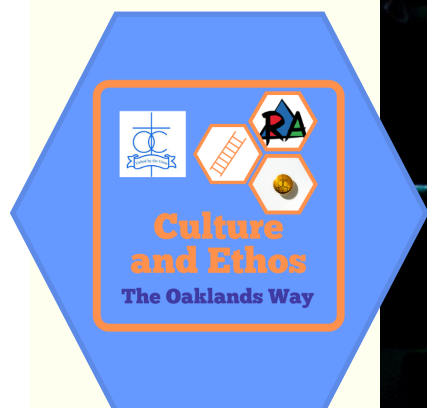
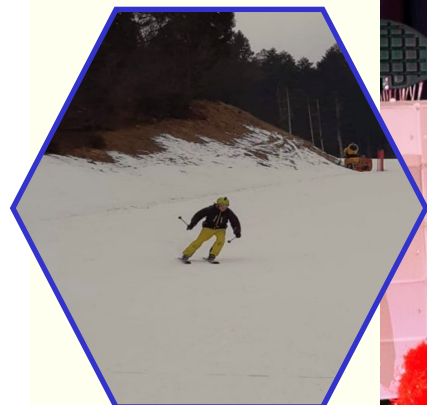


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Oaklands News



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



Lead Stories

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From the Headteacher's Desk

The 24/7 coverage of the coronavirus appears to spread even more quickly than the virus itself, leading many to wonder if we're facing a plague of perhaps biblical proportions. On Friday 27th March, Pope Francis delivered a homily of hope, comparing the pandemic to a storm that can be overcome only by coming together in faith.

"We have realised that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other," he said during his homily in front of a rainy St Peter's Basilica, before an empty Square. He went on to say *"we have realised that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this."* He went on to praise all of those critical workers at this time saying they, and not the world's rich and famous, were *"writing the decisive events of our time"*.

Decisive events can plunge us into the unknown, then faced with this, turning to an all-knowing God in prayer is a good place to start. And for people of faith, we know that God answers our prayers, but we must understand not always in a way we expect, as it says in James 5:16, "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." That doesn't mean we only pray; we act as well, but, calmed by the awareness of the presence of God, we can respond with clarity and direction.

As always in life, things are not always as clear as we would hope, particularly at this time. Our Oaklands family was never more important. In hard times, families pull together. If you are struggling in any way, please get in touch, your child's Form Tutor is the first line of contact. If we can help, we will. This may be with remote learning, childcare for critical workers, or just that you need to talk to a different adult! We all need to look after each other.

The work staff have undertaken has been inspiring, this is nothing new. In the various online meetings I have had, every one of them has said they will help in any way possible. They are an amazing group of people who I am privileged to work with.

I feel that it is very important for us to stay connected. I would like all of our students and parents to continue to stay in touch. To this end, Tutors will be emailing each student once a week. Subject staff are using the message facility within Teams. Any whole communication that comes out to parents will be during the afternoon period. We will of course communicate separately with various groups of parents on a 'as needed basis'.

This crisis has brought out much of the best and some of the worst elements of our society. We intend to show our students that we fall in the former category, that there is a right thing to do, and that we should do it at all times.

I know some parents have voiced concerns about remote learning and the pressure it is placing on them. There is a difference between home schooling and remote learning. When the decision to home school a child is made, it traditionally takes thought, preparation and time. In an ideal world, the home schooled student is exposed to a comprehensive and thorough syllabus, for a well-rounded education. Unfortunately, this will not be the reality for most students in the current coronavirus pandemic and subsequent emergency changes to the education system. It is not possible to replicate the usual school experience at home. Despite all our best efforts it is not reasonable, or feasible, for any school to continue to provide a 'normal' school education during this time. This extends to the contact teachers should have with individual students; a balance must be found. For good or bad the current era is a marathon, not a sprint.

Parents are their children's primary educator. So this is a great opportunity to reconnect and let children be children. Don't feel guilty if your child is not quite getting those tricky science concepts, or complex language vocabulary. Schools were told at very short notice to prepare lessons online using largely untested platforms for the vast numbers of youngsters. Whilst digital learning has many merits, this current imposed experiment may change the way we learn forever; teaching is a social activity founded on relationships, the best lessons are learned from social interaction.

