

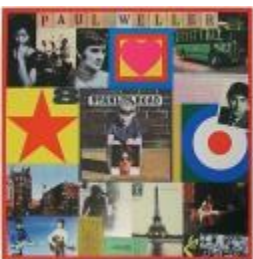


NEWSLETTER

18TH MARCH 2022

Year Three and Four Pop Art

Our Year Three and Four pupils have created a wonderful display inspired by Sir Peter Blake and his Paul Weller album cover.



contactus@oakridge.staffs.sch.uk

Telephone No.
01785 337 300
Absence Reporting
Via ParentMail app



Non-Uniform Day

Thank you to everyone who has made a donation and come into school today wearing non-uniform.

We are pleased to announce that we have raised £303.00 for Comic Relief and £415.00 for the Ukrainian Appeal which is fantastic.

There is still time to make a donation to the Ukraine via your Parentpay Account or if you would like to make a donation to Comic Relief please follow the link below:-

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=7003>



£25,000 Jackpot

4 2 2 2 1 6

£10.50 – won by Ms G
(STAFFORD)

4 0 9 7 5 7

< Sat 12 Mar 2022 >

Year Four Pyramid Concert

On Tuesday and Wednesday evening our Year Four pupils took part in the annual Pyramid Concert at Walton High School.

Our pupils were joined by children from Barnfields Primary School, Berkswich Primary School and Leasowes Primary school who all feed into Walton High School.

The theme of the evening was 'Celebration' and the children all performed wonderfully.

Foundation Stage Mothers Day Coffee Morning

On Thursday, 24th March we will be holding a coffee morning for mums of children in our Foundation Stage to celebrate Mothering Sunday. The children will be singing some songs and sharing a few special surprises! The coffee morning will take place in the hall from 11am.



We hope you can join us and look forward to seeing you there. If you are unable to attend and another family member would like to come along instead then they are more than welcome.

School Uniform Reminder ~ Trainers ~

We have noticed that a growing number of children have started to come into school wearing trainers.

Could we please remind you that trainers should only be worn to school on the days on which your child has PE. On other days they should be wearing black school shoes as detailed in our school uniform policy.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Nursery Applications

Offers of places to our school Nursery for September 2022 will be issued on Monday. If you would like to accept a place could you please let us know by Wednesday 27th April at the latest by replying to the email containing your offer.

If you are expecting to receive an offer and do not hear from us could you please check your junk email address.

Thank you.

Year One and Two Visit to Twycross Zoo

On Tuesday 29th of March, as part of their Science learning, Years One and Two are visiting Twycross Zoo. During the day the children will explore animal classifications, habitats and food chains and complete a variety of learning activities to supplement their science learning.

We will leave school at 9.00 am and return at approximately 4.00pm. Children should wear school uniform and a waterproof coat. Children will need a packed lunch for dinnertime, could you please put this in a backpack so the children's hands can be kept free.

If you wish to order a school packed lunch please complete and return the attached form below by **Wednesday 23rd March at the latest**.

Contributions of £24.50 are invited towards the cost, payable via your ParentPay account.



Year One Mother's Day Celebration

Our Year One children will be holding a special Mothers Day celebration next Friday.

The celebration will take place in their classroom at 2.45pm at the end of the school day and we ask that due to the size of the classroom, that only one parent or carer attends.

Year One look forward to seeing you there!

SDPSSA: Cross-Country Series 2022 – Race 2

On Tuesday, our girls' and boys' cross-country teams travelled to Cannock Chase, to take part in the second of 3 races in this year's district cross-country series.

Last week, the two teams performed really well in the first race at Rowley Park, which meant that the boys were in second and the girls third in their respective tables, heading in to this race.

The course at Cannock Chase (Marquis Drive) is a tougher course than Rowley Park as it is longer, and involves more variable terrain. However, the girls started quickly, as they disappeared behind the trees and in to the distance. As they headed towards the finish line, we could see Alaynna was comfortably in second, followed by some more Oakridge blue in the distance. Our top 4 finishers were Alaynna (2nd), Elsee (12th), Georgia (22nd), and Lily (31st) – giving us an overall score of 67, which was very similar to last week. Ayla, Ros and Elsie all provided fantastic support and played a key role in pushing the other schools' runners further down the standings. A special mention goes to Ros who improved a whole 10 places from last week – going from 58th to 48th, after dedicating her time to training and improving her performance. This shows great resilience, well done Ros!

As always, the boys' race followed the girls', and the boys were hoping to build on a fantastic score from race one. There was a couple of changes to the boys' team from last week as George returned from illness, and Shay replaced Todd who was unavailable. As the race neared its conclusion, we could see a dense concentration of Oakridge blue near the front of the pack. Our top 4 finishers were Will (12th), Euan (14th), Henson (15th), Oliver (19th) – giving us a total of 60. Well done to George who came 28th, Oliver 34th, and Shay 38th. Special recognition goes to Olile for finishing 8 places higher than last week, well done Ollie!

Well done to all of the runners in both of our teams who gave everything they had, and left nothing out there on the course! As always, they were a credit to our school and should be proud of their achievements. We received the overall results via email on Wednesday afternoon, and our boys' team are still in second – just 8 points behind Leasowes. Our girls' team have solidified their place in 3rd – putting some distance between themselves and Barnfields in 4th.

It is wonderful to have both teams in with a great chance of securing a medal at the final race next week. Next week's race will take place at the same venue – Nine Gates Car Park, Marquis Drive, Cannock Chase. Please feel free to come and cheer on the team. It was great to see so many parents of children who weren't competing, supporting the runners this week. This really epitomises the Oakridge Way.

