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Oaklands News



A publication for
Oaklands Catholic School
and Sixth Form College



Oaklands

Catholic School and Sixth Form College



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From the Headteacher's Desk

This week with the hot weather, water has been on my mind. One of my enduring memories as a child is of hot summers, parched grass and wilting flowers. I am now, however, not convinced that this was the reality. One of the searing memories was the Summer of 1976 with water rationing, fears that ponds, rivers and springs may dry up, perhaps for ever. In 1976 I was nine, I remember longing for it to rain, then eventually early in September it happened.

We talk about water being a precious resource and it is, compared to the Middle East we have it lucky. There, water is a treasured commodity, much of it being produced through desalination. In these countries and others the scarcity of water is not just an inconvenience, it is a matter of life and death.

This week I have met lots of children complaining of dehydration. The problem often is that by the time they are thirsty, dehydration has set in and it is too late. Once thirst sets in, the thirstier you feel and the more water dominates your thoughts. You begin to notice everything that has water connotations: cups, fountains, rain, pictures of water. The greater the thirst, the more earnest the search. And the thirstier you are, the less you desire other liquids — in fact, you don't want any other liquid. You want the one thing that will most quench your thirst: water.

There are numerous references to water in the Bible, this is set against the context of it being such a precious resource. Jesus promised a stream of living water to anyone who is thirsty. You can imagine the scene as Jesus made this pronouncement. The Jews will also have been aware of their time in the wilderness where God provided the people of Israel with the provision of water from a rock, a time where despair was turned into hope. With the provision of water Jesus is proclaiming his relationship with God the Father. There are too many situations both in this country and further afield where thirsting for the love of God now goes unrecognised or is suppressed, recognising this and doing something about it, is part of the mission of a Catholic school.

Busy Year

Oaklands has always been known for its rich and varied extra-curricular program, something that suffered during COVID. Throughout the year a large number of students have re-engaged with the opportunities on offer. I would like to express my thanks to the staff who work tirelessly to provide the extras that enrich the experience of students at the school.

Over the Summer we have students and staff in Iceland, please keep them in your prayers. If you have followed Oaklands News over the year you will have read about the numerous and varied range of activities and events that have taken place. I was very pleased to see the large numbers of students taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. My thanks to Judith Hoar and her team for making this happen.

Ofsted

As you are aware we had our Ofsted visit towards the end of the term. We have been preparing for this for some time. The timing of this will result in us having to wait for publication of the report early in the Autumn term, until then it remains confidential. However I can tell you they recognised many of the wonderful things that go on in the curriculum and beyond.

Staff INSET

All schools have to devote a certain number of hours each year to training and development, or INSET time. Some of this time has to be set aside for statutory training for all staff, for example, health and safety, child protection and safeguarding. There are then courses that are required for groups of staff, for example leading trips and visits. At Oaklands we also use this time to fine tune classroom techniques. As a Catholic school, every few years we like to devote INSET time to something specific to the theology that underpins a Catholic school. On Friday 1st July we considered three areas that are important to our Catholic Mission.

The first was on the sanctity of the individual, in particular how education addresses societal issues for those marginalised by race or culture. Staff listened to a number of presentations, one of our Sixth Formers being a key note speaker. The second area where staff received input focused on the spiritual nature of our community, in particular the importance of prayer and worship. Staff were provided with an opportunity to look at how scripture underpins liturgy. The third element of the day was slightly 'softer' but just as important. Staff in a large busy school like Oaklands can become fragmented, particularly so over the last three years, so we spent a short period of time on a community project. Each member of staff was invited to paint a tile which was part of a large multicultural montage representing Jesus. This provided colleagues with an opportunity to spend a short period of time working, side-by-side, with fellow staff who they may not see very often, the 'buzz' this created was captivating. Staff then shared a meal together over lunch time. The collective result of the painting endeavour can be seen here.



Student Success

It has been a pleasure this year to receive students who have made exceptional progress in the classroom, overcome adversity or represented the school. It has been a delight to write home to many, offering congratulations and recognising their child's endeavours at school. Our statistical analysis also shows that student behaviour at Oaklands is at a very high level, despite some of the challenges that COVID presented us with when students returned last September.

Finally

Please take time to read this packed edition of Oaklands News, the term dates for 2022-23 are contained within. Thank you for your prayers, support and encouragement over the last year and I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable Summer break.



Mr M Quinn

Just before half term, our Year 11 students joined together for their traditional Leavers' Assembly, Mass and t-shirt signing on the lawn.

Among the tears and the laughter, we gave thanks for the relationships built, happy memories made and talents nurtured over the last five years at Oaklands.



On Thursday 7 July, there was excitement in the air as Year 11 students arrived in a range of exciting vehicles for Oaklands Prom at the Marriott Hotel, Port Solent. The previous two Prom celebrations were cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic so this one felt extra special and was a very fitting way for students to celebrate the end of exam season.

Students in glamorous gear were greeted by applause and cheers as they made their way past the staff who had come to welcome them. Time to catch up with friends and get photographs by the flower wall while sipping mocktails. They enjoyed a delicious meal and once tables were moved back, danced the night away with great energy leaving with happy memories of a Prom to remember.



We look forward to welcoming many of the students back to our Sixth Form College in September and we wish those who are moving on to other establishments, apprenticeships and courses every success in the future.

Mrs Hardaker and Mrs Cope

At the end of this year, we say goodbye to the following colleagues and thank them for all they have done for the Oaklands Community.

Miss Standen has worked as an LSA during her gap year and has proven to be an enthusiastic and valuable member of the Learning Support team. We wish her well as she embarks on her travels before starting university.



Mr Southwell re-joined the RE Department in September 2019 little knowing that he would have half the year in lockdown. He has worked with a number of KS3 classes, including his tutor group, and has also developed supportive and caring relationships with short course students in KS4. Mr Southwell is taking up a position at Bitterne Park School, nearer to his home.

Miss Johnson joined Oaklands in September 2017 after completing her second PGCE placement in the Science department the previous year. She quickly established herself as an enthusiastic teacher who goes the extra mile for students, building relationships and giving up her free time for the Ski Trip and Duke of Edinburgh as well as, more recently, Young Carers. Miss Johnson leaves with our best wishes for the next step in her career at Brighton Hill School in Basingstoke.

Miss Taylor joined the MFL Department as a trainee teacher, quickly becoming a proficient practitioner and well-loved tutor. She possesses outstanding linguistic skills, as well as a passion for teaching and has participated in trips and regularly runs clubs such as film club and board games after school. We will miss her but wish her all the best as she moves on to Edmund's School in Hindhead.

Miss Helyer started at Oaklands 11 years ago as a PGCE Geography student. Since then, she has been working as G+T coordinator, Lead Tutor, PGCE/NQT mentor and Second in Geography as well as helping to run numerous trips and Challenge Week activities. Miss Helyer is moving to St Philip Howard School to work closer to her hometown.

Miss Draycott began working at Oaklands in 2005 and then re-joined in 2010. She has been a huge asset to the Science department with her expertise in Biology which has helped to shape the curriculum across all key stages. Miss Draycott shows fantastic support to colleagues and always maintains the highest standards to ensure students achieve the best they can. She will be greatly missed and we wish her every success at Ash Manor School in Surrey.

Mrs Connolly has been at Oaklands for 18 years and over that time has made a fantastic contribution to the school and community. As well as teaching Food Preparation and Nutrition and Textiles, she has also taught Child Development, Geography, PDC and Horticulture, during which time she established the school garden. Mrs Connolly's friendly, helpful and caring disposition has made her an excellent tutor and she is a respected and admired teacher and colleague. She will be missed by our whole community and we wish her the very best for her future and every success for her new foodie business ventures.

