



NEWSLETTER

5TH NOVEMBER 2021

Golden Book

Congratulations to our Golden Book Winners who were presented with their certificates during assemblies this morning. This week's theme for Golden Book was "Reaching for the Stars"



- Reception - Alfie, Henry and Emmie
- Year One - Lauren, Harry and James
- Year Two - Ruby and Oliver
- Year Three - Fleur and Jasper
- Year Four - Ibrahim, Holly and Hattie
- Year Five - Isla, Elsie and Oliver
- Year Six - William and Bria

contactus@oakridge.staffs.sch.uk

Telephone No.
01785 337 300
Absence Reporting
ParentMail



Foundation Stage Open Morning

Thank you to everyone who attended our open morning this week. If you were unable to attend we do have two other sessions which will be held on:

Thursday 18th November at 2.00pm

Thursday 2nd December at 10.30am

Please call the office if you would like to book a place.



£25,000 Jackpot

0 6 3 2 4 4

£11.70 - won by Ms P (STAFFORD)

9 0 6 4 7 2

< Sat 30 Oct 2021 >

SAFINA Lion Conservation Raffle

Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket for the SAFINA raffle organised by Jess one of our Year Five pupils. With your help she raised over £600 which is fantastic—well done Jess!

Jess is trying to raise £2,500 to provide a radio tracking collar to support the Kope Lion Programme in Ngorongoro, Tanzania.

Year 5 and Six Greek Day

On Monday 8th November, Year Five and Six children will have the opportunity to welcome a historical expert into school to begin their learning on Ancient Greece.

The packed day will be exciting, engaging and will deliver knowledge in a 'hands on' way.

The Greek day is set in the 5th Century B.C.E and will be hosted by Archon the Athenian Hoplite.

Areas covered during the day:

Life in Ancient Greece: City states, women's roles, democracy, education, art, the theatre and medicine. With special focus on the rivalry between Sparta and Athens.

Introduction to the Hoplites: Who they were, how they fought and weapons used. Archon delivers the sessions wearing Ancient Greek armour which he uses to exemplify this whilst bringing children out to demonstrate a variety of equipment.

Greek Battle Tactics: Learn how to form the Phalanx with replica wooden shields and spears.

Handling session: Time for pupils to try on armour and handle blunted weapons.

Thermopylae Battle: Greece V Persia -The children take part in a re-enactment of one of the most famous battles in military history.

Greek Myths: The Odyssey -Children play the main roles in this fun re-telling of one of the oldest stories in the West. This is followed by the true monsters which influenced the myths.

Contributions of £5.00 are invited towards the cost, payable via your ParentPay account. Please note that if there are insufficient contributions the workshop may need to be cancelled.





Happy Diwali!



Our Reception children have been learning all about the festival of Diwali this week. They have enjoyed Indian dancing, made Diwali Cards and created rangoli patterns.



Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile is an easy way for you to support us every time you shop. If you shop at Amazon all you need to do is to go to www.smile.amazon.co.uk.

If you are making any purchases in their Black Friday event or for Christmas and you choose us as your charity we will receive a donation every time you make an eligible purchase.

You will find the exact same low prices and selection with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Oakridge School Fund.

You use the same account at Amazon and all of your settings will remain the same. On your first visit to the smile section of their website you will need to select Oakridge School Fund as your charitable organisation. The selection will be remembered and then every purchase you make will result in a donation.



Year One and Two Florence Nightingale Workshop

Our Year One and Two children are beginning to start their Knowledge and Understanding topic which is all about Florence Nightingale.

To supplement their learning, they will be taking part in a workshop on the 16th November which will take place in school. The workshop will be held by the 'Drama Hut' learning group and they have lots of exciting activities for both classes to take part in.

To cover the cost of the workshop we are asking for a contribution of £5.75 which can be paid for via your ParentPay Account.

Please note that if we do not receive sufficient contributions the workshop may need to be cancelled.



Odd Socks Day Monday 15th November

In support of anti-bullying week, we will be holding an odd socks day on Monday 15th November.

Children can wear odd socks with their school uniform. These can be worn under or over the trouser hem or over the top of tights.



Year Three and Four Visit to Liverpool – 25th November

On Thursday 25th November, Year Three and Year Four children will be visiting Liverpool as part of their Knowledge and understanding of the World learning.

Both classes will be travelling by train to Liverpool Lime Street from Stafford station. The children will begin the day by walking to the Liverpool Life Museum where they will deepen their geographical and historical understanding by taking part in a workshop in how Liverpool became known as the “gateway to the world”.

After lunch, the children will visit the Tate Modern Art Gallery and then end their day by taking a trip on the world famous “Ferry across the Mersey!”.

