



Oak Hill First School

Wirehill Drive, Lodge Park, Redditch

Welcome to our May newsletter!

As we step further into the summer term, the school is buzzing with energy and excitement. From classroom achievements, charity and community fundraising, to upcoming events, there's so much to celebrate and look forward to. We hope you enjoy catching up on all the latest news, important dates, and highlights from across our school community.



Trust charity week

Last month Oak Hill joined with other schools in our Trust to raise funds for Birmingham Children's Hospital as part of our trust wide charity week.

The Pupil Leadership Team worked really hard to organise two events in school for everyone to take part in. Here at Oak Hill they led a 'Soak A Staff Member' event which involved children paying 50P to throw a wet sponge into the face of a member of staff. As you can imagine this was a very popular event! The other fundraiser was 'Dress Like An Adult Day' and this involved the children dressing up as all sorts of different adults such as: teachers, doctors, footballers and builders.



There was a fantastic buzz around school during these events and the Pupil Leadership Team should be really proud of themselves for creating this. Mrs Loveridge (CRST Charities Lead) visited Oak Hill and met with the Pupil

Leadership Team and presented them with an award for the work that we have undertaken in supporting Birmingham Children's Hospital.



The total amount raised was £668.00. Well done Oak Hill and everyone who donated!



Classes with a green box attendance are matched to the current national averages. Classes in orange are very close to attaining the current national average. Classes in red are potentially a cause for concern and further analysis will take place. Mrs Aldridge (Office) is our Attendance Officer for Oak Hill and liaises with parents, teachers and senior leaders when dealing with all attendance matters.

	Recent % attendance	Average attendance since Sept
RB	95.43%	94.80%
RM	97.11%	92.96%
RS	98.23%	94.73%
1A	94.69%	93.10%
1F	95.52%	94.98%
1R	98.20%	95.76%
2C	95.21%	96.18%
2L	93.05%	92.54%
2M	94.19%	94.34%
3B	95.79%	94.94%
3E	90.63%	91.39%
3H	90.25%	93.76%
4C	98.10%	95.84%
4R	95.59%	94.14%
4T	97.72%	96.39%

We have seen some really positive improvements in attendance over the last month - thank you for your hard work in ensuring that our children are in school as much as possible for our last and hugely important term in school.

A couple of reminders:

- ◆ There are 189 days that we expect children to be in school leaving a possible 176 days for holidays and for other family events. These events need to be avoided during school days where ever possible.
- ◆ Leave of absence requests for term time holidays will not be authorised except for in exceptional circumstances. We are seeing an increase in the number of families going on holiday and request that these are booked during the term time holidays. New processes fines for term time holidays were issued in August with higher fines and penalties for families that take term time holidays. Please see the following page for a reminder about the new fines.

Well done to 4C and 2C for receiving their recent Early Bird award which recognizes the class with the best punctuality and the most pupils arriving at school on time. Great job everyone - well done!

Congratulations to 4T and 1A for their recent most improved attendance awards. Keep up the great work!

Dates for your diary ...

Keep checking your class do-jo for any further information or dates!



Friday 16th May	Year 4 trip to the Think Tank
Monday 19th and Wednesday 21st May	3H parents evening
Wednesday 21st May	Reception height and weight checks
Thursday 22nd Friday 23rd May	Year 4 bikeability
Monday 26th—Friday 30th May	HALF TERM—School closed
Tuesday 17th June	Tea day (further information to follow)

Leave of absence and holiday penalty notices

As you will be aware from previous newsletters and posts on dojo, the procedures and fines have changed for families who take holidays during term time. We have seen an increase this term in the number of leave of absence requests and wanted to take the opportunity to remind parents of the new legal processes....

Per parent, per child

Penalty notice fines will now be issued to EACH parent for each child that was absent (this includes step parente)

For example : 3 siblings are absent for a term time holiday. This would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines. Therefore 6 fines in total .