Mrs Ludlam was initially at Oaklands from 1996 to 2007, returning in 2009 when she became Head of the Sixth Form College. During this time the Sixth Form capacity has increased to over 200 students and we are recognised as one of the best colleges in the area. Mrs Ludlam has had a significant impact on many young lives, ensuring their successful entry into universities, apprenticeships or employment and her nurturing, 'tough-love' approach, prepares students well for the next stage in their lives. She has taught youngsters throughout the school and is a well respected teacher and colleague. Mrs Ludlam instigated Fundraising Friday, which has now raised more than £20,000 for charities over the years it has been running – this is a fantastic achievement! Mrs Ludlam will be greatly missed by us all, but is leaving teaching to study a full-time university course in Organisational Psychology.

Dr Howson joined Oaklands in 2003 as an Assistant Head and became one of our Deputy Heads in 2006. She has been a great developer of systems at Oaklands, particularly in the areas of curriculum and timetabling. Dr Howson has taught many of our students Physics and Chemistry and has been a golden thread of continuity in our successful Science Department. She is a confident and much respected member of staff and is well known for her acerbic wit! Dr Howson has been a valuable Associate Governor during her time as Deputy Head and has been a regular member of our Staff Chamber Choir. She will be missed by the whole community but leaves with our best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Mrs Hopkins has been at Oaklands for 37 years and has been a symbol of professionalism and a fountain of literary knowledge. Her legacy is evident in the thousands of students she has taught, cared for, supported, and loved during her time as an Oaklands English teacher. Her career has seen her develop as a well-respected, and outstanding classroom practitioner, as well as being an exceptional Head of Department, producing some of the best results. Mrs Hopkins' impact on the lives of both staff and students is unparalleled and immeasurable - we will all miss her and wish her the very best for a long and happy retirement.

Year 7 Challenge Week

Challenge Week 2022...Year 7

We all started the week with going to Marwell Zoo, exploring different animal habitats, environments and endangered species. All of Year 7 got the bus there and we were put into our groups that we would stay in all day, while we looked at the animals with our assigned teacher. Despite some rain in the day, it was so fun and interesting to see so many different animals. By the end of the day, most of us had a better understanding of why we need to protect specific creatures (as well as being soaked!). We went into the gift shop and could get some key chains, soft toys, and sweets. Then we headed back on the bus and went back to school.

For the rest of the week, we moved from class to class doing fun activities based on Conservation, Culture and Creativity – with a particular focus on Western Africa. We also wore non-school uniform all week.

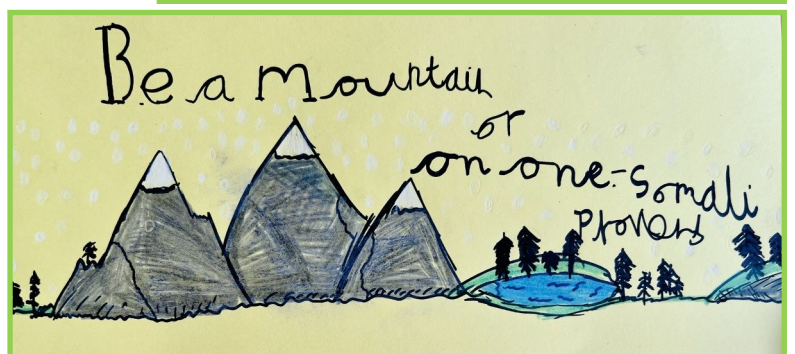
On Tuesday, we had the opportunity to do some calligraphy, make Animal/Western African masks, learn about biodiversity and we had a go at some creative writing relating to the landscape of specific settings in Africa.

On Wednesday, we completed some performance poetry linked to spirit animals/creatures, made a show out of paper behind a paper stage and learned how to play the djembe drum, as well as learning culturally influenced Ivorian and Ghanaian dancing with two lovely visitors that came into school. The dancing was really fun and enjoyable.

On Thursday, we learned a new rhythm and song with the drumming, and we also learned a new dance and performed it and he taught us a song at the end of the lesson. By the end of Thursday, we even had the chance to create our own stop-motion wildlife documentary!

This week was really fun, enjoyable and fulfilling, and I'm sure we are all thankful to Mr Osbourne for planning challenge week for Year 7 and all the teachers that helped us.

Emily Long



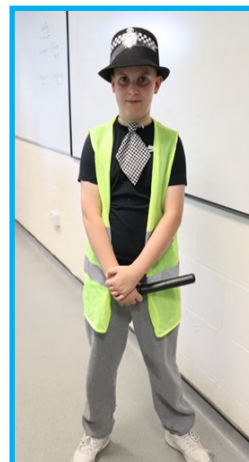
Year 8 Challenge Week

During Challenge Week Year 8 students were involved in a range of Design and Technology, Science and Maths activities.

One day was spent in the Design and Technology Department where they designed a themed area of a theme park. On the Maths day, the students explored the Maths involved in rollercoasters, other rides and theme park design in general. In Science students had a murder to solve and had to do experiments and gather evidence to work out who had committed the crime, using techniques such as chromatography, pH blood spatter, fingerprinting and may more.

On Thursday students were rewarded for all their hard work over the week with a day at Thorpe Park. Scarlett Purtill said the Challenge Week was 'great fun especially the Design bit'. Hayden Myers said that the best bit was going to Thorpe Park and dissecting the heart in Science.

Mrs C Gildea



During Challenge Week, we did a variety of activities related to STEM. On the first day it was Maths day and we planned out the cost of a theme park (we also listened to music). This tested our organisation skills. It was day two and it was now Design day and it was getting difficult, now that we had to design our roller coaster. In my group we decided to have a Star Wars theme park. On the final day before Thorpe Park, it was Science day, we did a dissection of an animal heart to figure out a murder. On Thursday (the best day of the week!!) we went to Thorpe Park and we went on many rides.

I've made lots of memories and I would like to thank all of the teachers who helped to put on such a good week.

Harry Woolston

Year 8 Challenge Week

In Challenge Week, I went to France, and we stayed at Chateau du Baffy. On the first day we went on the ferry and did a lot of travelling on the coach too. When we arrived, we sorted our rooms and then had dinner, which was nice. We made our own lunches every day from different options, so it was nice to have a choice, and they were all really good. On the second day, we went to a war memorial and watched a 360-cinema showing. After that, we went to Arromanche and did some shopping. I bought souvenirs for my family and friends, and I had a really nice ice cream. Then we went to a swimming pool, which was really fun, and we all enjoyed it. On the third day, we went to Bayeux and did some more shopping, which was really fun because we had time to look around with our friends. We saw the cathedral which was really pretty. We also completed a town trail in our workbooks. Then we had a disco after dinner which was really fun. On Thursday, we moved to a new place where we were staying which was a long drive. When we got there, we went to the beach and played games. On Friday it was our last full day in France, and we went to a cider and apple juice farm. It was interesting to see how it was made and to see how long it had been there for. We also got to try some fresh apple juice. After that, we went to a caramel factory and got to see people handmaking it. Then we went to the shop and lots of us bought some caramels or biscuits from there. On the final day, we went to a marketplace near the hotel and bought souvenirs or food. Before we got on the ferry, we stopped off at a hypermarket, which is like a massive supermarket with loads of shops there. We all bought some food and drinks for the ferry. I missed my family when I was there so it was great to see them again when we arrived back home on Saturday night, but I also had so much fun in France and it was one of the best weeks of my life.

Kezia Evans

In Challenge week, I went to France with 39 other people. On the first day we got there and began to unpack. The second day we went to a D-day memorial and walked around. On the same day we went to a 360 cinema about the war and what their lives were like. We went around the town and had the opportunity to buy souvenirs we also went swimming afterwards. On the third day we went Bayeux town and walked around and wrote down in booklets we got about facts we could see as there was a cathedral there and we walked round and also had lunch there that we had to make in the morning after breakfast. On the fourth day we drove to the new place we stayed at and on that evening, we went to a crêpe place and brought crêpes. We also went to the beach and played some games there. On the fifth day we went to an apple cider place where we learnt about apples and how they are produced and also went a caramel factory. On the last day we left on the ferry.

