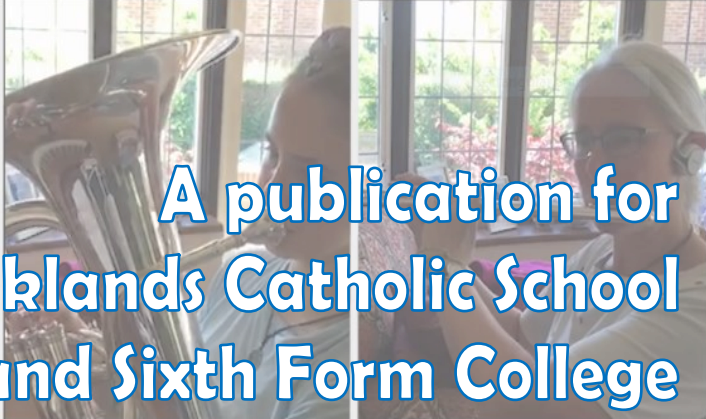
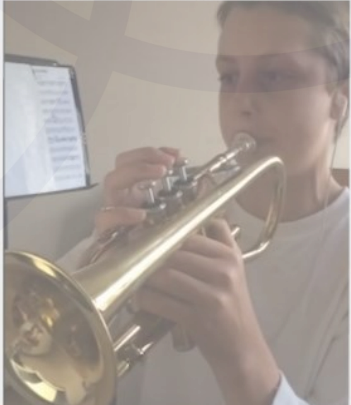
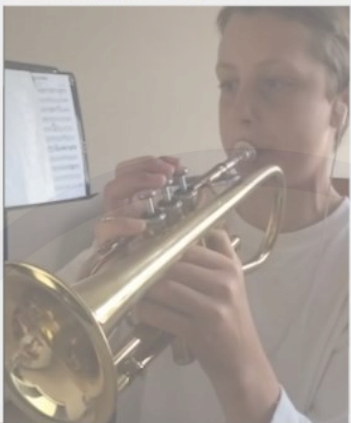


# Oaklands News



A publication for  
Oaklands Catholic School  
and Sixth Form College



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### From the Headteacher's Desk

I don't know about you, but every time I hear talk of Christmas being 'cancelled', I get quite cross! However, I have to admit I am finding it very difficult to get into the swing of it. For me there are certain events in school that 'kick start' the season. This year they are missing from our calendar.

Last week I was reflecting with a colleague how readily we have forgotten the first, and most severe, lockdown which began in March. Easter is the most important celebration within Christianity, an event which celebrates Christ's victory over death, dwarfing Christmas. It's difficult to forget the somewhat eerie scenes on Good Friday, celebrated on March 27 this year, when Pope Francis gave his blessing in front of a dark, damp and deserted St Peter's Square.

It is also an incredible stretch to claim that a move to lessen restrictions over Christmas would be a move to please Christians. When Governments talk of a 'normal' Christmas, the celebration of Christ's birth is certainly not foremost in their minds. But some Christmas events have continued regardless; B-Listers have turned on the lights in Oxford Street and the television offers up another visit to a festive Albert Square or time travelling with the Doctor.

At this time of year I generally have the prophet Isaiah running on a loop in my head. *"The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light."* It's a hackneyed piece of scripture, but I love it because our job as Christians is to point to that light, to hold it up and offer it as hope to those living in darkness, difficult though this is at the moment.

The words of Isaiah can get lost amid all the twinkling light pollution of the season. LED manufacturers appear to have gone into overdrive this year. There is also the danger in normal times that too much bonhomie obscures the simple story of God coming into the world as a child.

Much of what we are used to has been put on hold. The fireworks have been cancelled. The pubs will close early, if open at all. I read yesterday a call for the return to prohibition, banning the sale of booze. There will certainly be no large family gatherings. So a pall of winter misery is about to envelop us.

But while governments scramble to maintain the more secular parts of Christmas which is good for the economy, there is good news for those who celebrate Christ's birth first and foremost at this time.

That good news is the fact that Christmas can't be 'cancelled', much like how Easter was never truly 'cancelled'. It's impossible to cancel something that's already happened. Christ was born for the salvation of mankind, and most Christians commemorate His nativity on 25th December; the rest that I'm aware of, do so on January 6th. Both of those dates are going to happen this winter. Yes, it will not be a normal Christmas and a physical presence at Mass may be either impossible or highly restricted, but Christ's birth will still be celebrated by Christians all over the world.

Nothing can 'cancel' the importance of Christ's birth and nothing can prevent us from celebrating it. It's just that for one year, we may have to celebrate it differently.



**Mr M Quinn**

## Student Achievements

Despite lockdown and tier restrictions, two of our students have recently achieved success with their talents:

Felix in Year 12 has been awarded East Hants Junior Sportsman of the Year - a fantastic achievement, well done!