Encourage your children to engage in remote learning, but also read, bake a cake, make a model or go out in the garden if you have one. As a Dad, I have been given an unprecedented opportunity to spend time with my family, particularly my children, all of who are now teenagers, with one back from university. This is punctuated by going into school and homeworking. But this does allow us all to discuss, exchange ideas and sit down to a meal together most evenings. But at some point, a form of normality will return and our children will move on. So if possible, make the most of it. Spend time with your amazing children. Although at times they test us as teachers, I miss them already.

Finally, please take time to read the rest of our Easter publication. Can I draw your attention to the Easter message from our Chaplain on Page 8; whilst this Easter will be unusual, please find time to be with God, please keep safe and continue to pray.



Mr Matthew Quinn



Gabriel in Year 7 has combined his home working with the enjoyable task of baking!

With minimum fuss, no mess, but with maximum hand washing, Gabriel successfully produced a dozen Chocolate Chip Cup Cakes, which all the family enjoyed.

However, no photographic evidence exists about who got to lick the mixing bowl out!



If you have any other stories from home that you are prepared to share with other families please send them to Headteacher@oaklandscatholicschool.org

On the morning of Thursday 19th March, Year 11 got up, packed their bags and put on their uniform for what they didn't realise would be the last time. They came into school, only to be told that it was their last day at Oaklands.

There are many 'rites of passage' that form part of leaving Oaklands. Taking pictures on the school field in the summer term, leavers' assemblies, celebrating one last Mass together ... and this was all abruptly taken away from the 'Class of 2020'. To say this was heart-breaking is an understatement.

On the Wednesday we had taken delivery of the 2020 'Leavers t-shirts' and so we were, at least, able to give Year 11 one leavers' tradition. We gathered in the hall for one last assembly and then gave out the t-shirts for signing - I will always be so thankful we were able to at least give them this!

I was overwhelmed by the Year 11 students that day. The way they coped with the news and the uncertainty around their exams being cancelled was something I will never forget, yes there were tears (mostly from me) but they were calm, mature and there for each other.

There was nothing but love that day, love and appreciation. Students went out of their way to find their teachers to thank them, and teachers were able to say their goodbyes to what has been a fantastic year group.

I know that at the moment the future seems very uncertain but one thing we can be sure of is that the 'Class of 2020' will always be remembered, and not because of COVID-19, but for all of their warmth, compassion and tireless hard work.

Sadly, there were students not able to be with us that day. Many had already had to go into isolation. I do hope that we will get an opportunity to meet as a whole group in the near future, you were greatly missed.

I want to thank all the staff at Oaklands, in particular the Tutors and Year 11 teachers for all of their hard work. I'd also like to thank the parents for their continued support and for mopping up the tears and celebrating the triumphs.

Lastly, I want to thank Year 11 students; you have been a total dream, I am unbelievably proud of you!

Take care and stay safe!

Mrs Bonnington



With great haste, a touching and fitting Sixth Form Leavers' assembly was put together by Dr Colvin and Mr Smith on Friday 20th March.

Each of the Tutors read out a quote or poem so that they could wish their tutees well; Mr Smith even managed a verse of Billy Joel's 'Just The Way You Are'! What talent!

Students from both Year 12 and Year 13 were present as we did not know when we would next see them. Students were reeling from the shock of being told their exams would not be taking place. This took some time to sink in.

As bewildering as the announcement from 10 Downing Street was on Wednesday 18th March, it was a joy to be able to gather the students together in this way and explain what would happen next - to the best of our knowledge at the time! Year 13 had the strangest end to their time in Oaklands Sixth Form and we hope very much to reinstate their Leavers' Mass and celebrations in the late summer if at all possible.

Before the fond farewells moved out to the sunken lawn and some photo-taking, the students were invited to make use of the hand sanitiser and help themselves to cakes and buns that tutors had bought.

Year 13, the class of 2020, have been a happy and warm group of students who have endeared themselves to us all as Tutors and Heads of Year. There are some very talented, funny, cheeky and brilliant young people in this cohort of students. They will be missed and we hope they will come and see us before they embark on their next steps towards what will no doubt be impressive careers!

Well done to you all, best wishes and much love goes with you!