I would like to thank Miss Mousdale for organising the fun trip and all the other teachers (Mrs Over, Mr Forster, Mrs Garcia, Mr Leath and Mrs Connolly) who took us and supervised us so we were as safe as possible.

Millie Bates



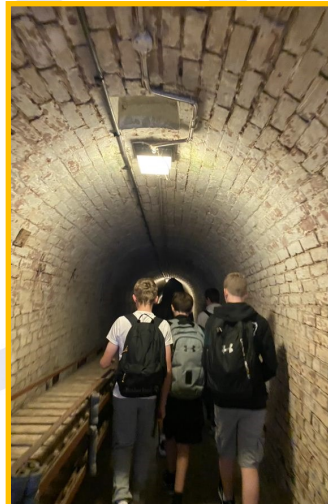
Year 9 Challenge Week

During the first day of Challenge Week, we played some sports such as capture the flag and basketball. We also designed our own flags for our group that we would later use. We also did an RE workshop on Peace and Conflict and a translation activity/treasure hunt with Language teachers. On the second day the GCSE Geography students went to Hayling Island beach and looked at the groynes used to protect the beach. We measured them to see how effective they were. We also did other tests involving the sea such as wave surveys and longshore drift surveys. After that we went to Staunton Park, and we had lunch and followed a map orienteering around the park before going back to school. On the third day we analyzed the data we got from the other day and did some work on it. On the final day of challenge week, we built a den for our group. We went into the woods to get resources to help build it to augment the materials we had already been given by the Geography department. We also had a barbeque where we could have marshmallows over the fire. After the dens were done, we would get tested on how waterproof and how sturdy they were. On behalf of Year 9 students, I would like to thank all the teachers that did this for us and helping us through the week.

Shaun Caffrey

During challenge week the GCSE Historians in Year 9 went to Fort Nelson to further educate themselves on why it was built and when. Fort Nelson was built in 1871 and is located on the very top of Portsdown Hill but is structured low with earth slopes making it hidden; the fort was structured like this to prevent the French from invading Portsmouth through the Dockyard only 8km away. The fort had little gaps in the bricks to make space for guns and cannons to shoot at the opposition. Also, it had several tunnels and stairways leading to gun powder rooms, prisons and rooms for soldiers. It is one of 6 forts built along the 10km ridge. After many years of abandonment after the Crimean war, the fort was sold to Hampshire County Council in 1979 for £50,000. On the same day Year 9 took a bus ride to Portchester Castle. Although its exterior appearance seems to be only ruins, it was originally built as a Roman fort. It is, also, part of a series of coastal forts and was built during the 3rd Century which was built to defend Roman Britain from Savage Saxon pirates raiding the land. Throughout time this castle has been occupied for different uses and by 1066 it was claimed as a Norman castle. However, it is uncertain when this castle was built. The manor of Portchester castle was given to William Maudit an associate of William the Conqueror.

Ola Rabi



For Year 9 students who went to camp, we did many fun and different activities we would not have access to in places near our school or even in Portsmouth. Activities we experienced included rock climbing, abseiling, and crate stack. Some of the more popular activities was the nightline, instructed by Mr Smith, who put on his best fake accent, which proved popular! The group overall bonded especially during the evening free time, playing various sports and other games to keep us entertained until we had to retreat into the tents for the night. As a year group, we would like to thank Mr Wade for his amazing organization and time that he put into making this experience the best it could be for everyone and a big thank you to the other teachers for volunteering to supervise our trip and making it as fun and safe as possible.

Riyana Shingdia

New Student Leaders 2022

In order to rejuvenate student leadership opportunities at Oaklands, we took another look at how we recruit and utilise our sixth form students when they show interest in leading. In previous years we have opened up nominations for all Year 12s to apply for the Headboy or Headgirl role. Sometimes we have appointed two Headboys, sometimes two Headgirls but essentially those two roles have been the only leadership positions. It occurred to us that we were losing all of the other potential leadership brilliance in those who were nominated.

For the 2022-23 cohort we implemented a new improved process. All those who applied for a Student Leader position in Year 12 were interviewed by both a Year 7 Student panel (who were duly terrifying) and Mr Quinn himself. They were asked about their plans as Student Leaders and what their legacy to Oaklands would be. As if that was not enough, they then had to carry out investigations following School Council's student reports from the March School Council meeting. All suggestions that had been made by the student body were followed up and the potential leaders made a report that fed back to us in Sixth Form to see how well they had identified solutions. We looked at the conversations they might have had with staff and the initiative and creativity they showed in problem-solving.



Finally, a short list from the squad of student leadership nominees were asked to put themselves forward for an election. A vote was held across school involving all students, staff and Senior Leadership. After all of this we have a new President and Deputy President of the Students at Oaklands. **We are all thrilled to congratulate the excellent Blessing Okani as Student President for 2022-3.** Blessing is bright, articulate, very well-organised and a perfect role model for all Oaklands students. She has already taken a lead working with Mr Sumba on the Affinity Group work and is making effective plans for next academic year too. **Her Deputy is Jem Jeffery**, effortlessly charming and kind, Jem also represents an exemplary role model to younger students with his academic and sporting pursuits and all round good nature. We know we are in good hands with Blessing and

Jem. Blessing and Jem will lead the Sixth Form students in a number of opportunities as well as taking centre stage in the events next year representing the whole student body and Oaklands in general. We are proud and honoured to have them!

Year 13 Leavers' Dinner

Our top leavers' event was preceded by a beautiful Mass in Oaklands' school chapel celebrated by Father Mark. We had almost a full turn out of beautifully dressed Year 13 students and as staff, we were delighted to return to something like normality with a social event being allowed to take place. We lost our Leavers Dinner for both 2020 and 2021. This year we found a new venue at the Queen's Hotel in Southsea. The fabulous Elizabeth Room in the recently refurbished Queen's was the elegant setting. It was a warm evening and our excited diners mingled on the terraces before coming in for a sit down meal. Staff and students dined together after which each tutor group made a speech about their respective tutor, extolling their virtues and giving a beautiful gift. This year group are the final one for whom a lockdown took place during their sixth form stint but the resilience and energy that these young people have shown does them credit. We are confident in their next steps in the world and look forward to A Level results day on 18 August to usher in their post 18 destinations!



Year 11 Taster Day

Traditionally ex-Year 11s join Sixth Form for a day of lessons in July so that they can meet their new peers and have a taste of what Sixth Form at Oaklands will bring. Ostensibly trying out their subjects, in reality this event is for students to meet and greet as well as enjoying a tasty burger at lunchtime with the epic barbecue on the sunken lawn. **President Blessing Okani and Deputy Jem Jeffery** introduced themselves and gave Year 11s a little briefing about what to expect in September.

From the Chair of Governors

With the improved weather and the onset of the summer holiday period, the disruption and anxieties of the past couple of years seem to be confined more to the past than part of our present and the return to school this September will be the most 'normal' it has for some time. Recent reports of increasing Covid cases do highlight that we must remain vigilant and look out for one another and I thank everyone – in school and out – for all that they have done to comply with changing restrictions, ongoing incidences and the continuing need to employ the many means at our disposal to live safely with COVID in our community.



As ever there will be change in the school come the new term and most notable is the departure this month of two of our longest serving members of staff and good friends to us all. Dr Annette Howson (Deputy Head) and Mrs Belinda Ludlum (Head of Sixth Form) will be very much missed and on behalf of the Local Governing Body and the Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust I thank them for all that they have done over the years and wish them every success for the future.

I have also recently bid farewell to one of our Foundation Governors, Mrs Teresa Hudson, who stepped down after 3 years on the LGB. In a relatively short time she established herself as a dedicated, knowledgeable and highly effective member of the Board and will leave a gap that will be hard to fill. Teresa, thank you and best wishes from us all.

