in the National Schools Equestrian Association (NSEA) Eventer's Challenge Qualifier. In their first ever competition for Oaklands (and the first time most of them had taken part in this type of event) they managed to win a team rosette!

After a painfully early 4.45am start, the four competitors battled the dark to prepare extremely muddy horses in very challenging conditions! Against the odds they arrived at Coombelands in Pulborough on time, ready to walk and memorise the arena course of thirteen show jumping and cross country style fences.

In the 70/75cm class the team, consisting of Lauren (8Mt), Elouise (9Cl), Amelie (9Mg) and India (8Te) just missed out on a rosette. Both Elouise and Lauren had clear rounds, coming a very respectable 12th and 15th respectively in a field of 43. Amelie and India also did really well, picking up only 4 faults (one fence knocked or refused) each.

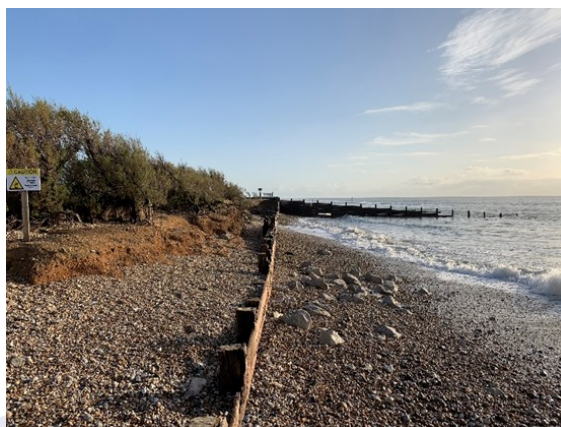
The 80/85cm was a massive class of 19 teams and 80 competitors. This time Lauren and India went clear and with Elouise on only 4 faults, the team were absolutely delighted to pick up a rosette for 6th. Lauren was ranked 10th individually, an amazing accomplishment!

The next event for the team is in January and is a Show Jumping competition with heights of 70cm (for under 14s only), 80cm, 90cm and 100cm (under 19s). If you would like more information on what's required to join the Oaklands' Equestrian Team please contact Mr Neil.



Year 12 A Level Geographers visit West Wittering and East Head, December 2018

The exam board specification states that students must study an example of a stretch of coastline where 'hard' and 'soft' engineering are employed to manage the coast. Rather than using materials in the core textbooks, I decided to take the students down to West Wittering in December. We were fortunate in that we had superb weather on the afternoon of the visit, but also because Mrs Chatfield – a parent of an Oaklands student on the trip – was able to accompany us. Mrs Chatfield is involved in the education department of the Chichester Harbour Conservancy group and she provided the group with a wealth of information, particularly the more recent developments at the location.



Coastlines are dynamic environments. This was evident as many of the students who had been there in Year 10 remarked on just how much had changed since their last visit. Coastal managers there have held the view that the sea wall has had a detrimental impact on the beach in front of it. The reflection of waves has resulted in a scouring effect of the beach, which has left the sea wall further exposed. The policy now employed is one of 'Adaptive Management', which means that managers will not 'hold the line'. The sea wall and the groynes are being allowed to deteriorate: the idea being that this will produce a wider, shallower beach, which will be more effective at dissipating wave energy (in theory!). The students had mixed views on this, but it is clear that they all appreciated that there is a finite pot of money available and decisions relating to coastal protection are invariably challenging.



Our students will experience further field work in March when they will attend a three day trip to Dorset to prepare them for their A level coursework, worth 20% of their final grade.

Mr Bamford

Royal Geographical Society Ambassador Visit



On Wednesday 19th December, ex-student Abbie Robinson visited the school to talk about careers in Geography.

Abbie left our Sixth Form last year and obtained a scholarship to attend the University of Aberystwyth to study BSc in Geography. She has just completed her first term, but in that time she has become an ambassador for the Royal Geographical Society (RGS).

Three Year 9 classes (St, Mt and Cl) had a session with her where she talked about the concept of sustainability – she even quizzed the students on how sustainable their Christmas would be, considering things such as food miles and packaging and waste. She also talked about the importance of Geography and why students might want to study it at GCSE level and beyond. With the GCSE options process for Year 9 scheduled to take place in January and February 2019, her visit was well-timed!

