



NEWSLETTER

21ST JANUARY 2022

House Winners

Congratulations to the winning houses from each year group who enjoyed a mug of hot chocolate and a sausage sandwich as well as 15 minutes extra break this morning. Well done to you all!

The winners were:- Reception-Draco, Year One-Orion, Year Two-Orion, Year Three-Ursa, Year Four-Draco, Year Five-Orion and Year Six—Ursa.



contactus@oakridge.staffs.sch.uk

Telephone No.
01785 337 300
Absence Reporting
ParentMail



New Covid Testing Rules

Following a visit from our Education Welfare Officer, we would like to re-iterate the advice given for children who live with someone who tests positive for Covid. Children should take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days (if they are 5 or over) and continue to attend school as long as the lateral flow tests continue to be negative and they do not develop symptoms. If children remain at home whilst testing negative on the lateral flow tests and have no symptoms, we have been told that we must mark this as an unauthorised absence and not provide home learning.

We have been advised that home learning should only be set for children who have tested positive for Covid and we will upload this onto BGFL.

We continue to face some difficult circumstances and we understand why parents would make the decision to keep children at home but we hope that this information from the Education Welfare Officer and Local Outbreak Team provides further clarity.

Thank you for your continued support.

Census Day

Thursday 20th January was our school census day and the data that was collected on this day is used to allocate our school funding for the next 12 months.

Thank you to everyone in Reception and Key Stage 1 who helped us by taking a school meal on Thursday.

Data Collection Sheets

This week we have sent home your child's Data Collection Sheet which contains details including home address, emergency contact telephone numbers, medical notes etc. We have not included email addresses on the form as these do not need to be checked. Could you please confirm whether the information currently held is correct and please amend if necessary.

It would help us if, for example, you only work Monday – Wednesday you could tell us so that if we need to contact you we know to where find you.

Please confirm the data and return the form to school no later than **Friday 28th January**.

Thank you for your help and assistance in this matter and thank you to everyone who has already returned their form.

School Lottery

Draw results

£25,000 Jackpot

6 0 9 1 8 6

£10.80 – won by Ms B
(STAFFORD)

7 2 7 4 2 6

< Sat 15 Jan 2022 >

Reception Camp Fire Night

Last Friday our Reception children enjoyed a magical evening around the camp fire as part of their learning about light and dark. They had a lovely evening listening to stories around the camp fire and toasting marshmallows.



Stoke City Match

We hope that everyone who bought tickets for the Stoke City game tomorrow has a lovely time—we can see that there are lots of you going!

Don't forget to take some photographs and send them to us at contactus@oakridge.staffs.sch.uk. We will put as many of them as we can in next weeks' Newsletter.



Year Four D&T

Year Four will be making a shoe box room set with a light this term.

To help with this could you please provide your child with a shoe box and some smaller boxes to make the furniture.

Could the boxes please be brought in ready for their design and technology lesson next Tuesday.

Thank you.



Walton High School Transition Activities

Walton High School has invited our Year Six children to attend two events over the coming weeks. For those attending Walton next year, this will help with their transition. Those who will attend other settings will also get a lot from the experiences and get an insight into the kinds of opportunities available in Key Stage 3. Both events will take place during the school day and be supervised by both Walton Staff and Year Six Oakridge staff.

Thursday 27th January: Tree Planting

The children will spend the afternoon helping plant trees within the Walton grounds. They will need to come to school in warm clothing, suitable coats and a change of footwear as it will obviously be muddy.

Tuesday 1st February: Expressions performance

Below is the invitation from Walton:

We are excited to say that we are able to confirm your invite for your Y6's to see our matinee performance of our Expressions dance show!

It will be on **Tuesday 1st February** starting at 2pm. If you could **arrive for 1.50pm** we will get you seated and ready. We are going to ensure the show is completed by 3pm to give you chance to get back to your schools. Our girls are very excited to show you what they have been practising and what your Y6's could be part of next year!

There is no requirement for Y6's to wear masks however they can if they wish.

Nursery Stick Man Activity

Our learning over the past few weeks has been all about the author 'Julia Donaldson' and this week we will focus on the story 'Stick Man'.

Next week the Nursery children will be creating their own representation of a stick character using different media and materials of their choice. They will be using their imagination to verbalise their decisions, focusing on different ways the stick could be used. If we could therefore please ask you to bring in a stick (around 30cm long) for your child to use for this activity, thank you.