Mrs Ludlam, Dr Colvin (HOY13), Mr Smith (HOY12), all of the Sixth Form Tutors, Mrs Moss and Mrs Newton



High School Musical



Fantastic show. The students' enthusiasm and dedication was wonderful - beautiful dancing, singing and live music. The leads delivered a powerful performance, both funny and engaging, complemented by a strong ensemble. The use of coloured light was particularly striking, giving the set an upbeat modern feel. Bring on next year!!!

Oaklands put on an absolutely 'Fabulous' production of Disney's "High School Musical". Everyone evidently gave their all to create a vibrant, energised and enjoyable performance; the cast, crew, staff and volunteers didn't have one weak link! An excellently paced, brilliantly acted, musical extravaganza I shan't be forgetting any time soon! All involved should be very proud of what they achieved and the happiness they brought to a lot of people.

The school show is perhaps the highlight of my school year and certainly sound team's year! I've helped out since Year 7 and now I've been lucky enough to operate the new lighting desk for 'High School Musical' - I must say it was not easy to learn the lighting system but once we did it was extremely rewarding to see the results! I love watching the show come together and the audience's reaction to the talent at Oaklands.

(M Newham)

Thanks for a great evening. I teach in Hong Kong and am always interested to see school productions. The show was really good – some real talent and so much hard work.



I loved the show as did my nieces. It was full of energy and the cast made me want to sing along to every song. There was clear support amongst the cast as well; you could see this when they were on stage, but also when I helped backstage. It takes hard work and dedication to put on a production like this so massive well done to all involved.



This year's school show was extra special for the sound team as we had our brand new lighting system! Students learnt how to use it quickly and managed to pull off a technical spectacular!

(Mr Olford)

Wow - what a fantastic performance on all parts. I am not ashamed to say that I have been a fan of High School Musical since my childhood and so I was particularly looking forward to this production. You definitely did not disappoint ... there was a high level of humour and each character fulfilled their role expertly. I especially enjoyed Ed's earthworm performance and the larger singing numbers. Well done everyone, you can see all the hard work that went into putting on a spectacular musical and my mum and I were thoroughly impressed.



I came to see the show yesterday and it was a real treat. I was mesmerised by the high quality performance, the beautiful singing and the hilarious moments. I was so proud of our students. I also thought the staging was very clever. Well done!

I was amazed by the talent of all the principals and how hard they had all worked to pull off such a fantastic show! Seeing the whole cast enjoying themselves made the audience smile from start to finish! Troy and Sharpay were my particular favourites - having seen them blossom from shy Year 7s into the talented lead roles they have become! The Oaklands Musical is always a highlight of the year, and this one definitely lived up to expectations!



Amazing, amazing, amazing! On behalf of the 4th Waterloooville Brownies, a huge thank you for a brilliant show on Thursday evening. The Brownies loved every minute of the show and we sang the songs as we walked up the driveway to meet their parents. Well done to everyone involved, you should all be very proud of yourselves.

Please be exceptionally proud of the whole cast and team behind the scenes. This parent, minibus driver, governor and colleague was very proud of you all this evening.

One of my roles is to source all small props. HSM is not what you might term 'prop heavy' when compared with some of our recent shows, but it certainly presented its own set of challenges! The first requirement that leapt off the page was the need for a cake for a slapstick move by Zeke towards Sharpay to round off Act 1. I'm no star baker, but I was pleased with my foam, disposable plate, hot glue, and shaving cream creation nonetheless, although I am not sure Daisy was so impressed! My other abiding memory will be basket balls ... I had to rope in my family to help with the purchasing ... carrying 10 basket balls to a till turns out to be a good example of Family Fun. They do have a tendency to roll around back stage too... not ending up where the Jocks thought they had left them... a problem solved by Doh producing a massive plastic bucket, and insisting his Team put them in there! As always, the show was a absolute joy to be part of.

Mrs Quinn



Being in sound team was a great experience as I got to see how the people who are behind the scenes are the ones who really make the show work. Along with the actors, dancer, singers, and band, the sound team are an essential part of the production. Last year I was in the show, and got to see how hard the cast and company worked to make the show successful, but this year I saw how hard the Sound team works to make the show fabulous. Doing sound team taught me that there is always another force working behind every successful event, and sometimes they are the invisible helpers that not many people would see!

L Newman



From the Chaplain

'Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.'
Romans 12:2

At the beginning of Lent, I asked a lot of the students about what they were giving up for Lent; many of the answers included 'I'm giving up school'... God obviously heard them! Many people often give up things for Lent, but I don't think any of us were expecting to give up quite so much, not least going to church!