Contributions of £21.50 are invited towards the cost, payable via your ParentPay account, which if you wish to do so will allow you to pay in instalments. The price includes the cost of the train ticket, the museum workshops and ferry crossing. Insufficient contributions may result in the trip being cancelled.



Christmas Market

On Friday 10th December we will be holding a Christmas Market in the hall which has been organised by OSCA as a fundraising activity.

This event was thoroughly enjoyed by the children last year and we hope it will be just as successful again.

Children will be able to choose from a number of gifts and the presents for their Mum, Dad or other family member.

Further details will follow soon!



Children in Need Friday 19th November

Friday 19th November is Children in Need day and once again we will be taking part and raising money for charity.

In exchange for a donation of £1, children will be allowed to come to school wearing their pyjamas or loungewear. Donations can be made by following the link below.



<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=5166>

School Games: Under 11 Boys' District Football Tournament

Before half-term, two teams of Year 5 and 6 boys travelled to Stafford Town F.C. to represent Oakridge in the annual Stafford & Stone District Primary and Middle Schools Football Competition. It was fantastic to see 16 teams from the district present on the day, highlighting just how much we have missed these special occasions.

The format of the day saw the 16 teams split in to 2 groups of 8, meaning that each team would play 7 matches in a mini-league, before the top 2 teams in each group would progress to the semi-finals. We knew that whoever won the competition on the day would be rewarded with a fantastic opportunity of representing Stafford & Stone District at the Staffordshire County Finals Day at St George's Park – home of England men's and women's teams.

Oakridge Orangutans began with a win in their first game, beating Berkswich 2-0. The next 2 matches proved difficult and despite some terrific performances, Oakridge were beaten by Veritas and Walton Priory Middle School. Matches 4 and 5 saw an improvement in results with a hard-fought 0-0 draw, followed by an impressive 1-0 win against Christchurch Middle. Match 6 was an end-to-end encounter against St. Peter's who made the most of their chances to narrowly win the game. On to our last match, and we knew that we would have to win if we were to stand any chance of reaching the semi-finals. Once again, the whole team put in a really determined and committed performance, with moments of real individual quality. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough to stop a very talented Brewood Middle team from winning the game 3-0. Overall, we finished with 7 points from our 7 games which was enough to finish 4th in the group. The boys should be very proud of their efforts in what was a really difficult group. Finishing 4th signified a very impressive performance. A huge well done to Shay, Harry, Euan, Rowan, Oliver B, Charlie, Oscar & Oliver A who represented our school wonderfully, both on and off the pitch, casting a fantastic shadow and receiving praise from staff of other schools and event organisers for the impeccable behaviour. We are very proud of you all.

In the other group of 8, were Oakridge Owls, and they kicked-off the day with an impressive 1-0 win over Christchurch Middle. In game 2, we faced another middle school, this time beating Walton Priory 3-0 in a terrific display. Oakridge continued to go from strength to strength, producing extremely high-quality football, always looking to attack and score as many goals as possible. Games 3&4 saw Oakridge beat Barnfields 4-0 and St. Leonard's 2-0. In our 5th game, Tillington Manor proved tough to beat with an excellent defensive display, before eventually, we scored a late goal to win the game 1-0. By this point we knew we had done enough to progress to the semi-final, but we were keen to win our final 2 games in order to top the group. 2 more strong displays followed, as we produced a 3-0 win over John Wheeldon, and a 4-0 win over All Saints. Oakridge Owls finished the group with 7 wins out of 7, and without conceding a goal as they reached the semi-final – a wonderful performance.

We faced Veritas in the semi-final and started the game well, taking an early lead to settle the nerves. Veritas fought back strongly and created some chances of their own before we made the game safe late-on, securing a 2-0 win.

We were to face Walton Priory in the final, but a different Walton team to the one we faced in the group stage. The final was a very even encounter, with both teams missing good chances to win the game. The game eventually finished 0-0, and so the dreaded penalty shoot-out was upon us. Oakridge took the first kick, which George smashed in to the top corner. Walton Priory then levelled the score. Our 2nd kick was nicely converted by Miller, before our opponents missed their 2nd kick, giving us a 2-1 lead. Will then tucked away our 3rd penalty to make it 3-1. Walton scored their next, to bring it back to 3-2. Todd took our 4th, and coolly found the corner to put us 4-2 in front. As Walton stepped up to take their 4th, we knew that if they failed to score, we would be champions. We held our breath before Leo dived to his right and produced a stunning save to seal a 4-2 shoot-out win, as Oakridge were crowned District Champions!

