



Oakhurst News

Oakhurst Community Primary School's Fortnightly Newsletter

www.oakhurst.swindon.sch.uk

<https://twitter.com/OakhurstSchool>

Next issue: Tuesday 15th May 2018

May Diary Dates	
1 st	School photographs – all year groups Newsletter published on website 9:00 – 10:00am: Coffee Stop – community rooms
4 th	Nursery TD day
7 th	Bank Holiday – School closed
8 th	9:00 – 10:00am: Coffee Stop – community rooms
14 th – 18 th	Year 6 SATs week
15 th	Newsletter published on website 9:00 – 10:00am: Coffee Stop – community rooms
17 th	Oakhurst PFA meeting
22 nd	9:00 – 10:00am: Coffee Stop – community rooms
23 rd	Year 5/6 Quadkids event
25 th	Last day of term- normal finish time Wonder token reward day
28 th – 1 st	SCHOOL CLOSED

Summer Fete

This year's Summer Fete will be taking place on Friday 6th July between 5pm and 7pm. This is a fantastic way to raise valuable funds for our school so please make sure you save the date!



HEAD-itorial



Dear Parents and Carers,

Many thanks to all at Oakhurst for giving me such a warm welcome. It has been lovely to meet so many parents and to hear such positive things about our school.

It has been a busy fortnight with Ofsted visiting us during my first week. A feedback letter from our Ofsted Inspection will be available to parents very soon.

There is an exciting event coming up in Swindon; please show your support. *Swindon Festival of Literature runs 7-19 May. Visit www.swindonfestivalofliterature.co.uk for all events, including the CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DAY (Lower Shaw Farm on Sunday 13th May 10am-4pm), children's poet and writer MICHAEL ROSEN with his memoirs (Swindon Arts Centre, Wednesday 9 May 5.30pm) and the free opening event DAWN CHORUS (Lawn Woods, bank holiday Monday 7th May 5.30am).*

Create THE GREATEST STORY NEVER TOLD with children's book writer Gareth P Jones and illustrator Steve May at Swindon Festival of Literature. They have music, pencils, paper - but now need ideas. Gareth has written Beards from Outer Space and Cheese from Dimension Pong, with pictures by Steve, but with your children's help, they could write something even greater.

Are you free Saturday 12th May at noon? Then come to Swindon Arts Centre.

Tickets £5 from <http://www.swindonfestivalofliterature.co.uk/12-sat.html#sat12-greatest>

I look forward to growing our continued partnership over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Lizzie Christopher

Headteacher

Year 4 Residential to Braeside

Monday the 23rd of April saw thirty-nine excited Year 4s board a bus for Braeside Education Centre in Devizes. Little did they know that the three day residential would change their lives forever.

After a short, cool and rather windy stop for a snack within Avebury's mystical stone circle, we arrived at Braeside and enjoyed our picnic lunch in the sun. Following a warm welcome from manager Keith, it was straight into our groups for the host of activities and challenges that we had long awaited.

Daily activities included rock climbing, zip-lining, a fascinating town trail, team building challenges and a whole day of woodland walks and pond dipping. With the promise of an uninterrupted night's sleep, (despite concerns about somebody's haunted Liverpool teddy), the evenings also delivered excitement and activity. On the first night, nocturnal creatures watched in wonder as teams raced around the property in search of alphabetical letters hidden in plain view. The next night found us toasting marshmallows around a crackling fire that Mr McGhee had taken great pride in building, before we sang those still-all-too-familiar songs from our Year 4 production of Jack and the Beanstalk. Magic.

Special thanks must go to Mme Bond and Mr McGhee. If you see them around school, please take the time to stop and thank them. Quite simply, if they hadn't volunteered to join us, there would have been no Year 4 residential at all.

Just like the man who went up a hill and came down a mountain, the same can be said of this year's residential participants. Staff enjoyed the greatest reward of seeing the children grow in self-esteem and stature. Well done to all!

Year 5 Residential Trip to Condover Hall

We may not have had the weather on our side, but the children's enthusiasm more than made up for it. Their determination to give everything a go was a wonderful sight. Favourites of the week were; rocket launch -where a bottle was partially filled with water and then pumped with air - before flying off. Buggy building, which involved building a buggy out of large empty barrels, wooden beams and soggy rope, making what looked like a Flintstone car, which was then pulled across a field by members of the group whilst two children sat on top. Similarly, the raft building and raft racing across the lake was great fun, with a few casualties falling in the water and coming out laughing. All the adults on the trip were incredibly proud of how well the children worked together in their groups to solve problems and find solutions especially in Cluedo, grid of stones and in supporting one another in the tunnelling and abseiling. All in all, the week was a huge success – well done year 5 for not giving up during our wet and soggy week!

Please bear with us as we work with BT to restore our telephone line. For urgent messages, please e-mail frontdesk@oakhurst.swindon.sch.uk or serratorea@oakhurst.swindon.sch.uk