This is a testing time for everyone. In the space of just two weeks, every aspect of our lives has been totally changed, and we are having to adapt to this different way of living; a difficult task when the coronavirus situation is changing, evolving and unfolding each and every day. But I hope, for many of us, this current climate is putting many things into perspective and allowing us to take stock. How many, seemingly insignificant, things do we take for granted? All of us are learning to be more grateful, finding small joys and being thankful each day. And, even amidst the darkness and uncertainty, there are so many messages of hope and examples of true charity!

Even though life as we know it has been changed, thankfully we have a God who is unchanging; as St Paul reminds us that 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever'. (Hebrews 13:8) He is with us in our difficulties and calling each of us to trust Him. Many of you maybe questioning, where is God in all of this? But He's in each of us! He is the hands of all those working in the NHS, providing care to those who are sick. He is in the kindness of a person looking out for their vulnerable or elderly neighbour. He's in each key worker, doing all that they can to pull together in this fight. He is in all of our families who are loving and supporting one another.

At the end of last week, Pope Francis gave an extremely powerful blessing to the whole world and spoke an amazing message of hope to us. After hearing the Gospel when Jesus calms the storm, the Pope gave us the same challenge as Jesus gave to the Disciples: **"Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?"** (You can read a full translation of this homily online, or listen to it on my YouTube channel.)

The Christian Church is entering into Holy Week and the great celebration of Easter. The passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the pinnacle of our faith, but also reminds us that following suffering there is always triumph as God reveals His glory! As we enter into this solemn time in the life of the Church, may we join with Christ in His trials and suffering, offering Him our own anxiety and fear. This is a time when we are all carrying a cross; we are being tested and undergoing a difficult trail; but, like Jesus, through the grace of God, we will have the strength to endure. The Cross is a reminder of our need for God, but it is a reminder of victory. Jesus has conquered death and He will conquer Covid-19. When the weight of your own cross seems too heavy to bear, remember that the resurrection and new life will follow.

There is always hope. Spring is coming. May we be lights in the darkness. Beacons of hope. The hands of Christ to those in need. May we remain united by the cross.

Please follow my Chaplaincy Instagram account and YouTube channel (Sarah Keogh) for daily updates, prayers, reflections, messages of hope and pockets of joy. Please be assured of my prayers at this time. I hope you can all find ways to celebrate Holy Week and Easter over the holidays.

Miss Keogh, School Chaplain



Icon Story

It began as a single idea seven years ago after a staff spiritual retreat day at Chichester University. The Head wanted us to create something symbolic, an Icon, to show that we were all part of Oaklands Community. Francis Peel, Head of the Art department at that time, was asked to paint a picture of Jesus on wood. This was cut into pieces for each member of staff to paint a single piece of the jigsaw, with our names on the back, to represent that we were all part of a very special Oaklands community. The staff Icon has a permanent place in the Chapel.

I came away from the retreat and had a light bulb moment, or I like to think that it was God speaking to me. The idea grew into implementing the Icon idea with the students. It started with my tutor group at the time, 7Mg, and over the years it developed first with Year 7 to Year 9 and progressed into Year 10 and Year 11.

Since 2013, every time we have a new intake of Year 7, the Icon Team and I lead an assembly explaining the idea of the Icons and why they are an important part of the Oaklands community.

After the assembly and over the coming weeks Year 7 design their own Icon to use throughout their school life. The Icon could be of Jesus or a Saint representing their tutor group. The following is then carried out:

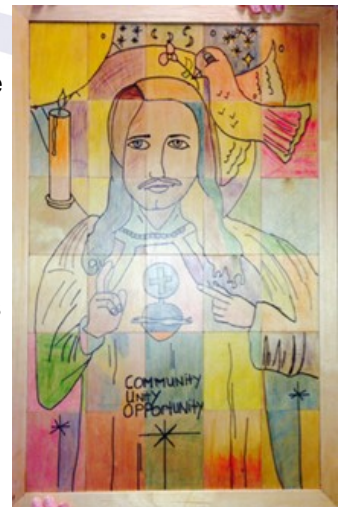
- Design is transferred to the wood
- Jigsaw cut up and varnished
- Students names put on back of jigsaw
- Stations of the cross put on back of each piece of jigsaw, plus other prayers

The Icons are used in the following way, guided by their representative:

- Each student holds the piece of the jigsaw and prays for the named person on the back of the jigsaw
- Each piece of jigsaw has personal prayers or prayers for the world
- During Lent the Stations of the Cross can be used
- During Advent the pieces of jigsaw can be turned over and then each day can be turned over to reveal the pictures

Older students work with tutor groups to use the Icons in prayers and meditations. In the past, Year 10 students received the Sisters of Bethany Award and as they ended Year 11, they each received a thank you and a voucher in recognition of their hard work and dedication to the spiritual growth within Oaklands.