Stafford & Stone School Games: District Netball Competition

On Tuesday, a group of children from Oakridge travelled to Stafford Grammar, to represent our school in the school games: district schools netball competition. We were pleased to be able to enter two teams in to the competition; giving as many girls as possible, the chance to play in a sporting event for their school.

The format of the day was a 'mini-league', with the 8 competing teams, playing each other once. 3 points were awarded for winning a match, 1 point for a draw, and 0 for a defeat. At the end of the afternoon, points would be calculated, and the top 2 teams would progress to represent Stafford & Stone at the County Finals in Stoke-on-Trent, later this year.

The first match of the afternoon saw the two Oakridge sides (Owls & Otters) actually play against each other. The final score was 6-0 to the Owls.

In the second game, Otters improved significantly, giving Stafford Prep Sharks a run for their money in a tight game. Otters eventually lost 3-1. In game 3, Otters made further improvements, and deservedly managed their first win – beating Veritas 1-0. The 4th and 5th games proved tough, as Otters faced Berkswich, and Stafford Prep Seals – losing 3-0, and 6-1 respectively. After a couple of heavy defeats, it would have been easy for the Otters to drop their heads at this point, but they did nothing of the sort. They picked themselves up, encouraged each other, and perfectly demonstrated the Oakridge Way. Their reward was a well-earned 1-1 draw in their 6th match, against Parkside. The 7th and final match ended 6-0 to St Patrick's. Otters finished with a total of 4 points from their 7 games, meaning they finished in 6th place. We were all really proud of the way the girls stuck together as a team, and made big improvements as the tournament went on. Well done to Isla, Rubie, Bria, Kitty, Isla, and Pippa who cast a wonderful shadow, and represented our school brilliantly.

On to the Owls now, who were hoping to build on their win against the Otters in the opening match. In the 2nd game, the girls continued to play some lovely netball, beating Parkside 3-0. Game 3 saw Owls fall to their first defeat – 2-0, against St Patrick's. However, Oakridge responded brilliantly in games 4 and 5, beating Berkswich 6-1, and Stafford Prep seals 4-0. Game 6 ended in a hard-fought 0-0 draw against Stafford Prep Sharks. After a run of good results, we knew a win in our final match would give us a great chance of reaching the County Finals. As the game started against Veritas, Owls quickly raced in to a 2-goal lead. However, Veritas responded quickly, and it was 2-2 in no time! Owls managed to compose themselves, and finished the game strongly, scoring twice more to give us 4-2 win. We were confident that our total of 16 points from our 7 games would be enough to secure a top 2 finish, and a place at the County Final. The results were announced, and St Patrick's had won the competition with 7 wins from 7. Then came the news we had been waiting for, our total of 16 points was enough to secure 2nd place on the day, and seal our place at the County Finals. Well done to Eleanor, Alaynna, Georgia, Lottie, Elsie, Charlotte, and Julia on a fantastic achievement! We will look forward to representing the District of Stafford and Stone at the upcoming Staffordshire County Finals Day.

Thank you to all of the parents who came to cheer on the teams.

Staffordshire Schools' F.A. County Cup Semi-Final

On Wednesday, our Under 11s boys' football team played their County Cup Semi-Final Match. Everyone was incredibly excited as we had only ever reached this stage of the competition once before. We had produced some fantastic performances up until this point, and we knew that if we could manage another, we would have a great chance to reach the final, for the very first time!

We chose to play the match at Walton High School, hoping that the bigger pitch would help our team to play the fantastic football which they are capable of. As we arrived, the conditions could hardly have been worse, with relentless wind and rain. We knew this would make things even tougher for us, but were determined not to let the weather get the better of us. Our opponents on the day were Sutherland Primary Academy from Stoke-on-Trent, who had beaten some good middle school teams on their way to the semi-final, so we knew we were in for a tough game. We had beaten Sutherland earlier in the year in the 7-a-side County Finals day, which gave the team an added boost of confidence.

As the game started, it was clear that it was going to be difficult for either team to really get the ball down and play. The first 10 minutes were quite disrupted with a lot of throw-ins and goal kicks. After a quarter of an hour, Oakridge started to find their feet, with Will and Miller controlling the midfield, playing forward passes and linking up well with Henson. By the end of the half, Oakridge were well on top, creating some promising openings, but without really testing their goalkeeper. The half-time whistle sounded with the score at 0-0. The players regrouped at half-time, knowing that if we continued to play positively, we would have chances to win the game. 10 minutes in to the second half, Oakridge deservedly took the lead, after a long-range effort from Miller skidded off the wet turf and over the keeper. The goal gave us great confidence and our attacks really started to flow, creating chance after chance. We were desperate for a 2nd goal – hitting the post twice, and forcing their goalkeeper in to some good saves. Finally, with 10 minutes left, Oakridge made the game safe. A wonderful team move saw Laurie burst clear down the right-hand side. His shot was parried by the goalkeeper, but following in was George who tapped the ball home to make it 2-0. Sutherland mounted some pressure towards the end but our defence held strong to secure the victory, and seal our place in the final.

All of the boys were delighted at full-time, as they celebrated in the rain! Oakridge have performed brilliantly throughout this competition, and are worthy finalists. The team has a wonderful balance of technical skill, tactical intelligence, but most of all, big hearts and a willingness to fight for their friends and teammates – they are a joy to coach and to watch. A huge well done to Leo, Huwi, Oliver A, Oliver B, Euan, Will, Miller, Laurie, George, Henson, and Todd who have created Oakridge history! You should be very proud of yourselves!

The final of the competition will take place in May, and the venue should be Stafford Town FC. We believe that this will take place one evening, to allow staff, parents, and children from both schools to come along and watch the match.

Thank you to all parents, grandparents, siblings, and even some ex-pupils who came to cheer on the team in the rain, we hope you enjoyed the game!

Girls Netball Teams



Boys Football Team