**East Hants DC** @EastHantsDC · 12h

Felix Coomber, takes the crown after securing his place as a member of the England squad and reserve in the GB Junior squad. In 2019 Felix held 3 International top 10 placings, 17 top 10 National placings and all around U16 bronze medallist in the English Championships. #EHSA20



Congratulations to Iona Cachia in Year 10, whose first single will be release her first on 21<sup>st</sup> December, called 'Complicated'. This can be downloaded from Spotify and other streaming sites.

A fantastic achievement following may hours of hard work and determination.



In my letter last week I indicated to you that the school has a responsibility to trace COVID-19 cases over Christmas.

In reality this means that if a student or member of staff tested positive up to and including Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December, the school would have to notify families of those students who had been in school if their child was a close contact.

The table below follows the current DfE guidance where schools are asked to look at the two day period before the day of the onset of symptoms:

Date of Symptoms	Infectious Period
17 <sup>th</sup> December	15 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> December
18 <sup>th</sup> December	16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> December
19 <sup>th</sup> December	17 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> December
20 <sup>th</sup> December	18 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup> December

For example, if a student developed symptoms on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December and went for a test on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December with a positive result on the 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> December, the school will have to trace students and staff in school on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

**If your child develops symptoms they should be tested and school informed by emailing [Provision@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:Provision@oaklandscatholicschool.org)**

**If your child has a confirmed case please email [Provision@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:Provision@oaklandscatholicschool.org) as soon as the results are known. We also need to know if the result is negative for our records.**

If we are notified of a confirmed case we will contact parents using the email and parent text service.

Parents also have a responsibility to notify the school if a student is being tested or has a confirmed case at the beginning of the new term. Please notify us by Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January by emailing [Provision@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:Provision@oaklandscatholicschool.org).

**Please do not use any other telephone numbers, email addresses or contacts apart from the Provision email, as this is the only one which will be monitored over the holidays between 18<sup>th</sup> December and 4<sup>th</sup> January. Please do not delay in telling us any of the information requested.**

**Finally, please do not send your child into school if they have symptoms and are having a test or if they have a positive test result. Please do not send them in if someone in the family is awaiting a test result.**

This term we have been unable to run our extra-curricular Music groups due to students being from a variety of bubbles. However, we have moved to virtual music making and have been so impressed with the response and commitment from students, it's much easier to play all together in a lunchtime!

Last half term we created a recording of *Pep Rally Rock*, a classic Oaklands Band piece. This requires the students to learn the music at home, practice and record themselves at home in time with a backing track. Mrs Richardson then edits all the parts together so that it sounds like they were all in the same room at once – wizardry!



We have recently been working on 'All I want for Christmas' which is a new piece for the band so will be a festive challenge for us! We have also produced some Christmas Carols which you will have enjoyed as part of our Virtual Christmas Concert and our Virtual Carol Service.

If you haven't yet had the opportunity to watch these, please take the time over the Christmas break to enjoy the talent we have at Oaklands:

[Virtual Christmas Music Concert 2020 - Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College](#)

[Virtual Carol Service 2020 - Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College](#)

A huge thank you and well done to the following students and staff this term:

Mrs Farrell, Asti Hayes, Barney Hayes, Daisy Hazell, Daisy Lee, Danielle Manners, Jack Manners, Athene Ryan, Alec Stanley, Marine Stanley, Jude Stanley, Ruthie Quinn, Mrs Quinn, Lauren Way, Harry Wright, Mr Wrightson, Mrs Wrightson

## Bronze Crest Award



A very big congratulations to Year 10 students, James Burroughs and Edward Gamble who were presented with their Bronze CREST award certificates by Mr Quinn this term. Their project investigated the extraction of copper from copper oxide by reduction using carbon and involved experiments with different ratios of reactant materials and different mixing techniques. Their conclusion following hours of experiments during lunchtime STEM club last year, was that the perfect recipe for maximum yield of copper required 0.26g of carbon for every 2g of copper oxide. The Science department have implemented this advice when students carry out the experiment as part of their Chemistry curriculum.



## STEM Competition Time



### **Shell's Bright Ideas Challenge (Y7-9)**

What will cities look like in 2050? Imagine that you are living in a busy, highly populated city. How will it be powered to be vibrant, healthy and clean places to live? That's the question put to students aged 11-14 by The Bright Ideas Challenge. The competition invites young people to use their creativity, problem solving and STEM skills to devise innovative solutions that could power cities of the future. Students could win up to £10,000 for our school, high-tech goodie bags and action-packed educational experiences, so get involved! Think of a problem that you would like to solve – what questions would you need to ask? Would you like to address air pollution, food waste or transport? There are many suggestions in the student guide to get you going – follow the link below for more information and speak to your Science Teacher to find out about the judging criteria.

[shell.co.uk/brightideaschallenge](https://shell.co.uk/brightideaschallenge)

The deadline for entries is 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021 and students can enter individually or in a small team (2-5 students).