A truly remarkable performance saw Oakridge Owls win 9 games out of 9, without conceding a goal. Through some fantastic skill and technical ability, as well as fighting spirit and determination, Oakridge had won the tournament and will now go on to represent Stafford & Stone at the County Final event, which will be held at St George's Park, later in the year. A huge well done to Leo, Laurie, Huwi, Todd, Miller, Will, George, & Henson who represented our school tremendously – we are proud of you all!



School Games: Under 11 Girls' District Football Tournament

On Thursday, two teams from Oakridge travelled to Stafford Town F.C. to compete in the Stafford & Stone School Games: District Under 11s Football Tournament. This was a pathway event, meaning that the winners on the day would go on to represent Stafford & Stone at the County Final later in the year.

There were 10 teams present on the day which was fantastic, and gave so many girls the opportunity to play football and represent their school. Our 2 Oakridge teams (Owls & Ospreys) were placed in to 2 separate groups of 5. The format of the competition meant that the top 2 teams in each group at the end of this phase would go through to the semi-finals.

Ospreys kicked-off their campaign with a hard-fought 0-0 draw. In the 2nd game, the girls settled in to their positions more confidently which helped them to create some more opportunities. Their improvement was rewarded with a 2-0 win over St. Peter's. Game 3 saw Oakridge improve again, creating more and more chances but without being able to find that crucial goal. Our final game was a similar story, lots of pressure but unfortunately, we couldn't find the all-important goal. Ospreys finished their group games with 1 win and 3 draws and 0 defeats from their 4 matches, giving them a total of 6 points. What was particularly impressive was the fact they didn't even concede a goal. As the results of the other games came through, we realised we hadn't quite done enough to reach the semi-finals – just one goal away from doing so. All of the girls performed fantastically on the day, with many of them enjoying their first opportunity to represent the school. Smiles were glued on faces all morning, and everyone cast a wonderful shadow! A big well done to Charlotte, Elsee B, Esme, Julia, Isobel, Pippa, Elsie E, Jess, Lily & Lottie!

On pitch 1, Owls kicked-off their day with a fantastic 4-0 win over St. Leonard's. Some quick passing, clever movement, and deadly finishing was too much for our opponents. Our 2nd game was against Barnfields, and although we dominated the possession and created chances, they were a tough nut to crack. Eventually, our quality shone through to give us a 2-0 win. Our 3rd game was against Burton Manor, and the girls maintained their high level of performance to secure a 3-0 win. Before our final group game, we were sure we had done enough to reach the semis, but the girls were keen to finish with a good performance and 100% record. Sure enough, the girls were once again fantastic, as we secured a semi-final spot with a 2-0 win over Berkswich.

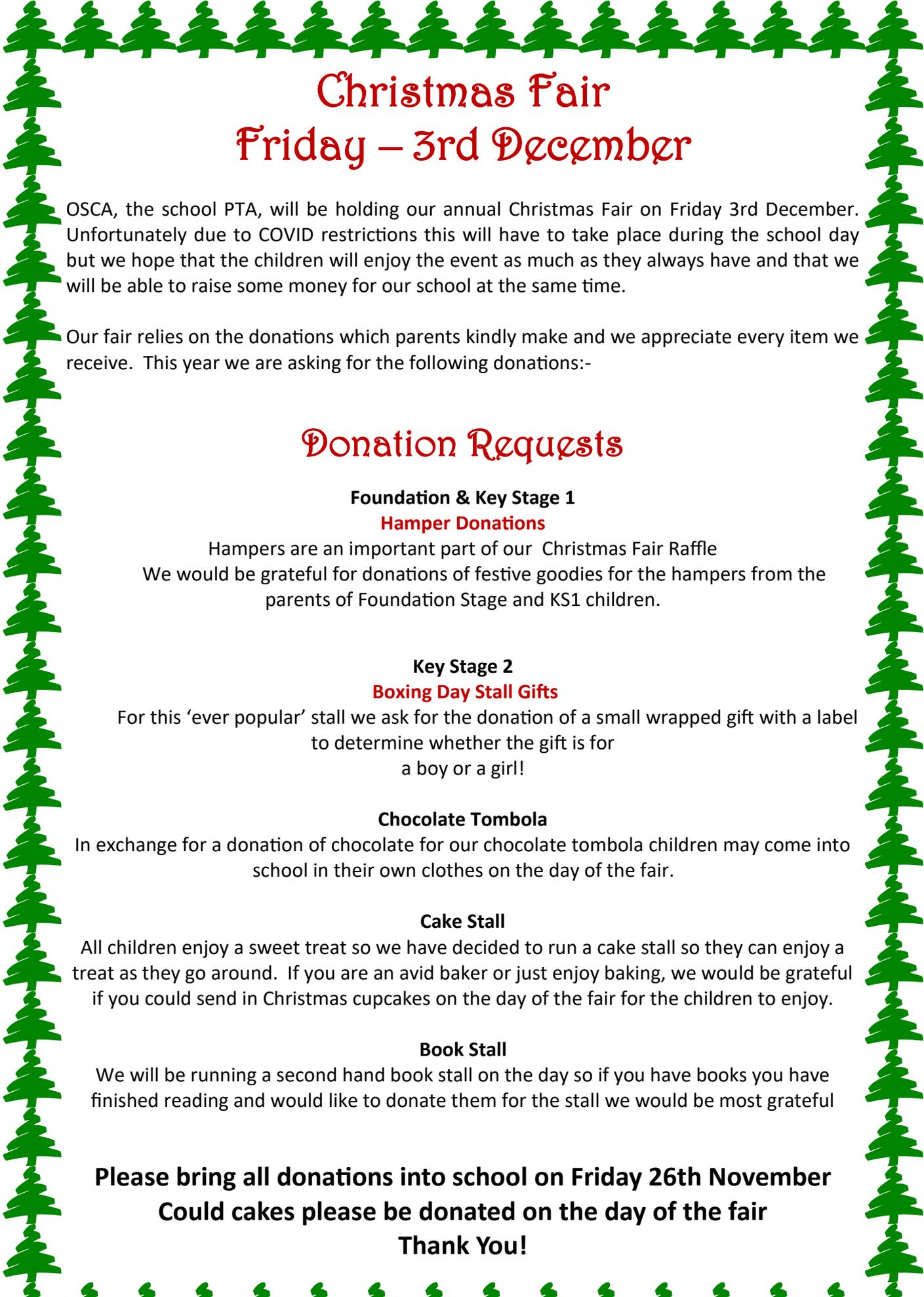
We were to face All Saints Ranton in the semi-finals, and the game started cautiously, with chances few and far between. Halfway through the game though, Isla took advantage of a goalkeeping error to score our winning goal, and seal our place in the final.