I have 'advertised' previously for new governors and do so again. The school cannot run effectively without good governance and so I ask anyone who might be interested in volunteering as a Foundation Governor to look at the information posted to the Governance page of the website www.oaklandscatholicschool.org/about-us/governance/ and get in touch with me (chairofgovernors@oaklandscatholicschool.org) or our Clerk to Governors, Mrs Claire Colley, (C.Colley@oaklandscatholicschool.org) for a chat about what this means to us and what it would mean to you.

You will all be aware that in the penultimate week of term we were visited by Ofsted for what is described as a Section 8 Inspection, the purpose of which is to confirm whether the school remains good or outstanding. The school's last inspection was in January 2017 and then we were assessed as good. The report and final assessment will hopefully be delivered to the school within the next 2 to 3 weeks and posted to the Ofsted website at the same time. Suffice to say, the school was well prepared in all areas and the inspectors saw all they wanted. Again I must thank Mr Quinn and the Senior Leadership for responding so brilliantly to the advisory call received the day before the inspectors arrived at the school. But also, all staff and students who met with the inspectors did everything that could be expected of them – thank you.

So it just remains for me to say wish everyone a very pleasant summer and that I very much look forward to seeing many more of you in and around the school in the 2022/23 academic year.

With my very best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marc Evans', followed by a horizontal line.

Marc Evans

Waterlooville Music Festival

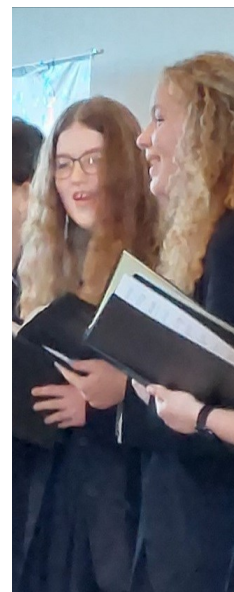


On Wednesday 15 June, I went to the Waterlooville Music Festival with Sing Squad. IT WAS AMAZING! We went on the minibus to St George's Church in Waterlooville. First we all rehearsed the songs and then we got to perform. There were some solos and then Sing Squad sang Under the Sea, Walking on Sunshine, God Save the Queen and lastly Dancing Queen. We went back to school in time for Period 5. It was great fun!

Sage, Year 7

I really enjoyed the Music Festival - it was so much fun! Everyone was really nice and gave us lots of compliments. The performances were incredible.

Chloe, Year 7



On Wednesday 15 June we went to the Waterlooville Music Festival where Sing Squad performed with Mrs Richardson. There were some soloists on instruments and singing too. My favourites were Under the Sea and the flute solo.

Emily, Year 7

Havant Symphony Orchestra



On Saturday, I was fortunate to see Havant Symphony Orchestra perform in our school hall. They gave a spectacular concert including an amazing violin solo in Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto in D Major. All the pieces were very enjoyable to listen to. Overall the concert was an outstanding opportunity that will benefit my class and I in our Music GCSE.

Jemima, Year 9

I have always been a performer right from the age of 6, but today I was part of the audience watching Havant Symphony Orchestra perform for their 60th Anniversary Concert. We took our seats and watched the school hall fill to capacity as the musicians set up their instruments. The concert began and a silent audience was enraptured by an intriguing performance consisting of Dukass and Berlioz. What captivated me most was the evening's solist, Melina Mandozzi. She played continuously for 20 minutes without referring to any sheet music. During the interval, I sneaked backstage to ask the performers if I could join, but sadly they told me I had to be over 18. In another six years, you never know, you might see me play with them! It was truly an inspiring performance.

Neyalla, Year 7

We have a wonderful team of Visiting Music (Peripatetic) Teachers at Oaklands, with some staff even having waiting lists, but don't let that put you off! Students can choose to be taught in groups, ranging from 2 to 4 students, or individually.

Lessons are available on Strings, (violin, viola, cello), Brass, (trumpet, trombone, French horn, tenor horn, tuba, euphonium), Woodwind (flute, clarinet, saxophone, recorder), Guitars (classical, electric, bass), Keyboard (piano, electronic keyboard), Voice and Drum Kit.

We are particularly keen to promote Violin and Brass lessons and we have a number of these instruments that can be borrowed from the Music Department so you don't need to worry about the cost of purchasing an instrument for the first term or so. It may be useful to know that instruments can be bought through the school, free of VAT using the Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme (AIPS). This is a Government initiative designed to increase the number of students learning to play an instrument. There are certain conditions that have to be met to benefit from this initiative and if any parent wishes to take up this opportunity then they should email Mrs S Richardson for details.

The cost for individual lessons is £180.00 per term and group lessons are charged at £89.00 per term. Students receive 32 lessons across the academic year. Please contact Mrs Richardson or the Finance Office for further details.

A letter with more details and application form can be found on the Oaklands website via this link: [Music Tuition Letter \(Autumn 2022\)](#)

Some of our talented musicians performing to our new Year 7 students on their Induction Day.



Year 10 Geography Trip

Geography students in Year 10 visited East Wittering and West Wittering on either the Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday after Challenge Week, as part of their Geography course. This was a valuable trip for us, as we will be examined on our fieldwork experiences in a GCSE paper at the end of Year 11.

In the morning we all took the coach down to West Wittering, where we examined the effect that longshore drift had on the beach. We mainly focused on the groynes there: they trap the sediment carried from longshore drift and help to build up the beach.



We measured the drops from the top of each of the groynes to beach level on either side to see if they were working effectively. We also learnt about how managers have protected the coast in that location over the years.

We found it strange that decision makers have opted to abandon the hard management strategies at the Hinge – the most vulnerable part of the spit.

“The sea is already eroding this area and I am not sure that it will develop into a wider and shallower beach, which is what they are hoping to happen. I wouldn’t be surprised if the sea breaches the spit in the not too distant future.”

After our lunch break, we travelled to East Wittering where we completed a human geography study. Our aim was to ascertain whether tourism is important to the economy of East Wittering. In order to make this judgement, we conducted a questionnaire survey in which we asked members of the public where they were from, how long they were staying and which facilities they would be using.

In addition, we conducted a land use survey of the area to attempt to determine the importance of tourism to the local economy (ie. was there a high proportion of buildings that cater primarily for tourists, rather than locals?).

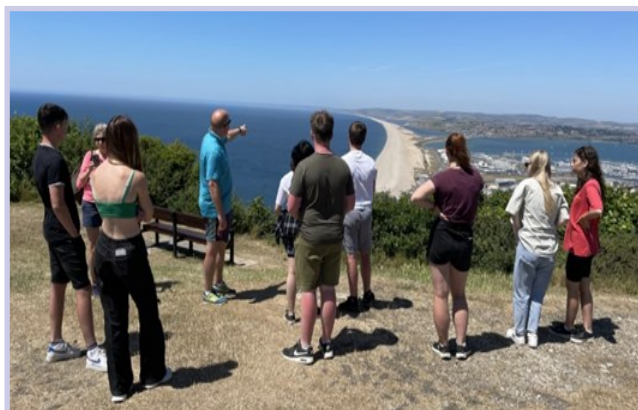
We enjoyed the trip and we look forward to completing the associated follow-up work.



Mrs U Broadway and the Geography Team

The advancement of Geographical skills, studying coastal case studies and experiencing fieldwork were the reasons for the recent trip to the Isle of Purbeck for our Year 12 Geography students. The students were accompanied by Mrs Broadway, Mrs Quinn and Mr Bamford and stayed at Swanage YHA.