### **UK Junior Water Prize (Y10-13)**



[The UK Junior Water Prize \(UKJWP\)](#) is a competition aimed at solving environmental challenges with a link to water. Students identify an issue and find a practical and innovative solution through research and experiments. The UKJWP is run by the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management in partnership with the Stockholm International Water Institute, who runs the international round of the competition called the Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP). The winner of UKJWP will get an all-expenses-paid trip to Stockholm during World Water Week, representing the UK in the SJWP.

To get involved, students need to present their work as an academic report of no more than 20 pages. It's a great opportunity to practise writing in a way that is useful for wider study and improving scientific literacy skills, and it looks impressive on a university application.

The deadline for entries is Feb 2021.

## Newnham College Essay Competition



Cambridge's [Newnham College essay competition](#) will soon be open to all girls currently in Year 12 in a UK school and involves submitting an essay of no more than 2500 words answering one of a selection of questions. The STEM options include the biological sciences, computer science, mathematics and engineering.

These prizes may be of particular interest to those studying biology, chemistry, physics or mathematics but entries are welcomed from students studying any combination of subjects. The first prize is £400, with the runner-up receiving £200 and third place £100.

The questions for the 2021 prizes will be released in December 2020. You can [find out more](#) about the competition and view the 2020 essay questions on Newnham College's website. Opens in December 2020 and submissions close in March 2021.

## RSC Top of the Bench - 2020 Special Competition



In previous years, as a school we have always competed in the annual Top of the Bench competition in which selected Year 9, 10 and 11 students attend. This year the competition is open to all students in Years 9 -11. The competition is to write a paragraph containing all the

target words listed below in the appropriate year group list. The paragraph must be as short as possible and use the target words in the correct chemical context. The order does not matter and it is okay to repeat the listed words - although this would make the paragraph longer.

**Hint:** The best entries will attempt to link the target words chemically.

Only one entry per school in each of the year group is allowed so please submit your entry to your class teacher who will pass the entries onto me to choose the entries. The first prize is entry into the UK final of the Top of the Bench competition mid next year. Runner-up prizes will also be awarded by the regional section.

If you are interested in taking part, use the words from the boxes below according to your year group to construct your paragraph. Good Luck! *Mrs Lenton*

<b>Year 9 Target Word List</b>	Melting Sodium chloride Glass beaker Heat Formula Compound Periodic Table Climate
<b>Year 10 Target Word List</b>	Bonding Energy Nano Reactivity Metal Covalent Bromine Climate
<b>Year 11 Target Word List</b>	Titration Moles Delocalized Electrolysis Analysis Rate Polymer Sodium carbonate

# Oaklands Prayer Marathon

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November we held our very first prayer marathon. Bishop Philip had called for a day of prayer and fasting across the whole diocese for a speedy end to the coronavirus pandemic. We, as a school community, also had other intentions in great need of our prayers and petitions.

The day began with a short opening liturgy, which all the students joined in with via the YouTube live stream. The whole day was live streamed, with people dipping in and out all day. Throughout the day there was Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and all staff were invited to pop in for a couple of minutes to offer their own prayers and light a candle.

Fr Mark Whiting kindly celebrated a Mass for us at lunchtime, and the rest of the day was punctuated with times of prayer, for example the Rosary and Angelus. There was a beautiful atmosphere in the Chapel and the presence of the Holy Spirit was really powerful. The day ended with all classes re-joining the live stream for a closing prayer.

We keep trusting and believing that God hears and answers all our prayers.



# Edith Stein Partnership Blessing

Oaklands is a part of the Edith Stein Partnership, which is a group of ten Catholic schools in the local area who work together. During this term, we have been working with seven of those schools to collaborate on a musical project – The Edith Stein Partnership Blessing.

Each school was invited to choose a few volunteers to sing a song called ‘From Whom All Blessings Flow’ and make a recording of themselves singing. All these recordings were then skilfully put together by Liam Olford, and the result is a stunning collaboration, and a true celebration of all our schools.

Our hope was that this would bring some hope and joy to many across the Diocese during the second lockdown.

With strict rules on congregational singing still in place at this time, this is a very beautiful sight and sound to hear many children singing together.

Please follow this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tb7NyWQ7M\\_M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tb7NyWQ7M_M)



The Edith Stein Partnership Blessing

1,467 views • Nov 26, 2020    45    4    SHARE    SAVE    ...