The final was against Barnfields, who had played well against us in the group stage, and so, we knew we were in for a tough game. Oakridge dominated the early part of the match without creating too many clear chances. As the game wore on, Barnfields became deeper and deeper, which made them harder to break down. Eventually, our pressure told, as Isla coolly slotted home the winner to confirm Oakridge as District Champions!

A fantastic team performance from everyone had deservedly seen Oakridge win this tournament, and secure a place at the County Finals, to be held at St George's Park later this year. This is an incredible achievement and all of the team should be incredibly proud of themselves! A huge well done to Kitty, Eleanor, Inaya, Sophia, Georgia, Lucy, Isla, Holly, Alaynna and Isla who performed magnificently throughout the day and represented our school brilliantly!

As a school, we are very proud that both our girls' and boys' teams will represent Stafford & Stone at St George's Park this year.





Christmas Fair

Friday – 3rd December

OSCA, the school PTA, will be holding our annual Christmas Fair on Friday 3rd December. Unfortunately due to COVID restrictions this will have to take place during the school day but we hope that the children will enjoy the event as much as they always have and that we will be able to raise some money for our school at the same time.

Our fair relies on the donations which parents kindly make and we appreciate every item we receive. This year we are asking for the following donations:-

Donation Requests

Foundation & Key Stage 1

Hamper Donations

Hampers are an important part of our Christmas Fair Raffle
We would be grateful for donations of festive goodies for the hampers from the parents of Foundation Stage and KS1 children.

Key Stage 2

Boxing Day Stall Gifts

For this 'ever popular' stall we ask for the donation of a small wrapped gift with a label to determine whether the gift is for a boy or a girl!

Chocolate Tombola

In exchange for a donation of chocolate for our chocolate tombola children may come into school in their own clothes on the day of the fair.

Cake Stall

All children enjoy a sweet treat so we have decided to run a cake stall so they can enjoy a treat as they go around. If you are an avid baker or just enjoy baking, we would be grateful if you could send in Christmas cupcakes on the day of the fair for the children to enjoy.

Book Stall

We will be running a second hand book stall on the day so if you have books you have finished reading and would like to donate them for the stall we would be most grateful

Please bring all donations into school on Friday 26th November

Could cakes please be donated on the day of the fair

Thank You!



Oakridge Christmas Fair
Friday 3rd December

Events

Chocolate Tombola

Cake Stall

Feed Olaf

Reindeer Food Bar

Book Stall

Lucky Dip

Penalty Shoot Out

Lucky Jars

Boxing Day Stall

Presents in the Stocking

**Guess the baby photo—try and spot your
teachers and win a prize!**

Raffle

Plus more!

Please bring donations
on 26th November