Mrs E Crane



Year 9 Army STEM Trip

Way back in October half term, and not really knowing what lay ahead of them, Mr and Mrs Hardaker and thirteen Year 9 students set off for Rolleston Army base in Salisbury to learn how the Army utilises STEM.

After a warm welcome from Major Tim Elliott we were whisked straight into the 'mess' for a hot meal with a wide choice of delicious desserts to follow.

The first evening was spent settling into accommodation and meeting some of the other students and over 200 Army Cadets on the camp, collecting goodie bags and then ended with a quiz in which Oaklands students showed great team work and a wide range of knowledge to secure second place.



Oaklands students at the quiz

Day 1

The day started early.....really early, with a 5.00am alarm call for staff and students. We rolled out of bed and layered up in warm clothes and clambered through camp in virtual darkness to get a hearty cooked breakfast and hop on coaches to go to Copehill Down. We were reminded of the slogan 'an army marches on its stomach' when we arrived to find staff preparing breakfast butties and hot drinks for everyone. We didn't appreciate then how useful this would be as we spent the rest of the day outside on Salisbury plain with bitterly cold weather and rough terrain. Having said this, we were treated to a once in a lifetime experience with an opportunity to view equipment, vehicles tanks, helicopters, drones, cranes and much more from a variety of Army Regiments and Corps. Students had opportunities to speak to staff, try on protective clothing and climb on board vehicles.

Just before lunch we were treated to a Combat Power Demonstration where a 'mock-up' village with purpose built houses, schools etc was raided by the Army to capture insurgents who were based in the village. From the safety of a viewing platform with eye and ear protection, we watched as Apache tanks and earthmoving vehicles rolled forward, supported by Apache helicopters and ground forces. The air was filled with smoke as the explosive action took place. Parts of the demonstration, not immediately visible, were projected onto a giant screen and commentary helped us to understand what was happening at each stage. At one point we were hustled through the village while rounds (blanks don't worry) were still being fired and we were taken through one of the houses right in the middle of the war zone. It was a high adrenaline scene with army dogs barking, soldiers shouting, local people (volunteer actors), and some badly wounded asking for help. Students were called upon to assist with injuries and feed ammunition. Our hearts were racing as we climbed up and down narrow stairways and through gaps in walls to get to safety on the other side. We then witnessed tanks breaking through cordons of cars and the final push as the village was secured.



Scenes from the combat demonstration



*Students at
Copehill Down*

Following lunch, students walked around the camp to listen to presentations and demonstrations from Logistics Corps and Medical Services and Royal Engineers and followed the journey of a typical shipment of supplies needed to support soldiers in their role, often on foreign soil with limited facilities and challenging conditions.

After a quick evening dinner, students and some staff were treated to a talk from the Ex-Army adventurer Jordan Wiley. It was really inspirational to see how he turned his life around from involvement in crime at a young age and disengagement with education to a successful career in the army with expertise in military intelligence that he could then use to create his own business as a civilian. Following a heroic rescue of the crew on a ship boarded by pirates, he went on to write books, complete dangerous expeditions to raise money for charity, make documentaries, participate on the reality TV program 'Hunted' and study for a degree. Jordan spoke frankly about his battle with depression and anxiety and everyone had opportunities for photographs and autographs at the end.

After such an exciting day one it was hard to imagine that the Army could fill the next three days with fun and activities but we were not disappointed. A brief summary of each day is given below with a selection of photos to give a flavour of our experience. Students were greeted by friendly and welcoming Army staff at every location and each day brought a new set of free gifts and mementos.