Day 1: Students studied how coastal management has been conducted along Christchurch Bay from Hengistbury Head to Hurst Castle Spit. The cliffs at Barton-On-Sea and Highcliffe suffer from rotational slumping and this location is quoted in almost every textbook, so it was



really useful for our students to actually see what was happening there. Following a brief lunch stop at Mudeford spit, students drove through Bournemouth and on to Studland via the Sandbanks ferry. The students studied the sand dunes there and tested the concept of vegetation succession and how effective management is in preserving them. Late in the afternoon, the geology of the Purbeck coast was explored as the students were shown Old Harry Rocks at the chalk headland of Handfast Point. Many could not believe that this band of chalk once joined with the Needles on the Isle of Wight forming a land bridge before sea levels rose after the last Ice Age.

Day 2: The importance of the Geology along the coast from Exmouth in Devon to Old Harry Rocks in Dorset has resulted in the area being branded a 'UNESCO World Heritage site' and as such puts the area on a par with places such as the Grand Canyon and the Great Barrier Reef. The importance of the area was not lost on the students as they explored Durdle Door, Lulworth Cove and Stair Hole. We also visited Portland Bill, discussed the raised beach there and examined Chesil Beach which connects the island of Portland to the mainland. The students examined whether the textbook theories associated with beach



formation occurred at Ringstead Bay by collecting data. We also focussed on human Geography by visiting Poundbury on the outskirts of Dorchester. Poundbury is an experimental new town/extension of Dorchester, with a design endorsed by Prince Charles on whose land it is built. The students had mixed feelings about the settlement, but it was certainly of interest.

Day 3: The final morning was spent around Swanage. The students surveyed the groynes along the beach to see if they were effective in building up the beach and examined rates of longshore drift.

The experiences on the trip were designed to provide students with data for their coursework. Some students will use this data in their study, but others will simply replicate the techniques in a study area of their choice between now and the end of the year. The report that is produced is worth 20% of their A level. These students have been out for a day trip to West Wittering beach in December, but this was the first time that the Geography department have been out on residential fieldwork since the pandemic.

Mr M Bamford

Getting the basics right with uniform is a good indicator of a student's level of commitment, co-operation and a sense of pride about being part of the school community. Our staff work hard to uphold the rules regarding uniform and we would be very grateful if you could reiterate those rules at home and check that they leave the house looking smart.

At Oaklands we insist on high standards of uniform; there are regular uniform checks in tutor time and parents will be contacted if full and correct uniform is not being worn.

If parents have any specific issues around uniform please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

Please refer to our website for more information about Skoolkit opening hours and online ordering service.

- **Blazers** are compulsory and must be worn to and from school. Please ensure your son/daughter is wearing it correctly when they leave the house (and it is not rolled up in their bag).
- **Jumpers** are optional in the summer term due to warmer weather. A trend in the wearing of the female jumper has developed – girls have taken to tucking their jumpers into their skirts. This is not acceptable and they will be asked to untuck them. Please ensure they leave the home without their jumper tucked in.
- **Boys' Trousers** should be navy blue, formal tailored trousers. Skinny fit / super skinny fit trousers are not acceptable. Slim fit are acceptable.
Parents are warned NOT to buy cotton mix chino style trousers as you will be asked to replace them.
- **Skirts** should be navy blue, with sewn down pleats all around. We face an ever-present battle with our female students regarding the length of their skirts. Many girls roll up their waistbands and this results in skirt lengths which are not appropriate for a mixed learning environment.
Please help us to help you – buy sufficiently long skirts, check the waistband before the girls leave home. We will insist that they roll them down.
- **Socks** - students should wear ankle socks and or/ tights.
Knee high socks are not allowed to be worn.
- **Shoes** – students are required to wear black flat proper shoes; girls' heels should be no more than two inches. There has been a recent fashion of students wearing canvas casual shoes or leather trainers / trainer style shoes– this is not acceptable and contravenes the uniform regulations and has health and safety implications due to the type of sole. The shoes should be leather, not suede.
- **Coats** - for inclement weather, parents may purchase a plain (without logo) appropriate school coat, preferably navy or black to be worn over the blazer. Denim, leather or leather look jackets are not acceptable. Hoodies/sweatshirts/gillets are not considered an acceptable item of school uniform.
Non-uniform items of clothing which are repeatedly worn into school despite verbal warnings will be confiscated.
- **Scarves** - should be in appropriate school colours and not linked to any football team. Students will be asked to remove any non-regulation item of uniform.
- **Cosmetics** – makeup, false tan, nail varnish/Shellac/ artificial nails are all prohibited. Staff have been equipped with cleansers/removers and students will be ordered to remove these forms of cosmetics.
Nails should be kept as short as possible to aid good hand washing technique.

- **Jewellery** – students are permitted to wear a simple cross and chain, a watch and ONE pair of plain stud earrings in the LOBE. Other body piercings, ie nose, eyebrow, tongue, bellybutton, upper ear are not permitted and students will be ordered to remove them. Items which do not conform to our regulations will be confiscated.
Please note that if a student gets their ears pierced during term time they will be asked to remove them for PE for health and safety reasons; we can no longer allow students to tape them up. Refusal to remove them will result in an after school detention. We advise getting any piercing done at the start of the summer holidays to avoid any issues.
- **Hair** - exaggerated, coloured, or bleached hairstyles are not acceptable at Oaklands. This includes beading and extreme colouring/highlights. Excessively long and excessively short hair styles are considered exaggerated and are not acceptable. Hair must not hide the face – all features must be visible. Long hair must be tied up for PE.
For parents' guidance, haircuts should be of no less than a Grade 2 on any part of the head. All boys should be clean shaven. Hair accessories must be navy, royal blue or white.



SANCTIONS:

- Verbal warning to correct uniform - this will be logged on Class Charts
- If there are five logs for poor or incorrect uniform in one week a HOY DT will be set
- Email home to parents with a warning that if no improvement next step will be uniform monitoring
- Student placed in uniform monitoring
- If there is still no improvement a student will be set an SLT extended detention
- If student fails to correct their uniform following these interventions, a Fixed Period Exclusion will be put in place for 'Persistent Disruptive Behaviour'.

Oaklands Friends' and Parents Association (OFPA) Second Hand Uniform

DONATIONS

Please donate any good quality, clean school uniform on Monday 18 July

SHOP

The shop will be open between 2.00-4.00pm on Thursday 25 August.

We are not taking orders, just turn up to see what we have available in stock.

Payment preferably by Scopay although cash /cheques will be accepted.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

There has been a lot going on since our last report. With the exception of a Gold Assessed expedition still to be completed, both Silver and Bronze groups have completed two expeditions.

At Easter four Silver groups tackled a particularly hilly area of the South Downs for their practice expedition, camping for two nights at Cocking.



Group approaching Old Harry Rocks



Once public examinations had been completed these Silver groups enjoyed a three day assessed expedition on the Isle of Purbeck. The weather was kind and groups encountered a range of terrain from hills to heathland, which they found the most difficult to navigate as there are few features, to the coast path and beach.

At the conclusion of the expedition each group is expected to do a Presentation to complete this section. Group 4 had chosen to create a blog of their expedition. This was one of the most amusing and extremely honest account of the trials and tribulations of expeditions.

A short extract is quoted here:

Day 2 - We got lost. Again. But this time it was very bad. We took a wrong turn and this one lead us to a 2 hour long struggle to get back on track. Yet somehow, by a miracle perhaps, we took a route that lead us to our very confused assessors, who were just as confused as us when we appeared.

We switched around navigators to allow for the sharing of responsibilities and set off on the long route home. Yet, disaster struck again. As we were close to the track that would lead us straight back, there was a parade of tractors!! Over 120 passed and blocked our way for 25 minutes. Mrs Hoar came to our rescue in a chariot bathed in a gold light and took us back to end our adventurous and tiring day.....

Day 3 - We made it to the end!! We made friends and we didn't get lost, for once. We're so happy :).