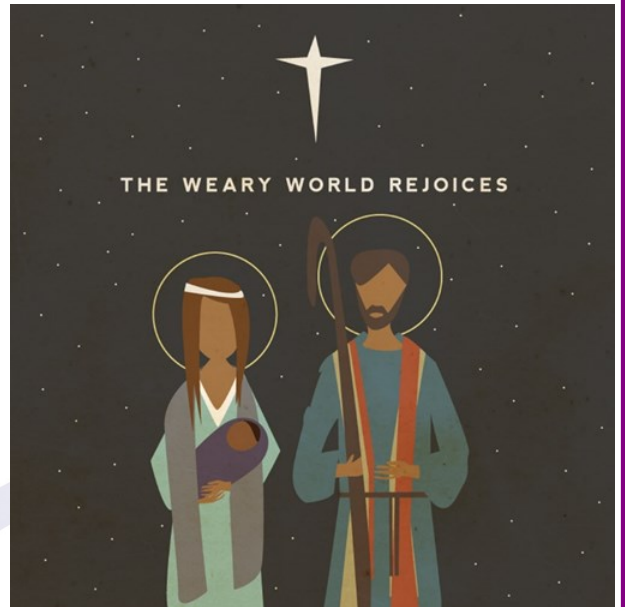
## From the Chaplain

***'The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest.***

***For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.'* Isaiah 9**

~~~~

Every year, the month of December is meant to usher in one of the happiest and most joy-filled seasons of life; houses are transformed by bright lights, illuminating the dark evenings, the music changes, shops become busier, and our diaries become full as we all anticipate the great celebration of Christmas. It's a time of traditions, family, friends and celebration.



But something feels a little different this year. This time last year, your biggest concern or worry might have been choosing the right Christmas tree, or buying a turkey big enough to feed everyone on Christmas Day, but this year all those worries are completely overshadowed by worries about the coronavirus, the safety and wellbeing of your family, anxiety over an elderly friend or relative, personal finances or job security.

How do we celebrate this joyous season and the incoming light when everything around us seems so dark? It is, however, precisely at this moment when the Christmas story finds resonance with ours. Jesus wasn't born into a world that was at peace; He didn't enter into a world that had it all together. He entered into a dark and broken world and declared that "I am the Light of the World!" A wearied world rejoiced.

The world Jesus entered into as a fragile, vulnerable baby, was a world full of tyrants and dictators, of wars and death, famine and disease; a world that out-shadows our current reality of lockdown and restrictions. This is a truth we need to hear anew.

Like a wrapped-up present under the Christmas tree, meant to surprise a young child, Jesus is the great unwrapping, the great unveiling, the great surprise a tired and weary world needed. No one expected the story to unfold as it did, no one expected God to come into this world as He did, no one expected Him to do all the things He did.

No one expected this year to unfold in the way that it has, and no one expected to experience all that the coronavirus has caused. And perhaps that's why this Advent feels so different this year, because, in our life time, we've never needed the celebration of Christmas more. Our tired and weary world calls out to God, and he responds with the gift of His beloved Son. May we all be filled with the beautiful and expectant hope of this season, as we await the great celebration of Christmas, and the return of Christ our Saviour to our dark and broken world.

The joy that Jesus brought into the world over 2000 years ago is the same joy that we are invited to discover this season. Our Lord, and what He did, tells us that it is true, that a weary world, can still indeed REJOICE!

Wishing you the joy and peace of Christ this Christmas and every blessing for 2021.

**Mrs Farrell**  
**School Chaplain**



## News from the Maths Department

### Year 7 and Year 8 Maths Week

As part of our commitment to make Maths exciting and high profile in our school, this November we took part in a competition for Maths Week England. It's called Rock Out 2020 and it's all done online.

For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, students earned their class a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform calculated the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who played during the competition hours). Winning classes in the school and in the country as a whole were the ones with the highest average.

Congratulations to 7Ca who scored the highest in Year 7 with 32,973 points and to 8St who scored the highest in Year 8 with 33,614 points.

The top two scoring students across both years were Josh Smith (19,238 points) and Alexia George (11,150 points).



### Senior Maths Challenge

At the beginning of November, Year 12 and Year 13 students took part in the Senior Maths Challenge, competing with other schools. The challenge lasts 90 minutes and is multiple choice. Questions are designed to challenge students to think, not to guess and the aim is all about solving interesting problems. Here's an example of the questions ... can you solve any?

1. What is the value of  $123^2 - 23^2$ ?  
 A 10 000      B 10 409      C 12 323      D 14 600      E 15 658
2. What is the value of  $(2019 - (2000 - (10 - 9))) - (2000 - (10 - (9 - 2019)))$ ?  
 A 4040      B 40      C -400      D -4002      E -4020
3. Used in measuring the width of a wire, one mil is equal to one thousandth of an inch. An inch is about 2.5 cm.  
 Which of these is approximately equal to one mil?  
 A  $\frac{1}{40}$  mm      B  $\frac{1}{25}$  mm      C  $\frac{1}{4}$  mm      D 25 mm      E 40 mm
4. For how many positive integer values of  $n$  is  $n^2 + 2n$  prime?  
 A 0      B 1      C 2      D 3      E more than 3

### British Mathematical Olympiad and Senior Kangaroo

For those who do well in the Senior Maths Challenge, there is a chance to qualify for the Maths Olympiad. In October, four girls, Emily Luckos, Danielle Manners and Ruthie Quinn (all Year 11) and Larissa Berry (Year 12) took part and all received letters of participation for this tough competition.

### Coming Up ...

In February the Intermediate Maths Challenge will run for Year 10 and Year 11.

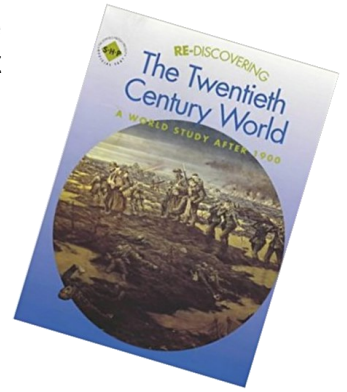
## History News

This year History has been in the news much more than normal and the Black Lives Matter movement has reminded us History teachers about how important our curriculum choices are.

At Oaklands we have a diverse and varied approach to teaching BAME history. We interweave and include the story of minority groups throughout our lessons from Year 7 all the way to Year 13, looking at British, European and international histories.

This year our Year 8s explored the world of Black Tudors as part of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century studies and Year 9 investigated the role of Empire and Commonwealth troops in World War I.

At GCSE, Year 10 have been studying the African American experience from the 1920s to the 1960s, including the campaign for Civil Rights.



## Geography News

### Year 12 A Level Geographers visit West Wittering and East Head, December 2020

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 to West Wittering.