Year Five Harry Potter Day

As part of their literacy work using J K Rowling's Harry Potter as inspiration—our Year Five children had a Harry Potter Day on Tuesday this week. They did some creative writing, made wands and book marks and even played a game of Quidditch!



F.A. Schools Football: Under 11, 7-a-side County Finals

On Thursday, our Year 5 and Year 6 girls' and boys' 7-a-side football teams travelled to Stafford Town F.C. to represent Oakridge, and the district of Stafford & Stone at this year's schools football County finals. Our teams had qualified for this event by winning their respective district competitions in the Autumn Term. On the day, we were the only school to have a representative in both the girls' and boys' competitions.

When we arrived, we were shown to our dressing room, to give the children a feel of what it is like to take part in a prestigious football event. The children were all really excited and ready for the day ahead. We knew it would be a tough day, as we were to face the winners of the other district competitions in Staffordshire. The format of the day saw the 5 boys teams and 5 girls teams put in to a mini-league, with each team playing each other once. At the end of competition, the boys' and girls' teams with the most points would win the trophy and progress to represent Staffordshire at the Regional Midlands Finals.

Our girls team started with a narrow defeat against St John's who started brightly and raced in to a 2-goal lead. Oakridge battled back bravely in the 2nd half and created some good chances, but ultimately couldn't get back in to the game. Our next game saw us face Florendine and our girls made a much better start, taking a 1-0 lead in to half-time, courtesy of Sophia's goal. Unfortunately, Florendine improved in the 2nd half and scored 3 quick-fire goals to win the game 3-1. At this point, the girls knew that it wouldn't be possible to finish top of the league, but they did not let this deter them. The girls continued to show a great fighting spirit and played every minute with smiles on their faces. In our 3rd game, we again conceded some early goals and were 3-0 down at half-time. However, once again the girls showed a tremendous attitude in the 2nd half, pulling a goal back through Sophia to make the final score 3-1. In our final game, the girls deservedly picked up their first point of the competition with a hard fought 0-0 draw against William Shrewsbury. All in all, the girls enjoyed a fantastic day out and were rightly proud of their achievements in getting this far. Well done to Kitty, Isla, Eleanor, Inaya, Lucy, Holly, Alayna, Georgia, Sophia and Isla on representing our school magnificently.

Our boys team got off to a winning start on the day, with an impressive 1-0 victory over Pye Green. It was a tightly-fought contest, but in the end, Oakridge's quality shone through, with Will scoring our winner in the 2nd half. Our 2nd game saw us face Codsall Middle, who we knew would be tough opponents, as we had met them on a few occasions previously. Similarly to our first game, there wasn't much to separate the two sides until a superb counter-attack from Oakridge allowed George to fire the ball past the goalkeeper, giving Oakridge a 2nd consecutive 1-0 win. Our next opponents were Oldfields Middle School who had won this event previously. Oldfields started quickly and caught out our defence with an early goal. However, the boys didn't let their heads drop and started to settle in to the game before half-time. In the 2nd half, Oakridge were creating all of the chances, with Oldfields' goalkeeper making a string of impressive saves. Unfortunately, we couldn't find an equaliser and fell to our first defeat of the day.

Going in to our final game, and we knew that the mini-league was incredibly tight as all schools had lost at least one game, and had taken points from each other. We knew that a win in our final game would give us a great chance of progressing. The game started and Oakridge dominated from the first minute, but were struggling to find a way past a stubborn Sutherland Primary. Midway through the 2nd half, we finally got our deserved breakthrough with Henson smashing the ball home from the edge of the box. The final whistle blew and we hoped that our 3 wins from 4 would be enough to crown us champions, and see us progress to the regional finals. However, after some careful calculations, we realised that although we had finished joint-top, Oldfields had finished above us on goal difference. After the initial disappointment, the boys reflected on a fantastic effort and the fact that they were officially the 2nd best team in Staffordshire. Just like the girls, the boys had cast a wonderful shadow and proved themselves to be wonderful ambassadors for our school. Well done to Leo, Huwi, Laurie, Todd, George, Will, Miller and Henson – we are all very proud of you!

A particularly pleasing moment came at the end of the day when the match referees complimented our children on their impeccable behaviour, as well as footballing skill throughout the day. Thank you to all our parents who came to support the children on the day – we hope you enjoyed it.