Day 2

Visit to Defence Academy at Shrivenham and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) at MoD Lyneham

Students experienced lots of hands on STEM activities which included packaging three raw eggs which were suspended from a height of up to 5 meters, using graphs to help plan their package and secured supplies so that they would survive a helicopter drop. Students could try on clothing worn by bomb disposal experts and use model helicopters and computers to help balance the blades so that the helicopter did not fall apart or crash. They learned about testing fuels and were treated to a demonstration to show how gun powder and high explosives worked. In the evening students worked in teams to build a pulley system that could transport goods in a crate.

Day 3

On Site at Rolleston Camp for Army STEM activities (am) and visit to Army Aviation Centre at Middle Wallop

More hands on activities including a seven person bicycle, making 3D contour maps using a sand pit, building bridges, meeting and playing with Army dogs, using metal detectors to find hidden incendiary explosive devices. At the aviation centre students received a tour and talk from an Apache helicopter pilot, presentation from staff involved in flying a Lynx helicopter and hands-on fun with safety equipment including an emergency life raft and lots of photo opportunities inside a 'retired' helicopter. In the evening students worked in teams to make an elastic propelled car with a time limit. The excitement continued late that evening (10pm) when the fire alarm went off and everyone had to muster in pyjamas until the all clear was given.

Day 4

Blackball firs on Salisbury Plain (am) and STEM activites on camp (pm)

By now Year 9 students had learned to march in formation and so blended into troops of Army Cadets. They marched to a secluded area in Salisbury plains to learn about firing long range guns and calculating angles using Pythagoras theorem to ensure maximum accuracy. They were treated to a drone flying demo with top of the range equipment and learned about firing of Rapier hand held missiles, Radar detection systems using Doppler Effect, triangulation and radio communication.

Back on camp in the afternoon there were several STEM Classroom activities such as making and programming robots, coding, building a bridge and cable car, Royal Signals key rings and a Field Radio station demo where students could speak to Army staff in Cornwall.

After dinner students learned about CPR and how to apply tourniquets and bandages and had great fun practising on each other! There was a reward ceremony where all students received an Army Cadet certificate and Chianna (9CI) received one of the special awards for the most enthusiasm shown during the week. Students were treated to pizza and tuck and wearily climbed into bed.

On Friday, after another early 5.30am start, dorms were cleaned, goodbyes and thank yous made and students made their way back to Oaklands.

We were all very glad to get back to our own beds and warm houses but agreed that we had a fantastic experience and would definitely recommend the trip to other students. A very big thank you to the Army and Army Cadet staff who made us feel so welcome and looked after us so well.



On 12th March the annual Design and Technology Showcase took place. This year's GCSE and A Level practical work was displayed in the Sixth Form block and students had the chance to talk to those in attendance about their work.

The main aim of this event was to celebrate the students' achievements. It is not easy to design and make a product from start to finish and although along the way the students have had ups and downs, they have all produced completed products that they should be proud of. The other reason for holding this event was to allow students to gather feedback about their products from other people which is the final part of the folder work they have to submit for assessment towards their GCSE and A Level qualifications.



As well as, students and invited guests, a number of judges from a variety of backgrounds viewed the students work and spoke to them about it. 'Best in Show' awards were presented for each subject area at each level.

All of the invited guests and judges were very impressed not only with the work that was on show, but the positive, honest and reflective way that students spoke about their products.

The Best in Show Awards were awarded as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| GCSE Electronic Products: | Christopher Rose |
| GCSE Resistant Materials: | Ben Tuttle |
| A2 Product Design: | Dan Hurd |
| The Peoples' Choice Award: | Caitlin Dodsworth |



Oaklands Economics students recently attended the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA) Sixth Form Conference at Portsmouth Grammar School (PGS).



Our Sixth Formers enjoyed a variety of engaging lectures and activities orchestrated by the IEA. The presentations were focused on current economic topics. Professor Phillip Booth of St Mary's College, London, started the day with a discussion on global poverty through statistics and the potential impact of COVID-19 on poverty in China. Dr Steve Davis then explained infrastructure to students, illustrated with a survey of the history of sewers, turnpikes and an investigation into the merits of HS2. The day ended with a session from Julian Jessop, fellow at IEA, on the productivity puzzle, and creative solutions to address low UK productivity. Open discussions took place at the end of each session where Oaklands students, alongside fellow A Level Economics students from Portsmouth Grammar School, King Edward School Bath, Bournemouth Collegiate School and Canford School could all challenge the presenters on their economic views.