Coastlines are dynamic environments and 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 June when they will attend a three day trip to Dorset (if COVID-19 rules allow) to prepare them for their A level coursework, worth 20% of their final grade. Trips like this are not able to take place without support from my colleagues and on this occasion Miss Robinson accompanied us.

**Mr M Bamford**



## Update from St John's, Korogocho

Now that we have spent some time back in school this term, things seem to be feeling more 'normal' than in the first lockdown period; a rejuvenation process we are all going through in the UK. Students are now spending more time actively learning, both in the classroom and at home via Teams meetings/calls. This is the reality for all of us in education – whether it be school, sixth forms, colleges and universities. However, the reality of education in Korogocho, Kenya is still on the recovery route.

St John's have recently begun the process of reopening school for Grade 4, Grade 8 and Form 4, whilst other classes and year groups may possibly reopen in the coming weeks. The disruption has led to the government deciding all students need to repeat the academic year, in order to support learning and progress for all students. We hope that as a partnership, we can support St John's throughout this process and ensure our partnership continues to be fruitful, supportive and loving.

Back in October, we held our annual St John's Week, where we learnt a little more about Korogocho, how and why our partnership is meaningful and what we can do as a community in order to help provide the necessary support for our friends in Kenya. Over the course of the week, we held a number of activities to help raise money and continue our worthwhile support of both communities. We raised an incredible amount of money for St John's, despite the restrictions caused by the pandemic; a true testament to the commitment and dedication of all the staff and students.

More poignantly, students in Year 7 (experiencing St John's week for the first time) also wrote letters to some of the students in Korogocho and I thought I would share one which truly embodied our shared community spirit:

*Dear St John's*

*I am Sammy from Oaklands and I am so excited to contact you!  
I have recently joined the school and I have started in Year 7.  
We've had St John's Week recently and we have been taking part in  
lots of activities like raffles, non-uniform and silly sock days.  
I am very interested in your school as your stories are so inspiring,  
that I would like to help out more.  
In the future, we all hope we can support you further and I promise  
to continue to support and help you,  
even after my time at Oaklands has come to an end.  
I really hope to hear from you soon!*

It's evident that the power of community is awe-inspiring and brings people together in a number of ways.

I will leave you with this piece of scripture from Corinthians 1:10: *"I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought."*

Have a very merry Christmas and thank you for all your support.

**Mr C Osbourne**

## St John's Week ... from the Archives

Here's what we were doing for St John's Week back in 2015 ...

We held our annual St John's Week from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015. It was another opportunity for the whole of Oaklands to come together to think about our brothers and sisters in our partner school at St John's in Korogocho Slum in Nairobi. Throughout the week, the theme of the assemblies and most of our lessons was St John's or justice. In addition it provided students with an opportunity to think about other places and cultures. We also used this opportunity to raise money to help the 115 children we have committed ourselves to supporting every term.

For the first time, we had a theme for each day of the week.

**Monday** was 'Silly Socks' day; students and staff come in wearing their most silly pair of socks.

**Tuesday** was 'Penny lines' day; we brought in as many pennies as we could find and had a competition on which House would have the longest line. We also measured the length of the line by its worth. St Clare were the clear winners. Their line was 5 lengths of our sports hall and was worth £118.45. Sixth Form students won the amount raised competition by a very narrow margin – their line was worth £119.55.

**Wednesday** was 'Games and Sports' day; students organised challenges with their peers at break time and lunchtime.

**Thursday**, one of the favourite days of that week, was the 'Cakes' day. Staff and students from across the school brought in cakes and sold them to raise money.

**Friday** was non-school uniform day for students in Y7 – 11. A number of Sixth Form students decided to come in wearing smart clothes – like teachers. Some members of staff decided to come in wearing school uniform or school colours! As you can imagine, this was a wonderful sight for many students. The highlight of this day was one member of staff telling off a 'student' for entering the staff room unaccompanied by a member of staff!

This was a wonderful week - dedicated to learning about causes of poverty and issues of injustice. Our community become more aware of our calling as a Christian community to put our faith into action and look after our brothers and sisters in need. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this week a success.

Please also read the report from Mr C. A. Pudo, the Headteacher of St John's to hear about the difference our Sponsorship programme is making at their school.



## Extra-Curricular Activities

Extra-curricular PE activities resumed on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December following a 9-month hiatus due to the pandemic. Mr Bamford wrote to parents on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December - <https://www.oaklandscatholicschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Extra-Curricular-PE-resumption.pdf> - to inform parents of this.

Due to the preservation of year group 'bubbles', each year group has a designated evening; two sporting activities are being offered initially. The photo below was taken on 8<sup>th</sup> December and shows Year 8 students playing Badminton.

