

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of the spring term, our school community finds itself journeying together through the rich and reflective season of Lent, looking ahead with hope to the joy of Easter. I have posted the times and dates of the Easter services of local parishes on our website, please follow this link: [Havant-Pastoral-Area-Easter-Masses-2026.pdf](#)

This time of year invites us to pause, to grow in compassion, and to renew our commitment to living out the Gospel values that shape our daily life in school. As we prepare to celebrate the Resurrection, we give thanks for the faith, resilience, and kindness shown by our pupils, staff, and families throughout the term.

The Spring Term has been a busy and fruitful one, marked by hard work, creativity, and community spirit. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students have shown real dedication as they completed their mock examinations and continued their preparation for the public exams ahead. Their maturity and focus have been evident throughout, and we are proud of the commitment they have shown to their studies.

A particular highlight of the term was our outstanding school production of *Oliver!*. Pupils from across the school brought the story to life with energy and talent, delighting audiences and demonstrating the strength of the performing arts in our community. The production was a testament to the many hours of rehearsal, teamwork, and courage put in by everyone involved.

We have also celebrated notable sporting successes, with students representing the school brilliantly in fixtures and competitions. Their determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship have been exemplary. Alongside this, a range of trips and enrichment opportunities have broadened pupils' horizons and supported their learning beyond the classroom, giving them memorable experiences to carry with them into the future.

Catering Prices

With ever increasing financial pressures we are continually reviewing our prices; being mindful of the burdens facing our families along with the pressures facing schools from suppliers passing on increased costs. For us to continue to break even we will need to increase the cost of our main meal and meal deal after Easter. We continue to offer two items in our main meal, and three in our meal deal, still representing good value for money.



Community Unity Opportunity



CIF Update

The two capital projects, covering structural works on the White House and a replacement roof on the Sports Hall, are nearing their completion. The Sports Hall will be available again after the Easter break. The White House has had a partial reopening with pupils settling nicely back into the RE classrooms and some Support Staff moving back into their offices. Work on the front of the White House is still ongoing, meaning that Reception is still based in the Edith Stein Building and is estimated to return to the White House in the first week of May.

PE Kits to School

We are pleased to inform you that the Sports Hall changing rooms will reopen after the Easter break. As a result, all students will return to wearing full school uniform to school on the days they have PE lessons. They will change into their PE kit at school as usual.

Please note that students must use the same changing room that they were originally allocated prior to the Sports Hall closure. We would also like to take this opportunity to reinforce our expectations. Behaviour logs will be issued for students who arrive without the correct PE kit, have no kit, or are late to lessons. If students are unsure where they need to change or where they need to be at the start of their lesson, they should speak to their teacher in advance to ensure they arrive on time and prepared.

Mobile Phone Consultation

Thank you to those of you who completed the Mobile Phone Consultation, so far, I have just over 600 responses. Over 90% have said that their child has a smartphone that they bring to school. This is predominately due to parents and carers ensuring that their child can contact them on the journey to and from school for safety. The majority say they do not support a phone ban and would support the school implementing a secure pouch system. I will consult with the leadership team and governing body to review this in full. If you have not yet completed the form, then please do so by clicking this link: [Mobile Phone Consultation - Parents](#)

Uniform

Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and helps allow students to feel pride in their school. It also helps prepare students for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for work. The vast majority of students wear their uniform correctly and look very smart. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have worked with the school by ensuring that their child leaves home correctly dressed or by providing us with a note if there are any problems with uniform. If you need a reminder on the School Uniform Policy, it can be found via this link: [Uniform Policy March 2026](#).

However, there are still some students who do not wear the uniform correctly and we need parents/carers support with this. All students must always wear their school blazer, skirts should be an appropriate length and sit just above the knee, long socks are not part of the school uniform, so ankle socks or tights only. Please do not leave it to the school to challenge a student about uniform where the primary responsibility remains with parents. At this time of year, we also often start to see more issues with shoes; if your child's shoes have broken or they have outgrown them, we still expect you to replace them and will not permit students to wear trainers.

School uniform can be expensive, so if you are struggling with the cost of uniform, please contact us and we can signpost you to support services. Our OFPA also run a preloved uniform shop. Details can be found on the website, [Second Hand Uniform - Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College](#).