First offence

The first time that a fine is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance the amount has increased from £120 to £160 per parent, per child and has to be paid within 28 days.

This is reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

For example: if you are fined for taking a holiday when your child was in Year 1 and you take another holiday and are fined when you child is in Year 2, this would be a “second offence”. If you take another holiday and are fined when they are in Year 3, this would be classed as a “third offence”

Second offence

A second fine can be issued, again per parents, per child within 3 years of the first offence. £160 per parent, per child and has to be paid within 28 days. There is no option for a second fine to be reduced.

OR

For example: if you are fined for taking a holiday in the Autumn term of Year 1 and take another holiday in the Summer term of Year 1, that would be classed as a “second offence”. If you take another holiday when you child is in Year 2, that would count as a “third offence”

Third offence

If there is term time leave or irregular attendance within 3 years of the first offence, a penalty notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to Magistrate’s court. This can result in a fine of up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Should you need more advice regarding fine and penalty notices, please speak to our attendance officer Mrs Aldridge who will be able to help.

Parking complaints

We have received a report of ongoing issues with unsafe driving and illegal or inconsiderate parking around the school. This puts children’s safety at serious risk. We are asking all parents to *take immediate responsibility* for driving slowly, parking legally, and respecting road rules. Do not block driveways, use restricted areas, or stop where it endangers others. Co-operation should not be seen as optional — it is essential for the safety of every child. Please take this concern seriously.



Year 1 multi skills event

This week, our Year 1 children took part in a fun and energetic multi-skills sports session, led by talented Birchensale Middle School Sports Leaders. The session focused on developing key physical skills such as balance, coordination, agility, and teamwork through a variety of exciting activities and games.

From speed jump to long jump, the children had a fantastic time learning and moving. The Sports Leaders did an outstanding job planning and running the session, showing great leadership, patience, and encouragement throughout.

It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and active bodies as our school community worked together to promote physical confidence and a love for sport. A big thank you to the Birchensale

Sports Leaders for being such positive role models!



Panda day—eco council fundraising event

Last month the Eco Councilors held their charity day to raise money to sponsor a panda as part of their focus on conservation and sustainability.

We had a wonderful day finding about how our money will help, what the sponsorship would look like land why sponsoring animals and understanding conservation is so important.

Thank you to all who donated and helped us to raise a fantastic total of £170.60!



Thank you!



Language of the month!

Mrs Hopcroft, our EAL co-ordinator has been working hard to showcase the many and diverse languages found within our school community so that our children develop an awareness of other cultures and are encouraged to open their minds and learn something new.

As part of this showcasing we have introduced a “Language of the Month” and this month taking star place is...



Polish is a language spoken mainly by people in Poland, a country in Europe. It is the main language spoken by around 45 million people. We have a high number of children and families in our school who speak and are part of the Polish community and we are all looking forward to learning something new about its language and culture.

Washing Pods and Capsules - Child Accident Prevention Trust

Young children are vulnerable to all sorts of dangers in the home. One of the most present issues can come in the form of every day cleaning products. Some like sink unclogger can look like fruit juice. The thick consistency and similarity to apple juice in colour make it particularly enticing.

However, one threat stands out from all others in this regard. *The washing pod*. Many washing pods bear a striking similarity to sweets. For children the mistake can be easy to make, especially when washing pods may be kept in a lower location than other cleaning supplies.



The Child Accident Prevention Trust has recently published a page that looks to offer guidance on this issue- please follow the link below:

[Washing pods and capsules: Keep children safe](#)

Safeguarding at Oak Hill

Our DSL is Mrs Harris and she is supported by Miss Kelly, Mrs Winterbourn, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Reynolds. If you have a safeguarding concern please contact school and speak to one of the safeguarding team. If you have a concern about a child/ren outside of school then please call Worcestershire Family Front Door on 01905 822666 (Mon-Thurs, 9-5pm and Friday 9-4.30pm) or out of hours on 01905 768502. If you believe a child is in immediate risk of harm contact the police on 999.