Students must sign up using 'Squad in Touch' in order to attend; full details are provided in the letter that was sent home (see the link above).

The school is very proud of the extra-curricular clubs that we offer in 'normal' times. This is the first step, we hope, to resuming these activities. It will take time, but with the prospect of a vaccine on the horizon, we hope that we will be expand our extra-curricular offer as the year progresses.



## A Marathon Squared (M<sup>2</sup>)

Year 10 students have embarked on a fundraising event for MacMillan Cancer. All students and staff in the year group are getting involved and will cover a distance of almost 687 miles or 1099km.

In order to ensure social distancing and maintenance of bubbles the fundraising is being carried out as a remote relay. Each student in a tutor group will run, walk, step, row or cycle 5km and once the whole tutor group has finished another one will take up the 'baton'. 10Mg kicked off the challenge with a number of students completing their 5km in the gym after school.

A number of students in Year 10 have been touched by cancer with family members going through treatment and they know how valuable the support that MacMillan can be. They are pleased to have an opportunity to do something positive to support a very worthwhile charity and benefit from exercise at the same time.

Students involved are raising sponsorship, but anyone can donate via Scopay – look for a miscellaneous product named 'MacMillan cancer run'.

Thank you.



**Christmas Raffle Draw**

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for our online raffle.  
Congratulations to the prize winners:

|                     |                         |                           |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>First Prize</b>  | <b>£100 cash</b>        | <b>Keeley Hardy</b>       |
| <b>Second Prize</b> | <b>Christmas Hamper</b> | <b>Aailyah Guine-Mota</b> |
| <b>Third Prize</b>  | <b>Pamper Hamper</b>    | <b>Islwyn Mainwaring</b>  |

**Next Second Hand Uniform Sale**

Please place orders by Thursday 7th January 2021 and collections will be available on Friday 15th January.

We now have a stock of coats, together with football boots and trainers (please check for sizes currently in stock) .

Anyone requiring a coat please contact us on [opa@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:opa@oaklandscatholicschool.org) or via the Pastoral Team.

We urgently need more stock of jumpers and the new PE kit. Demand for jumpers has been high during the pandemic because of keeping the school well ventilated!!

**50:50 Club**

For £1 per number per month (you can have as many numbers as you wish) you will be entered into a prize draw. Each month a winner will receive 50% of the takings and the other half will go to OFPA funds. We really want to increase our 50:50 Club membership so please consider signing up now - details on the website or email us directly at [opa@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:opa@oaklandscatholicschool.org) for more information.

***Only £1 per month and you could be in with a chance to win a welcome cash prize!!***

**Plea for Help**

We are a very small team of volunteers and could really do with some extra help. Would you consider helping out with our second hand uniform store which is proving very popular this year: email us at [opa@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:opa@oaklandscatholicschool.org) to find out more.

Please note that the OPA inbox is not manned daily so we would appreciate your patience when awaiting a response.

Thank you for your support.

## Alumni

### Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College - Alumni

**Were you a student here ... ?**

**Stay in touch with us and help ...**

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

Go to [www.futurefirst.org.uk](http://www.futurefirst.org.uk)

Go to the 'Sign Up' tab

Click 'Former Student'

Type in **Oaklands Catholic School**



### CONSULTATION

#### ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS SEPTEMBER 2022

As required by regulations the Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust operating as the Local Governing Body of Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College, Waterlooville will be conducting a consultation on its proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2022– 2023.

The consultation period runs for a minimum period of 6 weeks from 1 October 2020 until 31 January 2021.

Copies of the proposed arrangements can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the school website [Homepage - Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College](#)

Comments on the arrangements should be sent to the Clerk to the Governing Body by 31 January 2021.

Email [C.Colley@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:C.Colley@oaklandscatholicschool.org)

The Governing Body will consider all comments received before determining its admission arrangements by 28 February 2021.

## Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Foundation Governor on our Governing Body and would like to fill this position as soon as possible.

The Oaklands Community has always prided itself on a close partnership with parents and local parishes which brings great benefits to our children. One of the most significant ways you can help is to volunteer to be a Governor. The Governing Body's main task is to support and challenge the school as a critical friend. The Governors set the strategic direction of the school to ensure that pupils receive the best possible education and that there is a good plan for future development and improvement.

Foundation Governors are warmly welcomed as vital members of the team. Foundation Governors are appointed by the Bishop and must be a currently practising Catholic. They represent the Bishop's education policy to the governing body and preserve and develop the Catholic ethos of the school.

If you are not sure whether this is for you then we would be delighted to arrange for you to chat to the Head, Chair of Governors or a serving Foundation Governor. Commitment is a minimum of three meetings a term and all Governors are fully protected by insurance. There is as much training as you want and new governors are allocated a 'buddy' and a department in the school.