It is very pleasing to report that the following have now completed their Silver Award. Many congratulations to them:

Claudia Bury	Edward Gamble	Zoe Ganado	Emile Hantrais-Smith
Adam Hazell	Joshua Jahans	Delia Jose	Michelle Kedra-Wolinska
Adetiwa Lamidi	Scarlett Madden	Amy Robertson	Milan Sani
Anjana Shaju	Esther Tuttle	Aimee Walker	Bethany Woolhead

We very much hope to see the other eight participants complete over the summer.

The nine Bronze groups have not been idle!
They completed a training expedition in May where valuable lessons were learned, particularly about what to pack, in readiness for their assessed expedition in June. The weather was not always kind (training) but at least the waterproofs got tested and the sun came out for a glorious evening on the campsite (assessed).



We are very proud that out of the 59 participants 45 of them have already completed their Bronze Award. Congratulations to:

Omoniyi Akintunde	Alexander Aquino	Gabriella Baker	Shane Blastique
Jamie Bowbrick	Abigail Bramble	Emily Bramble	Emily Bray
Oscar Brossier	Anna Bryant-Philpott	Cerys Colley	Isabelle Cryer
Sophie Cunningham	Maria Danan	Dylan Dunaway	Rihanna Edmonds
Erin Freeman	Jonathan Fry	Oliver Groves	Grace Harris
Isabelle Hook	Emily Howford	Matthew Hull	Samuel Jones
Maximilian Lacy	James Lane	Lillian May	Andra-Maria Mahut
Blake Morgan	Hannah Newton	Hannah Oliver	Victoria Parker
Andrew Pearson	Olivia Perdu	Lisa Pimlott	Cheska Pua
Hannah Rose	Amelia Rowe	Eva Townsin	Michael Tracey
Amelia Vaccaro	Callum Vowles	Katie Wintle	Brooklyn Woods
Jessica Woolhead			

Come on the other 14 – it would be great to have a 100% completion.

Finally the Gold group have also camped for the first time (this was the group who completed their Bronze and Silver Awards without being able to camp due to pandemic restrictions). They had a beautiful three days on Dartmoor over Easter where most unusually you could see where you were headed each day!



On the clapper bridge
at Postbridge



More recently the Golds enjoyed some mountain experience in the Brecon Beacons, climbing to the highest point Pen-y-Fan although this time they had to battle low cloud.

Great care was needed around the sheer drops but they finished safely on the bridge after a steep descent.

Their assessed expedition takes place at the end of August on Exmoor at the conclusion of which we will hope to have some Gold Awards completed.

In May this year, several students returned to receive their Gold Awards at Buckingham Palace (the ceremony having been postponed due to the pandemic).

Emily Chatfield, Finn Harrison, Emily Perdu, Lottie Beaton, Lloyd Hastilow and Tom Ferris all completed their awards in 2019.

Alys Hantrais-Smith and Douglas Quinn were part of another group whose participation was affected by the pandemic and lockdown and finally completed his award in 2020.



Our thanks to all supervisors and assessors who forfeited weekends to ensure the success of these D of E groups. Mr T Brinnen, Mr P Smith, Mrs F Quinn, Mr P Hoar, Mr J Turner, Mrs N Riddle, Mr R Jones, Mr C Wade, Mrs P Darch, Ms S Johnson and Mr T Sullivan. Without their support none of this would be possible.

Mrs J Hoar

News from St John's, Korogocho

The new academic year began in Korogocho back in April – at a time when we were just emerging from the season of Lent and returning for the Summer term.

Summer is a season of revitalisation, optimism and hope for the future. The Gospel teaches us that this is also a time of strength and to love our lives to the full – embracing all that nature has to offer and being joyous in capturing the spirit of life. St John's have been focusing on this during their first term of the academic year – teaching students about the prominence of colour in the Liturgical calendar something we also pride ourselves on here at Oaklands). July is a time for marvellous greens, reflecting growth and maturity of crops planted in the Spring. This symbol of hope is the colour of the sprouting seed and arouses the faithful hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.

The Headteacher of St John's (Mr Geoffrey Opondo) expressed most recently that the students are thriving now that the new year has begun – allowing students the access to education that they so desperately desire. In our most recent correspondence, he offered his thanks for our continued support:

"Greetings in the name of God, I hope you are doing well. We closed schools for term one break which will last only one week – starting from 1st July 2022 and reopening on 11th July. Everyone here is doing well except one of our staff teachers who is struggling with liver ailment in the hospital. We will also have a very short term since we will have to break in order to pave way for the forthcoming general elections in August 2022. Our continued partnership means so much to the staff and students here at St John's. We appreciate your continued support to our children; may the Almighty God continue adding more in the hands that donates."

We have all had a time to reflect on a joyous start to the year – especially those at St John's, ensuring learners have the best possible opportunity to access their education and continue their learning journey. With the upcoming summer break for Oaklands, we have an opportunity to rest, recuperate and recalibrate ourselves – starting afresh for the new academic year. Pope Francis recently commented on the power of the summer as *"the perfect opportunity to delve into this prayer, and a providential moment to enhance our commitment to seek and encounter the Lord. In this period, students are free from scholastic duties and many families are taking their vacation; it's important that in the time of rest and detachment from daily concerns, they can re-energize the forces of body and spirit, deepening their spiritual path."*

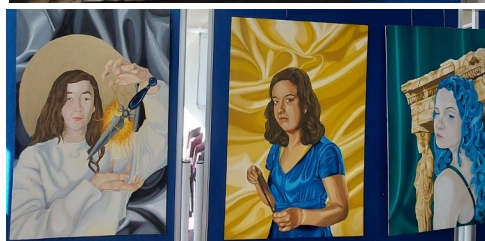
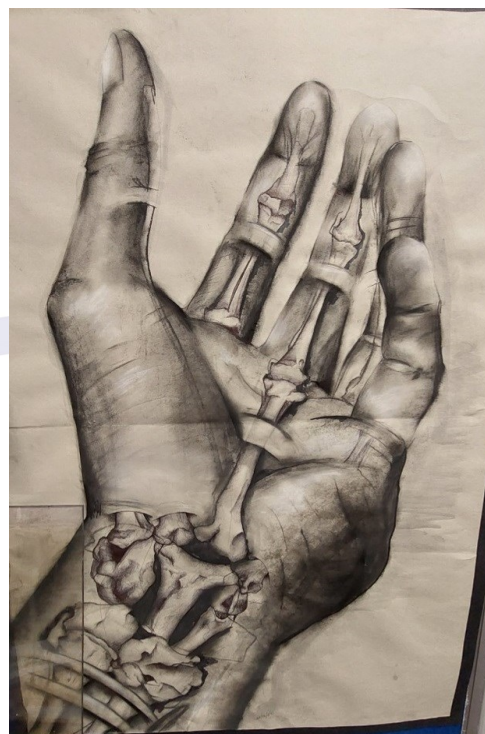
I will leave you with this piece of scripture from Psalms 113:3: *"You have set all the borders of the earth; you have made summer and winter. From the rising of the sun, to its going down, the Lord's name is to be praised."*

Have a wonderful summer and thank you for your continued support,

Mr C Osbourne



On 21st June the Design Department held their Annual Art and Photography Exhibition. It was a great event, attended by students, their families and staff and a chance for our talented students to celebrate all their hard work and get to see their creativity on display in all it's glory.



Future Artists' Exhibition



In July, our Year 12 Art and Photography Students exhibited their work at the University of Chichester Future Artists' Exhibition.

This event was a showcase of local schools and colleges Year 12 work.

Ellie Borek, Marianne Shaul, Ethan Maniebo and Julia Sajkowska had their artwork displayed.

Congratulations to Ethan Maniebo who won a special award.

On Friday 23rd June Year 10 and Year 12 Design and Technology students were fortunate enough to attend the “Better by Design” seminar hosted by Dick Powell (Co-Founder of Seymour) at the Festival of Speed.

The first speaker was Richard Joseph, co-founder of Joseph Joseph, who design and manufacture products for the home. He explained how he and his brother set up the company, their design philosophy and showed students some case studies of the work that they have done. This includes their work redesigning the humble and not very hygienic toilet brush.