Thanks to PGS and Ralph Buckle from the IEA for organising and inviting us to this informative event.



ESafety

With our young people (and us adults!) relying on social media to stay connected it is important that a balance is struck regarding the amount of online and offline time.

At Oaklands we have always endeavoured to support parents in keeping up to date with trends and apps and we do this with the help of Lee Haywood from Online Safety UK. His two latest fact sheets for April 2020 have been added to our website. The factsheets give a brief overview and are a really helpful one sheet summary that help us understand what our young people are using, the potential benefits and risks

<https://www.oaklandscatholicschool.org/parents/e-safety/>



HouseParty has taken the place of Minecraft, as HouseParty has boomed in the Covid19 pandemic, making it an important and timely app to speak about. It was bought in 2019 by the Fortnite creators and has boomed from 100,000 downloads a month to 2.5millions downloads in 3 weeks. There are some concerns around how safe it is for its users.



Roblox is one of the most popular games in any school for any age.

More factsheets will be added in the future so please do visit this area of the website for regular updates

Mrs Oldroyd, Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead

World Book Day

World Book Day was celebrated by some Year 7s dressing up as their favourite book characters. The library held a second-hand book sale, old library books were bagged up and sold for 50p all proceeds going to Readathon. Lunchtime the library held a WBD Kahoot quiz for students with prizes for the winning teams!

Harry Potter Book Night

The Oaklands Library celebrated another Harry Potter Book night this term. Students arrived in their Harry Potter outfits and enjoyed an evening of Harry Potter themed food, quizzes and book readings, again all proceeds going to Readathon.



Nurture by Nature



Nature (God's creation) has a voice. We need to listen to it, and there has never been a better opportunity than now.



Sharing nature's beauty together - at a safe distance

On Friday 14th February, 106 students from Year 9 and Year 12 along with sixteen staff set off on a 24 hour long coach and ferry journey to Andalo, Italy. There were parts of the journey that were fun such as travelling through different countries and enjoying the scenery that they had to offer. Although it was tiresome, it was well worth it when we had arrived.

Once we had all settled into our rooms we took the mini bus down to the ski hire shop to be fitted with skis, helmets, poles and boots so that we were ready for the next day. After a three course meal we knuckled down for a good first night's sleep. Most of us could not wait for the next day but I think a lot of us was looking forward to going to bed.



It was a very early start for a Sunday morning but everyone got out of bed ready to get skiing. Breakfast was quick but enjoyable as there was a wide variety of things to choose from such as toast, cheese and even a coffee machine. After breakfast, everyone went back to their rooms and put on their ski gear and headed to the resort. When we arrived we got into our groups and collected our skis, ski boots and poles and met with our instructors. Most students had no idea how to ski and ended up in a massive pile on the floor at the top of the ski lift, but we soon got the hang of it! After an hour of skiing we had a lunch break, we had a variety of things to choose from, which was accompanied with chips and a drink. Then we got back on the slopes for another 2 hours.

After 2 or 3 days all the groups were taken on the gondola to higher up in the mountains, and our after lunch ski sessions were extended to three hours. On most of the days we were there, after the skiing part was over, we had other fun opportunities. On Sunday we went to a public Italian mass, on Monday we had a chance to go swimming and on Wednesday and Thursday we went to the local town of Andalo to do a bit of shopping. More experienced skiers were even given the opportunity to go night skiing on Tuesday.

As we had such a busy schedule, we were glad to have time on the coach to rest but we could all say we were sorry to leave this wonderful town and its many fascinating features behind.

On behalf of all the students that attended, we would like to say thank you to all the teachers that went: Mr Smith, Mr Turner, Mr Wade, Miss Johnson, Mrs Harris, Mrs Hardaker, Mrs Riddle, Mrs Carruthers, Mr Olford, Miss Hall-Stride, Mr Whitlock, Miss Dugan, Mrs Palfreyman, Mrs Ellis, Mr Osbourne, and a special thanks to Mr Bamford for making this all possible.

This week has been one we will remember for the rest of our lives. We would encourage those in Year 8, Year 11 and Year 12 to put themselves forward to go on this trip next year - you won't regret it!