Mr Bamford

Our theme for Faith Unity Week this year, has been our school mission statement: **No-one gets left behind.** In assemblies during the week, students were challenged by a short video that demonstrated the damaging effect that judgements and giving labels to people can have; faith and/or religion can be a label that people are given. At Oaklands, where we believe that no-one gets left behind, a label should never be given to anyone, especially not for their belief or personal faith.



During the week, (which originates from the international, ecumenical observance of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity), students have been exploring what it actually means to have faith. In his letter to the Hebrews, St Paul says that... 'Faith means being sure of the things we hope for and knowing that something is real even if we do not see it. It is by faith we understand that the whole world was made by something that cannot be seen.' (Hebrews 11: 1-3).

Faith is believing in something that we cannot see. As human beings, we always want proof or evidence, but God doesn't work that way. He asks us to trust and believe that He is who He says He is, and this can be really challenging. We learn about who God is from the Scriptures and from what we learn from others; but we must choose to believe it and find God for ourselves. When we choose to believe, our faith begins to grow. As our faith grows, we learn more about God and His love for us. As we learn more about God's love for us, we become all that God has created us to be. God doesn't force us to love Him, we are not His slaves; He gives us the freedom to choose Him.

Students have also been challenged to consider the difference between faith and religion, and what this means to them personally. Just because people are, or appear to be, religious does not necessarily mean they have faith. Equally, many people who don't associate themselves with being religious, have huge amounts of faith in God and trust in His providence. St Paul continues to challenge us all in his letter to Hebrews... 'Without faith no one can please God. Anyone who comes to God must believe that he is real and that he rewards those who truly want to find him.' (Hebrews 11: 6-7).

Religion is what we do. Faith is why we do it.

Faith and religion, different beliefs and practices, varying traditions and ways to worship can be divisive and can be the cause of confusion and disagreement. But here at Oaklands uniqueness and diversity should be celebrated! St Paul reminds us... 'I beg you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that all of you agree with each other and not be split into groups. I beg that you be completely joined together by having the same kind of thinking and the same purpose.' (1 Corinthians 1:10).

This week of Faith Unity has given us all the opportunity to really reflect on what faith means to each of us; to consider the role of faith in our lives and to pray for an increase in our belief. Oaklands is a place where no-one gets left behind, and by the love of God we are all united as a community.

PRAYER FOR FAITH UNITY WEEK:

Heavenly Father, we pray in this week of Faith Unity that we will all recognise and celebrate our uniqueness and diversity. Help us to respect and support one another in friendship and love, giving thanks for all the gifts that each of us has received, so that we can be truly united as a community. May any divisions between us be reconciled so that the love of God can make us one. Open the eyes and ears of our hearts to see You and hear You more clearly. Deepen our faith, renew our hope and reveal more of Your glory and power, so that we can trust in You and live to serve one another. We pray that Oaklands is always a place where no-one gets left behind; help and guide us to put our faith into action and reach out to those in need. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Schools Bible Project - Trip to London

I was lucky enough to place fourth nationally in The Schools Bible Project 2018 and had the opportunity to go up to London on 11th December with my parents to collect my prize. My story was about Jesus Calming the Storm from the perspective of Simon Peter. The prize was a couple of books and some money for the school.

On the morning of the trip, we set off to Waterloo at about half past ten. The journey didn't feel very long, probably because I passed the time reading *Casino Royale* by Ian Fleming and playing cards. When we arrived at the station, there was a brass band playing Christmas carols.

We looked around the shops for a bit and then got a sandwich as we made our way to the Houses of Parliament. We had been told to arrive an hour ahead of time because there was supposed to be a big decision about the Brexit deal in Parliament that day, but it was postponed so there was no queue to get in and walk through the scanner at the security office. The event was due to start at 2.00pm and we made our way to the meeting point in the Central Lobby.

The lady who met us was Joanna Bogle and she introduced us to the other children and their guests. We were given a guided tour of a few key areas of the Palace of Westminster and then we walked through the House of Lords. This is where we would be met by Baroness Cox, who would give us our prizes and then we would be invited to tea and cake afterwards.

The tour was interesting but we were standing for all of it and my legs ached by the end of it. But I was spurred on by the thought of cake. Mrs. Bogle spoke the whole time; giving us facts and figures, whilst putting each of us in turn on the spot by quizzing us for things like "Patron saints of Britain!" and "Kings of England from William the Conqueror!"