The second speaker was Richard Searle, who spoke about the work that he has done as a consultant with Seymour Powell. He was able to show students a video of the concept Virgin Galactic spacecraft his company produced 12 years ago and compared this with the footage of the final craft that will take Richard Branson into space this weekend. Richard also shared work from a variety of projects he has worked on involving Artificial Intelligence and how he uses VR to design.

The final speaker was from JCB and he gave an overview of the work that, as Design director he does overseeing the complex design of JCB products.

All of the speakers spoke about the variety of routes to designing as a career and provided great inspiration for our students. Students also had time to experience all the Festival of Speed has to offer, including the Red Arrows display.

Mrs C Gildea



Jubilee Party



The Learning Support Department surprised us with a party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The department was decorated with flags and bunting. There were lots of activities including 'Pin the Crown on the Queen' and a Ping Pong Commonwealth Countries game.

We had lots to eat and drink including Victoria sponge, crisps and even a corgi cake!

In one of the classrooms there is an amazing display celebrating the Jubilee and showing how things have changed during the Queen's reign.

I really enjoyed the party because we were able to relax and let all our stress go for an hour.

I have one question – when is the next party Mrs Rowsell?

Pana Sakutukwa



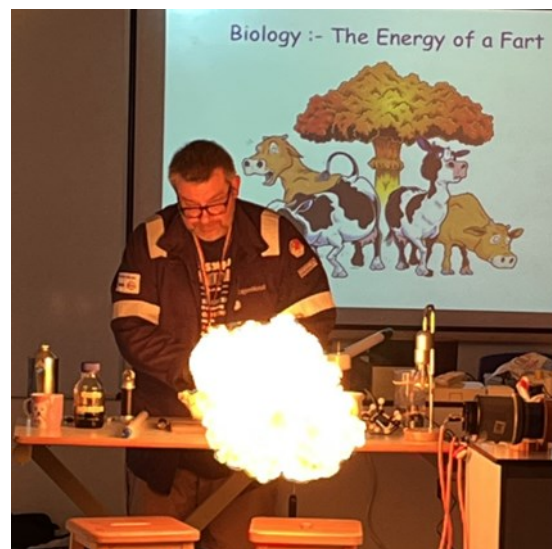
Year 8 STEM Day 25th May 2022

Another successful straw tower building day took place in the Science department with students pulling out engineering and creative skills to build towers that were as tall as possible, aesthetically attractive and able to withstand earthquake conditions. Students were also treated to a show from Eddie Henbury (Exon Mobil) who wowed staff and students alike with his gadgets and explosions. Towers were tested using a specially designed rig which mimicked earthquake conditions but since many fulfilled these criteria, Science teachers had to make judgements based on creative design, tower height and information on the posters created.



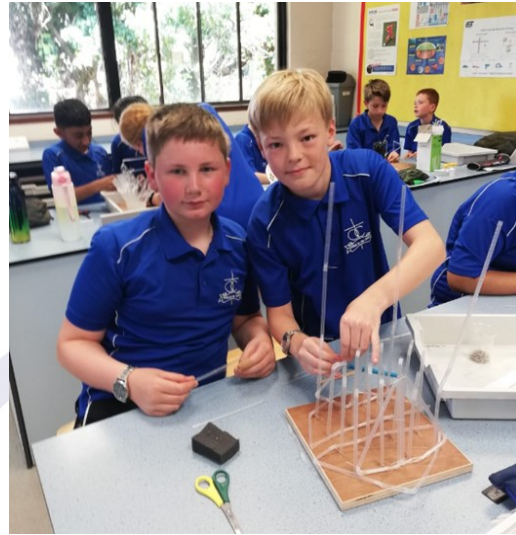
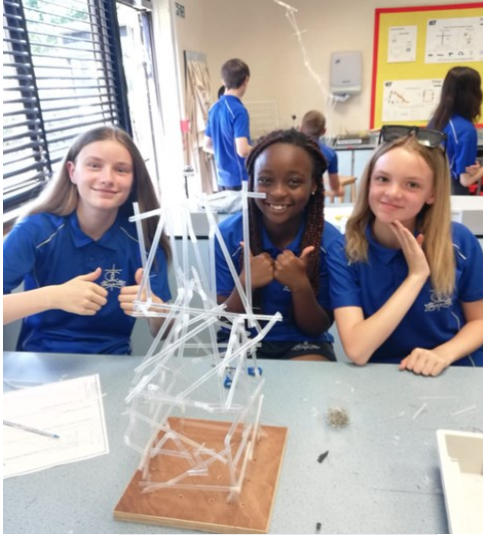
Eddie Henbury (Exon Mobil)

Eddie has been a regular visitor to Oaklands, delivering his exciting show which helps to contextualise Science across a wide range of areas such as Electricity (including static), Crude oil and Hydrocarbons, impact of polluting gases on the atmosphere, Sound waves and many other aspects including the Bernoulli effect. Lots of year 10 and 11 students were treated to the show on 27th April to help boost their knowledge and prepare them for GCSEs. There was lots of hair-raising interaction which raised lots of laughs. A great day thanks to Eddie.



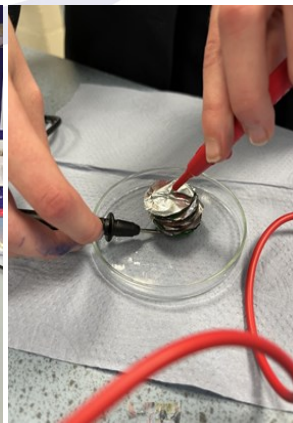
Year 7 STEM Day 17th June 2022

Year 7 were off-timetable for three lessons to build straw towers also. They worked extremely well in small teams, impressing Science teachers with their understanding of how to strengthen the towers by using triangular shapes and a wide base.



Year 8 STEM Club – Big Bang Fair Trip 24th June 2022

Following on from the success of winning the regional Climate Change competition, the Year 8 STEM club students involved were treated to a trip to the Big Bang Fair at Birmingham NEC. This was an opportunity for the students to visit a variety of organisations and find out more about applications of STEM as well as STEM careers. Most of the stalls were interactive and hosted by experts in their fields. There were opportunities to enter competitions and collect resources that would be useful at home/school and learn about technology and how it has developed over time. Some of the supporters included The British Army, NHS, Rolls Royce, The National Grid, Birmingham University, Specsavers and The Gatsby Foundation. Students and teachers were feeling very inspired by the end of the visit and ready for a slap-up evening meal that was included as part of their prize. It was a great day, well worth the early start and long journey.



The Year 8 STEM club participated the Royal Society of Chemistry's Global Challenge during the summer term. Students from around the world assembled batteries made from metal and cardboard discs and various solutions to create an electrochemical cell. They had to test various parameters including the number of cells in series, different electrolytes and different metals and then enter results on the RCS Global Challenge website. It was an excellent opportunity to learn

how batteries are made but also to see data generated by students across the globe.

Year 12 RSC Analyst Competition

Twenty-three Year 12 Chemistry students and one Biology student got together in teams of 2-3 to enter the Royal Society of Chemistry's Schools' Analyst Competition (in collaboration with Northumbria University).

The Schools' Analyst Competition enables students to demonstrate and expand on existing chemistry knowledge, skills, and aptitude for analytical science through practical experiments based on relevant problems, and provides some tasks which are familiar, and others which may be unfamiliar or require additional research. In this competition they were acting as analytical chemists employed to help with the transformation of a family-owned fish and chip restaurant which was hoping to source ingredients more locally in order to reduce their carbon footprint. The students had to analyse the local flour, potatoes, and vinegar for qualities associated with truly excellent fish and chips using a variety of analytical tests and then report the results before the deadline. Students worked independently in their free time and had to follow instructions very carefully as stocks of ingredients were limited.