If you feel you might be ready for the challenge please contact Clerk to Governors, Mrs Claire Colley, at the school, [c.colley@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:c.colley@oaklandscatholicschool.org) for an application form which will need to be completed and returned to the school by 12.00 noon on Tuesday 12 January 2021.



## Are you or someone you know experiencing a crisis and need urgent mental health support?



The NHS 111 mental health triage service provides advice, support and guidance, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for anyone living in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

The mental health triage team has a wide range of skills, including on the phone brief psychological support and has access to key services and organisations that can offer mental health support to people in their time of need. NHS 111 has a team of mental health professionals ready and waiting to speak to you. And no matter what your concern or issue, whether it's low mood, anxiety, depression or an established mental health problem, NHS 111 is there to ensure that you get that support.

The service can also be used by GPs and other healthcare professionals, the emergency services, mental health charities, and any other organisations that come into contact with people experiencing a mental health crisis.



The experts in digital family life

Follow this link to ParentZone - [Home | Parent Zone](https://parentzone.org.uk) (https://parentzone.org.uk)

There is useful information on the following plus much more:

- Everything you need for a happy digital Christmas - a guide to the ways families can bring Christmas online
- This year's must-have tech gifts
- The best films and shows to stream this Christmas
- Tech Shock podcast

## UK Chief Medical Officers' advice for parents and carers on Children and Young People's screen and social media use

Technology can be a wonderful thing but too much time sitting down or using mobile devices can get in the way of important, healthy activities. Here are some tips for balancing screen use with healthy living.

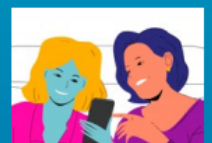
### Sleep matters

Getting enough, good quality sleep is very important. Leave phones outside the bedroom when it is bedtime.



### Sharing sensibly

Talk about sharing photos and information online and how photos and words are sometimes manipulated. Parents and carers should never assume that children are happy for their photos to be shared. For everyone – when in doubt, don't upload!



### Education matters

Make sure you and your children are aware of, and abide by, their school's policy on screen time.



### Keep moving!

Everyone should take a break after a couple of hours sitting or lying down using a screen. It's good to get up and move about a bit. #sitlessmovemore



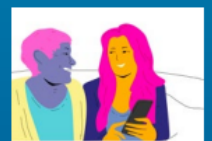
### Safety when out and about

Advise children to put their screens away while crossing the road or doing an activity that needs their full attention.



### Talking helps

Talk with children about using screens and what they are watching. A change in behaviour can be a sign they are distressed – make sure they know they can always speak to you or another responsible adult if they feel uncomfortable with screen or social media use.



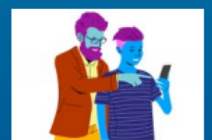
### Family time together

Screen-free meal times are a good idea – you can enjoy face-to-face conversation, with adults giving their full attention to children.



### Use helpful phone features

Some devices and platforms have special features – try using these features to keep track of how much time you (and with their permission, your children) spend looking at screens or on social media.



# YOUNGMINDS

## [Parents Helpline - YoungMinds](#)

# Parents Helpline

Worried about a child or young person?  
Contact the Parents Helpline for free,  
confidential advice via the phone, email or  
webchat.

[Parents Helpline](#)

[Parents Email Service](#)

[Parents Webchat](#)

[Using our Parents Helpline services](#)

Call our Parents Helpline for detailed advice, emotional support and signposting about a child or young person up to the age of 25.

Call us for free on 0808 802 5544 from 9:30am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

To watch the full PowerPoint presentation, please click on the following link: [PowerPoint Presentation \(oaklandscatholicschool.org\)](#)



Supported by:



think *Ninja*

Empowering young people to reach their potential

# Term Dates - Spring Term 2021

|                |                       |                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday         | 4 January 2021        | Spring Term Begins (Week 2)<br>Year 8 Readathon Starts                                                                                    |
| Monday         | 11 January            | Governors' Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting<br>OFPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm)                                                     |
| Thursday       | 14 January            | <b>Year 11 English Practice Exam</b>                                                                                                      |
| Monday         | 18 January            | <b>Faith Unity Week</b><br>Governors' Business & Collaboration Committee Meeting                                                          |
| Wednesday      | 20 January            | <b>Year 11 Mock Grades and Reports Home</b>                                                                                               |
| Wednesday      | 27 January            | <b>Year 9 Options Assembly and Information Session</b>                                                                                    |
| Thursday       | 28 January            | <b>Year 9 Options Assembly and Information Session</b>                                                                                    |