The prize-giving with the Baroness was in a Committee Room in the House of Lords which we reached through a maze of corridors. Before Baroness Cox gave us our prizes, she told stories about her charity work in Africa. After we received our prizes we had tea and cake. Then, we looked around the gift shop and bought a few things as souvenirs and Christmas presents.

We found a restaurant in Covent Garden, had a good meal and got the train back to Havant. I had a wonderful time and really enjoyed myself.

Jem Jeffery, 9Mg



Prayer Group

Oaklands have a parent run prayer group that meets every Friday morning at 9.00am to pray for the school community. All are welcome to attend! Parents are invited to come whenever they can - either every week, or just once in a while.

Please come to the main Reception to sign in and then make your way to the Chapel.

We look forward to seeing you.



Prior to Christmas, a team of four Oaklands students took part in the annual 'Top of the Bench' competition, a national contest organised by The Royal Society of Chemistry. The competition involves teams of four students from Years 9, 10 and 11 and the regional heat took place at Portsmouth Grammar School.

Our team, comprised of Emily, Nikola (both Year 9), James (Year 10) and Lydia (Year 11), competed with teams from ten other schools in a series of challenges that involved practical chemistry, investigative work, presentation skills and general scientific knowledge.

As well as taking part, the contestants were also treated to an inspirational and exciting demonstration lecture from Professor David Read, Professorial Fellow in Chemical Education at The University of Southampton.

Our team did the school proud and received praise from the judges for both their teamwork and presentation skills. Unfortunately, we did not win, the first placed team coming from Bedales in Petersfield. We wish them the best of luck when they represent the region in the national finals, taking place in the Spring.



Oaklands Parents' Association (OPA)

The OPA would like to welcome all parents back after the Christmas break. At our first meeting of 2019, we appointed a new Acting Chair, Mrs Nicky Woolhead. Many thanks to Caroline Rose for her hard work over the last year.

There are several ways in which you can support the work of the OPA:

- Donate or buy Nearly New Uniform. Every penny raised goes to the school.
- Enter the monthly 50/50 Club Prize Draw. Half the funds raised goes to the school and the other half goes into the draw. The more members we have the bigger the fund!
- If you see the refreshment table at a school event - Parents' Evenings, concerts, school production etc, please come over, say hello and buy a drink or a raffle ticket.
- Forward your email address to become a member of the A Team - volunteer helpers that serve the refreshments
- Donate a raffle prize

Have you considered joining the OPA committee? We are a friendly bunch, co-ordinating fundraising throughout the year. We meet on the first Monday of each month at 7.30pm in the Sixth Form block (next meeting is 4th February). Please email us to find out more on OPA@oaklandscatholicschool.org.

Dates for your Diary

Nearly New Uniform Shop (4.00-4.30pm)
OPA Committee Meetings (7.30pm)

1 March, 26 April, 7 June
4 February, 4 March, 1 April, 13 May, 3 June, 1 July

Our school website contains plenty of important and relevant information for both parents and students.

Please take time to look at this and then regularly re-visit during the year for updates and reminders www.oaklandscatholicschool.org



Suggested Top Ten Links

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Uniform | (About Us) |
| 2. E-Safety | (Parents) |
| 3. Newsletters | (About Us) |
| 4. Child Protection and Safeguarding | (About Us /Policies) |
| 5. Copies of Letters | (Parents) |
| 6. Homework and Extra Curricular | (Academic) |
| 7. Forms | (Parents) |
| 8. Events Calendar | (Community) |
| 9. Online Payments | (Parents) |
| 10. Prevent Strategy | (Parents) |

Safer Internet Day 2019

In the lead up to Safer Internet Day on 5th February, students will focus on E-Safety in their tutor time and linking this to the Oaklands Way, Lee Haywood a CEOP (Child Exploitation Online Protection) Ambassador will be coming in to school to lead Year 7 and Year 8 assemblies. Staff safeguarding training this half term will focus on cyberbullying, grooming and online exploitation.

Lee will also be coming into school on 29th January to run two parent workshops, lasting approximately 1 hour each. There is also a new initiative, iParent, which is a workshop for you to bring your devices along to, to find out how to set up security settings and manage your child's use of apps. These last 30 minutes and are available for parents to book onto as well.

Please visit our website homepage and click on the link for CyberSafety Workshop for more details and the booking form.

We look forward to welcoming parents to these events and many thanks in advance for your support for this initiative.