Reminders

Please remember that students are not permitted to wear false nails or nail varnish, if your child has this over the holiday then you will need to ensure it is removed before they return, or they will be placed in the Inclusions Room until this is resolved. We also advise that you do not to permit your child to get any piercings over the Easter break as they will have to remove these for PE. A reminder that students may only wear one pair of plain stud earrings, nose studs and additional piercings are not permitted.

In the hope of some warmer weather to come after Easter, please ensure that you send your child into school with a water bottle each day. There are several places around the school to fill these.

Please be reminded that we do not allow chewing gum on the site, so please do not allow your child to bring this into school with them, as we will confiscate and dispose of it and a sanction will be set.

Finally, I would also like to remind parents not to contact your child on their phone during the school day. Mobile phones must be switched off and in bags or pockets from 8.50-3.30pm. We have noticed an increase in students walking around the site during the day wearing earphones/air pods. If staff see this, the items will be confiscated, along with the phone, and placed in the safe in the Inclusions Room, where they will stay until your child can collect them at the end of the school day.

Parking

In the morning, children should be dropped off on the school drive by the bus shelters. Please note that this is a 'drop off' area only as access is required by buses and other parents. Please only use the visitors' car parks if you have an appointment or need to visit Reception. No parking is permitted in other areas of the school.

At the end of the day, the school gates will not open until 3.50pm, as the buses need to vacate the drive. Please do not try to park in front of the school gate before 3.50pm as you could obstruct buses that are trying to enter the site. At 3.50pm, you are able to drive on to the school site, around the roundabout then back down the drive. The pick-up point is on the playing field side of the drive. Parents must not stop on the bus shelter side of the driveway or on the roundabout.

If you are picking up outside school, please avoid parking on the grass verges on Stakes Hill Road and other local streets. Damage to grass is being caused and pedestrians, including users of mobility scooters and those with buggies, are being seriously inconvenienced and put at risk when moving around parked cars.

However, to ease congestion, parking approximately 10 minutes' walk away from the school site is the best option if you are picking up your child by car. Please park with consideration for local residents. If you park in roughly the same area each time your child will become familiar with this. You can then be on your way by approximately 3.40pm rather than waiting until 3.50pm for the gates to open.

Cycling to School

Now that the summer months are on the way, more students may be riding their bikes to school. Whilst I encourage students to cycle, they must wear an appropriate safety helmet. Students should also remember to dismount when entering the school grounds, and walk bikes to the storage area, where they should be locked securely for the day. Please refer to our Cycle to School Policy via this link: [Cycle to School Policy](#).

Dates for the Summer Term

Monday 13 April	Year 8 Tests Week OFPA Meeting (7.30pm)
Tuesday 14 April	Iceland Trip 2026 Information Evening (6.00pm)
Thursday 16 April	French Trip 2026 Information Evening (6.00pm)
Monday 20 April	Year 12 Mocks (to Friday 1 May)
Friday 24 April	Year 11 Predicted Grades and Written Reports to Parents
Monday 27 April	GCSE MFL Speaking Exams Week
Monday 4 May	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 5 May	A Level MFL Speaking Exams Week
	Year 9 Core Tests Week
Thursday 7 May	Exam Season starts
	Year 13 Leavers' Mass and Meal
Thursday 14 May	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Friday 22 May	Year 11 Leavers' Mass and Last Day
Monday 1 June	Year 7 Tests Week OFPA Meeting (7.30am)
Thursday 4 June	KS4 Induction Evening (6.00pm)
Friday 5 June	Community Mass (8.00am)
Tuesday 9 June	Art Exhibition
Wednesday 10 June	Drama Showcase Evening (7.00pm)
Thursday 11 June	Year 12 Parents' Evening
Monday 15 June	Year 10 Tests and Careers Events (to Friday 26 June)
Thursday 18 June	Summer Music Concert (7.00pm)
Tuesday 23 June	Challenge Week (to Friday 26 June)
Wednesday 24 June	Exam Contingency Day
Monday 29 June	Year 10 Work Experience Week
Thursday 2 July	Year 11 Prom
Tuesday 7 July	Sixth Form Experience Day
Friday 10 July	Year 10 Practice Interviews (and Monday 13 July)
Thursday 16 July	Last day of term for students
Friday 17 July	Staff Inset Day

We are all certainly looking forward to the two-week break, and a chance to recharge the batteries in preparation for the Summer term, which begins for everybody on Monday 13th April. I wish everyone a restful and peaceful Easter to cherish the time spent with loved ones.

Yours sincerely



Mrs A Bonnington
Head of School