Sadly, none of the teams scored highly enough to make it through to the national round but big congratulations to Amisha Reby, Anns Biju and Beatrice Byju who were the Oaklands team with the highest score.

All students receive a certificate of participation and gained valuable experience which is complimentary to the A-level Chemistry curriculum.



Excellence in
S.T.E.M.
@ Oaklands

On 15th and 23rd June, Year 7 embarked on a pilgrimage to the Sacred Heart Church. Walking from Oaklands, (Cohort 2 in glorious sunshine and Cohort 1 in the pouring rain!) we arrived to be warmly greeted by Fr Jeremy who gave an informative talk about the history of the Sacred Heart Church and the legacy of the founding nuns. Students then worked through a jam-packed activity booklet in small groups.

The students behaved impeccably and made the most of the opportunity to ask as many questions as possible as well as taking moments to reflect and complete their task booklet.

We finished our pilgrimage by celebrating Mass alongside parishioners; the students' voices lifted everyone's spirits with of course, 'Sing it in the Valleys' to close.

It was a privilege to spend the day with such polite, enthusiastic and spiritually inquisitive students.

RE Department



"On Thursday 23rd June we walked to Sacred Heart Church. We completed activities around the church like: what the different chairs were and who they were for, we counted how many Stations of the Cross there were and what they meant...and so many more tasks! I saw many things like: the baptismal font, statues of Jesus and the Virgin Mary, the altar which was beautiful and so many more sacred items. As a community we took part in Mass, we sang hymns, said prayers and celebrated the Eucharist together. I really loved this pilgrimage to the Sacred Heart Church it was super fun with the rest of my year and the people we met at church. However the only thing that could have been better is if the rain could have turned to sunshine for us"

Scarlett Hook

"We arrived to the Sacred Heart after a short thirty minute walk. When we got there, we were greeted by a luxurious view of the church. We completed multiple activities, completed a booklet, had a little break, had a look around the church and attended Mass. We saw lots of beautiful artworks like a statue of Mary, stained glass windows, the crucifix, and a marble altar. I liked how clean they kept the church and did not let a bit of dust get on anything. Everybody was very welcoming"

Zachary Kelly

From the Chaplain

This year getting back to normality has been a wonderful opportunity for the Chapel at Oaklands.

The year started with meeting the Year 7s. They had the opportunity to have some lessons with Miss Heath about what Mass is and how we celebrate it. This was followed by their own tutor group Mass where everyone in the group had the chance to get involved in the Mass by either reading, serving, preparing or singing. Mass is often celebrated as a whole school at Oaklands, this can be a bit daunting for Year 7s which is why the tutor group chapel masses really helped them to participate in Mass and experience it in so much detail.



We have finally been able to use the Chapel again with big groups! This has meant more clubs, prayer and worship. Miss Heath started a Prayer and Craft club which has been very popular with Year 7 and Year 8. They have had the opportunity to create friendship bracelets, book marks, glass paintings and mugs! This helped everyone to settle back together in groups and for old friends to reunite and new friends to meet!

After several years Bishop Philip hosted the Portsmouth Diocesan Schools Mass which truly was wonderful. Miss Heath attended with twelve Oaklands students who helped sing at the mass and represented the school. This was then followed by ice creams and a picnic in the park with other schools from the Diocese.



Mission Days are back! Next year we are hoping to have Mission Days for each year group. This allows students to grow deeper in their faith, hear from outside speakers and team build. The theme for our Year 8s this year was St Oscar Romero and to stand up for faith, especially persecuted Christians around the world.

“This year has been my first year as a Chaplain at Oaklands! I could not have asked for a better welcome from all the students. It has been wonderful to meet such enthusiastic Year 7s who are always keen to help at Mass. I look forward to meeting the new Year 7s in September and to offer support for the current Year 10s who will be doing their GCSEs next year. God bless you all and have a safe and restful summer.”

Miss J Heath

Athletics Success

On 24th May, the Year 9 and Year 10 Athletics Team competed in the district qualifier.

The team came third overall with a number of excellent individual performances. Several students qualified to represent the district in County finals:

Emma Smart	800m
Kitty Brydon	800m
Eve Mengham	Shotput
Finlay Furlong	Triple Jump / 800m
Lizzy Moore	Javelin / Long Jump
Brencis Imaze Ehi	High Jump
Onjoro Sumba	400m

Lizzy Moore equalled the school long jump record and Eve Mengham beat the school record for the shotput.

Congratulations to all involved!



Reading Challenge



Over the summer holidays, the English department are going to be running an 'Extreme Reading' competition. Extreme reading is reading your book somewhere funny, inventive or creative (check out the examples from staff and students!).

The purpose? To encourage reading for pleasure!

To enter, you simply need to take a photo of yourself reading (the more unusual the better!) and send it to us via email, Facebook or Instagram by Friday 3rd September.

Email: h.bell@oaklandscatholicschool.org
 FB: Oaklands English department
 Insta: @oaklandsenglishdept

Happy reading and good luck!

Mrs Bell



Term Dates 2022-2023

Autumn Term 2022
Half Term:

Thursday 1st September to Friday 16th December 2022
Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October

Spring Term 2023
Half Term:

Tuesday 3rd January to Friday 31st March 2023
Monday 13th - Friday 17th February

Summer Term 2023
Half Term:

Monday 17th April to Wednesday 19th July 2023
Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June

INSET Days:

Thursday 1st September, Friday 2nd September
Friday 25th November, Friday 16th December ,
Wednesday 19th July 2023

Student Return:

Monday 5th September 2022, phased return for Year 7 and Year 12
Tuesday 6th September, phased return for Year 7, Year 12 and 13
Wednesday 7th September, all students to return

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

**** REMINDER ****

Year 13 and Year 11 Collection of Examination Results

Year 13 Thursday 18 August 8.00-12.00noon

Year 11 Thursday 25 August 10.00-12.00noon

Further information can be found on our website via the following link:
[Exam Results Collection and Sixth Form Enrolment 2022](#)

Summer Holiday Activity Ideas

This year was the first time we have been able to run Challenge Week since 2019, although we did put together a virtual challenge week during the pandemic.

Those activities are still on the website, which could give children things to do during the summer holidays [Extra-Curricular-Activity-Booklet](#)

Oaklands Friends' and Parents Association (OFPA) Holiday Uniform Shop

The shop will be open between 2.00-4.00pm on Thursday 25 August.
No pre-ordering required, just turn up to see what we have available in stock.
Payment preferably by Scopay although cash /cheques will be accepted.

Noticeboard

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College - Alumni

**Were you a student here ... ? Are you just about to leave Oaklands ... ?
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**



Home-Start Hampshire is a local charity supporting parents who are going through challenging times. Trained volunteers work alongside families to give compassionate and confidential support, tailored to each family.

At the heart of Home-Start Hampshire is our fantastic network of volunteers and as demand for support continues to increase, we are looking for additional volunteers.

Could you help a family in the Havant Borough?

Our next preparation training course for new Family Support volunteers in the Havant Borough, starts w/c 5th September.

The course will be face to face training, once a week within school hours.

For more information or to register your interest, please visit our website

www.home-starthampshire.org.uk/volunteering

or email info@hshants.org.uk or phone 0330 124 2095

www.home-starthampshire.org.uk

Registered charity number: 1144661

WATER IS UNPREDICTABLE!

4 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

STOP AND THINK –
what dangers can you see?

Don't be caught out on your own – **STAY TOGETHER**

If you fall in, stay calm and **FLOAT** to live

Someone in trouble?
CALL 999 OR 112 and tell them that someone's in trouble in the water

BE SAFE AND HAVE FUN

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea. We are the only charity that is not funded by the government. We rely on the generosity of people like you to help us do our job. Thank you for your support.

Lifeboats

Open Evening 2022



Oaklands

Catholic School and Sixth Form College



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