Parents are encouraged to access Lee's website, which he regularly updates <https://www.onlinesafetyuk.com/> and to look at the **Safer Internet site with details about this year's theme**. Have a look at some of the parent / carer information updated for 2019 <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2019/education-packs/activities-parents-and-carers>



**Safer
Internet
Day 2019** | **Tuesday
5 February**
Together for a better internet

Term Dates 2018/2019**Autumn Term 2018****Half Term:**

Mon 3rd September to Fri 21st December

Mon 22nd - Fri 26th October

Spring Term 2019**Half Term:**

Mon 7th January to Fri 5th April

Mon 18th - Fri 22nd February

Summer Term 2019**Half Term:**

Tues 23rd April to Fri 19th July

Mon 27th May - Fri 31st May

INSET Days are as follows:Monday 3rd September, Tuesday 4th September
Friday 28th September, Friday 30th November,
Friday 21st December, Friday 28th June,
Friday 19th July**Term Dates 2019/2020****Autumn Term 2019****Half Term:**

Mon 2nd September to Fri 20th December

Mon 28th - Fri 1st November

Spring Term 2020**Half Term:**

Mon 6th January to Fri 3rd April

Mon 17th - Fri 21st February

Summer Term 2020**Half Term:**

Mon 20th April to Fri 17th July

Mon 25th May - Fri 29th May

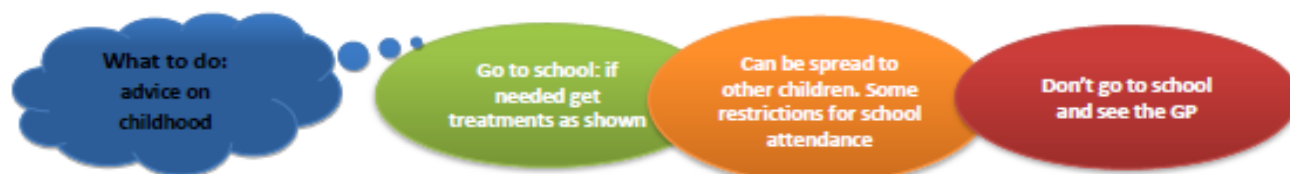
INSET Days are as follows:Monday 2nd September, Tuesday 3rd September
Friday 27th September, Friday 29th November,
Friday 20th December, Friday 17th July**Student Return:**Wed 4th September, phased return for Y7 & Y12
Thurs 5th September, all students to return

**All dates and times are accurate at the time of going to press.
The school reserves the right to make alterations.**

Spring Term 2019 Calendar Dates

Monday	7 January 2019	First Day of Spring Term Year 11 Book Sharing Week
Tuesday	8 January	Presentation of Certificates Evening (7.00pm)
Monday	14 January	Year 11 Mock Grades Home Governors' Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting OPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm)
Thursday	17 January	Year 11 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)
Monday	21 January	Faith Unity Week Governors' Business & Collaboration Committee Meeting
Tuesday	29 January	Class Photographs (Y7, 11, 12 and 13) Parent CyberSafety Workshops
Thursday	31 January	Year 9 Options Evening (7.00pm)
Monday	4 February	OPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm)
Wednesday	13 February	Year 10 English Practice Exam Full Governors' Meeting
Thursday	14 February	Year 10 Maths Practice Exam KS3 / KS4 / KS5 Grades Home
Friday	15 February	Deadline for Year 9 Option Returns Ski Trip Departs
Mon-Fri	18-22 February	Half Term
Monday	25 February	Y12 Written Reports Home
Tuesday	26 February	Whole School Production
Wednesday	27 February	Whole School Production
Thursday	28 February	Whole School Production
Friday	1 March	Non Uniform Day
Monday	4 March	National Careers Week Year 11 Practice Maths Exam Governors' Ethos Committee Meeting OPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm)
Tuesday	5 March	Year 11 Practice Maths Exam Year 12 Post-18 Information Evening (7.00pm)
Wednesday	6 March	Year 11 Practice English Exam
Thursday	7 March	Year 11 Practice Science Exam
Friday	8 March	Year 13 Practice Exams Commence (to 15 March)
Monday	11 March	Year 7 Book Sharing Week Maths GCSE Preview Evening (Y9) (7.00-8.30pm)
Wednesday	13 March	SEN Parents' Evening (5.00pm)
Thursday	14 March	Design Showcase (5.00-8.00pm)
Monday	18 March	Year 10 Book Sharing Week
Wednesday	20 March	Full Governors' Meeting
Thursday	21 March	Year 7 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)
Monday	25 March	English GCSE Preview Evening (Y9) (7.00-8.30pm)
Thursday	28 March	Year 10 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)
Monday	1 April	Governors' Business & Collaboration Committee
Tuesday	2 April	Year 13 Grades and Final Predictions Home
Thursday	4 April	KS3 / KS4 / Y12 Grades Home Year 13 Parents' Evening
Friday	5 April	Last Day of Term

All dates and times for the Spring Term are accurate at the time of going to press. The school reserves the right to make alterations.