| Monday         | 1 February            | OFPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm)                                                                                                           |
| Wednesday      | 10 February           | <b>Year 10 English Practice Exam</b><br>Full Governors' Meeting                                                                           |
| Thursday       | 11 February           | <b>Year 10 Maths Practice Exam</b><br>KS3 / KS4 / KS5 Grades / Reports Home                                                               |
| Friday         | 12 February           | Deadline for Year 9 Option Returns                                                                                                        |
| <b>Mon-Fri</b> | <b>15-19 February</b> | <b>Half Term</b>                                                                                                                          |
| Monday         | 22 February           | <b>Year 11 Maths / English / Science Practice Exams (to 25 February)</b>                                                                  |
| Tuesday        | 23 February           | <b>Year 11 Maths / English / Science Practice Exams (to 25 February)</b><br>Year 9 Teenage Booster Injections                             |
| Thursday       | 25 February           | Year 12 Post-18 Information Evening                                                                                                       |
| Friday         | 26 February           | Non Uniform Day                                                                                                                           |
| Monday         | 1 March               | <b>National Careers Week</b><br><b>Year 11 Book Sharing Week</b><br>Governors' Ethos Committee Meeting<br>OFPA Committee Meeting (7.30pm) |
| Monday         | 8 March               | <b>Science Week</b><br><b>Year 13 Practice Exams (to 17 March)</b>                                                                        |
| Thursday       | 11 March              | <b>Year 11 Parents' Evening</b>                                                                                                           |
| Monday         | 15 March              | <b>Year 7 Book Sharing Week</b>                                                                                                           |
| Wednesday      | 17 March              | <b>SEN Parents' Evening</b><br>Full Governors' Meeting                                                                                    |
| Thursday       | 18 March              | <b>Design Showcase</b>                                                                                                                    |
| Thursday       | 25 March              | <b>Year 7 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>                                                                                                   |
| Monday         | 29 March              | <b>Year 10 Book Sharing Week</b>                                                                                                          |
| Tuesday        | 30 March              | <b>Year 11 Final Predictions and Tutor Reports Home</b>                                                                                   |
| Wednesday      | 31 March              | Y7-Y10 Grades / Y13 Predicted Grades Home<br><b>Year 13 Parents' Evening (5.00pm)</b>                                                     |
| Thursday       | 1 April               | Passion Services<br><b>Last Day of Term</b>                                                                                               |

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

# Parish Mass Times this Christmas

**Please go to Mass this Christmas! Our Lord is waiting for you. Our churches are very safe with every safety precaution in place to keep everyone safe and well!**

Firstly, please note that Christmas has an Octave. This means that the whole week following Christmas Day, up to and including New Year's Day, January 1st, is celebrated by the Church as an extension of Christmas Day itself, although each day has a different dedication. This means that you can keep your Christmas by coming to Mass on any day of the week instead of Christmas Day itself and avoid the crowds as we will undoubtedly fill the quota for the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day very quickly.

**PLEASE CHECK PARISH WEBSITES AND NEWSLETTERS ON HOW TO BOOK FOR MASS DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS.**

## **Sacred Heart, Waterlooville**

**Christmas Eve** (Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December)

4.00pm – Online Children's Service  
6.00pm – Christmas Vigil Mass  
8.00 pm – Christmas Vigil Mass  
Midnight – First Mass of Christmas

**Christmas Day** (Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December)

8.30am – Christmas Day Mass  
10.30am – Christmas Day Mass

## **St Michael's & All Angels, Leigh Park**

**Christmas Eve** (Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December)

4.00pm – Christmas Vigil Mass  
6.00 pm – Christmas Vigil Mass  
8.00pm – Christmas Vigil Mass

**Christmas Day** (Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December)

8.00am – Christmas Day Mass  
10.00am – Christmas Day Mass

## **St Patrick's, Hayling Island**

**Christmas Eve** (Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December)

6:00pm – Family Mass  
11:30pm – Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day** (Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December)

10.00am – Christmas Day Mass

## **St Edmund's, Horndean**

**Christmas Eve** (Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December)

5.00pm – Children's Mass  
Midnight – First Mass of Christmas Mass

**Christmas Day** (Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December)

9.30am – Christmas Day Mass

## **St Joseph's, Havant**

**Christmas Eve** (Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December)

8.00pm – Carol Service and Mass

**Christmas Day** (Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December)

10.30am – Christmas Day Mass

## **St Thomas', Emsworth**

**Christmas Eve** (Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December)

5.30pm – Christmas Vigil Mass