Erin and Grace, 9Ca



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**



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Term Dates 2020-2021

Autumn Term 2020

Half Term:

Tuesday 1st September to Friday 18th December

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

Spring Term 2021

Half Term:

Monday 4th January to Thursday 1st April

Monday 15th - Friday 19th February

Summer Term 2021

Half Term:

Monday 19th April to Monday 19th July

Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

INSET Days are as follows:

**Tuesday 1st September, Wednesday 2nd September,
Friday 2nd October, Friday 27th November,
Friday 18th December, Monday 19th July**

Student Return:

**Thursday 3rd September, phased return for Y7 and Y12
Friday 4th September, all students return**

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

Having an Easter egg hunt outside is perhaps a little more difficult this year, so here is a scavenger hunt that you can have in your own home.

Follow the clues from the Easter story, following Jesus' passion and death through to His Resurrection. Cut out each of the clues and hide them in the relevant place according to the answer of the previous clue.

| CLUES | ANSWERS |
|---|--|
| On the same night he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some [.....] and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, "this is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me." (1 Corinthians 11:25) | Bread |
| In the same way he took the [.....] after supper, and said, "This is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me." (1 Corinthians 11:23) | Cup |
| Jesus got up from the [.....] removed his outer coat and taking a towel, wrapped it round his waist and began to wash the disciples feet. (John 13:4-5) | Table |
| Then Jesus said "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." "Then, Lord," Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!" Jesus answered, "Those who have had a [.....] need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." (John 13:8-10) | Bath |
| On the other side of the Kedron valley there was a garden, and Jesus and his disciples went into it. Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place. So Judas came to the garden, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and the Pharisees. They were carrying [...../.....] and weapons. (John 18:1-3) | Torches and Lanterns (Maybe you could use candles or a lamp to represent these) |
| Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard, but Peter had to wait outside at the [.....]. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the servant girl on duty there and brought Peter in. (John 18:15-16) | Door |
| Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying his own [.....] he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle. (John 19:16-18) | Cross (Maybe you need to make your own) |

| CLUES | ANSWERS |
|---|--|
| <p>Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a [.....] in it, put it on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. (John 19:28-29)</p> | Sponge |
| <p>Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the [.....] had been removed from the entrance. (John 20:1)</p> | Stone |
| <p>Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the [.....] that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. (John 20:6-7)</p> | Cloth |
| <p>On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors [.....] for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. (John 20:19-20)</p> | Locked (Maybe put this clue with your door keys?) |
| <p>A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see [.....]. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." (John 20:26-27)</p> | My hands |

Happy Easter
Wishing you great joy!



Holy Week and Easter ...

... from the comfort of your own home

The celebration of the Lord's Passion, death and Resurrection is the pinnacle of our Christian faith. Through our own journey through Holy Week, we join with Christ in His suffering but also in His glory and triumph over death on Easter Sunday morning. Many of us will be struggling with the devastating closure of our churches and places of worship, but, thanks to the gift of technology and the internet, many of our priests are doing all that they can to continue to shepherd us and bring the Church into our homes.

**CHURCHES ARE NOT
BEING CLOSED.
BUILDINGS ARE BEING
CLOSED. YOU ARE
THE CHURCH! YOU
ARE TO REMAIN OPEN.**

St John's Cathedral in Portsmouth have a very good live streaming service (available at all times and not just because the Cathedral is closed). You can find access to it on their website. They have daily Mass at 12.15pm and Sunday Masses are 6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 10.00am, 12.00pm and 6.00pm.

<https://www.portsmouthcatholiccathedral.org.uk/index.php>

Bishop Philip has started live streaming Adoration, Morning Prayer and Mass from his private chapel in Bishop's House. This is available on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0bt43XTTtWj7ypESnYBp0A>

The Dominican Sisters of St Joseph, live stream all their Masses, as well the Prayers of the Church (morning, midday, evening and night prayer) from their beautiful chapel in the New Forest. You can find their stream on their website.

<https://dominicansistersofstjoseph.org/>

And our very own, dear Fr Jeremy, has become a YouTube star, starting his own channel to live stream Masses on YouTube. There's a link on the parish website.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8LCa3e-6RNX_Hvb833WLkg

<https://www.waterlooville-catholic.org.uk/>

Holy Week Services and Times

(Please check as these may be different in different places).



Palm Sunday – usual Sunday Mass times.

Maundy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Last Supper 8.00pm.

Good Friday – Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 3.00pm.

Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil 8.00pm (stc).

Easter Sunday – usual Mass times.

Holy Week