What it's called	What it's like	Going to school	More advice
Chicken Pox	Rash begins as small, red flat spots that develop into itchy <u>fluid-filled blisters</u>	Orange dot	Back to school 5 days after the onset of the rash
Common cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat	Green dot	Children should be given paracetamol, plenty of fluids to drink and can be sent to school. Ensure good hand hygiene – dispose of tissues and regularly wash hand with soap and water*
Conjunctivitis	Teary, red, itchy, painful eyes	Green dot	Treatment is not usually required. Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache, body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat	Orange dot	Children should go back to school when recovered - this is usually about five days. Ensure good hand hygiene*
Glandular Fever	High temperature, sore throat (usually more painful than any before) and swollen glands	Green dot	Child needs to be well enough to concentrate at school
Hand, Foot and Mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache, <u>small painful blisters inside the mouth and on tongue and gums (may also appear on hands and feet)</u>	Green dot	Children can go to school with hand, foot and mouth disease
Head Lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)	Green dot	Treat child and all other family members by wet combing with a nit comb and conditioner
Impetigo	Clusters of <u>red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness</u>	Red dot	See GP. Back to school when the lesions crust over or 48 hours after the start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, and watery inflamed eyes. Small red spots with white or bluish white centres in the mouth, <u>red blotchy rash</u>	Red dot	Contact your GP (by phone initially) if you think that your child might have measles. Back to school 4 days from on-set of rash
Ringworm	<u>Red ring shaped rash</u> , may be itchy rash, may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty	Green dot	See pharmacist for advice about treatment.
Scabies	<u>Intense itching, pimple-like rash</u> . Itching and rash may be all over the body but is commonly between the fingers, wrists, elbows and arms	Green dot	See pharmacist for advice about treatment. Back to school after first treatment
Scarlet fever / strep throat	Severe sore throat and painful glands in neck. No runny nose or cough. <u>Associated with sandpaper-like pink/red rash</u> in scarlet fever.	Red dot	See G.P. Return to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister type rash.	Orange dot	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and not covered
Sickness bug/diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea	Orange dot	Return to school 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting. See G.P if they appear to be getting dehydrated (passing little urine or becoming lethargic)
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around the anus	Green dot	Get treatment from local pharmacy or GP. Everyone at home should be treated
Mild tonsillitis	Sore throat associated with runny nose or cough	Green dot	See G.P if they are not starting to improve or fever persists for more than 5 days

Please visit the following websites for more information:

[Should your child go to school](#)
[Worried your child is unwell](#)

This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals, however if you are unsure about your child's wellbeing we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check

November 2017 – produced for Healthier Together

CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



BIN IT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.



Healthier Together
 Improving the health of children and young people
 in Dorset, Hampshire and the South West

A Few Gentle Reminders ...

Parents are reminded that if their children have or develop medical conditions, they should complete a Healthcare Information Sheet. In addition if students need medication, i.e. epipens or inhalers, parents should complete an Administration of Medicines 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 contact details change - mobile numbers, new place of work, different emergency contacts. This is important if Student Services need to get in touch should your child be unwell or hurt. Thank you.

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*

02392 259214 EXT 3033

lettings@oaklandscatholicschool.org

Parking



A reminder to parents who are collecting and dropping off their children at school mornings and afternoons; please do not block driveways, park on the white lines, 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 endorseable offence. We have been told that this will be enforced.



A number of students are wearing 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.

**Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College
presents:**

Half a Sixpence



**26th, 27th and 28th February 2019
7.00pm**

**Tickets available via our website
www.oaklandscatholicschool.org**

Adult	£8.00
Child/Concession	£5.00
Family	£25.00

Guaranteed entertainment for the whole family!



Stakes Hill Road, Waterlooville, Hants, PO7 7BW

(023) 92 259214

oaklands@oaklandscatholicschool.org

www.oaklandscatholicschool.org



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OF SCHOOLS**