

**OAKDENE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**Ashton Avenue, Rainhill, Merseyside. L35 0QQ**  
**Tel No: 01744 678410**  
Headteacher: Mrs. H. Lee B.Ed (Hons)

7<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome once again to all our Reception children who have started with us on a part time basis this week. We hope they are enjoying their new school and they look so grown up now. We have lots of keen children throughout the school at the moment; let's hope this keeps up throughout the year. Thank you for ensuring that your children look smart - when they leave the house anyway!

Thank you for being so understanding whilst the building work is continuing. The children have been very sensible and we hope to have better news next week regarding the roof and the phone lines!

Values in School

Our first value of the year is Responsibility this term with the values of Friendship, Respect, Honesty, Determination and Excellence following in subsequent half terms. This year we will be continuing with our Values Assemblies where our children are acknowledged for showing our school values throughout their time in school. Parents of children who receive these awards are invited to attend this celebration.

SLT and Biscuits!

We will once again be holding our Senior Leadership Team drop in sessions for Parents to bring any concerns to us. Our first session is on 13<sup>th</sup> September from 5.30pm - 6.30pm and these will be continued throughout the year (see dates). Please feel free to bring any issues to us at any time but we hope that these sessions serve as an informal way of airing concerns with any member of our Senior Leadership Team.

Packed Lunches

Please can I remind all Parents to be vigilant regarding what is put in their child's lunchbox? We have a number of children with allergies so we request that you do not send in any products containing nuts. This could cause serious consequences for some of our Children and we hope you can show understanding in this matter. We do not allow sweets / cakes in School for birthdays or from holidays etc for similar reasons. We are also promoting our healthy living policy by not allowing children to have fizzy drinks, chocolate or sweets in lunch boxes. There are many occasions when children eat fruit in school but tell us that they don't eat it at home so we hope to encourage more fruit eating. Please can I also ask that your child's **Packed Lunch box is labelled with their name?** We have many lunchboxes which are the same and we cannot match them up with their owners if they are not named.

Religious Education and Assemblies

All Parents have the choice as to whether their child undertakes Religious Education and participates in Collective Worship in Assemblies. Throughout our Religious Education Syllabus we study a range of Religions instilling in the children a sense of empathy and understanding for many different world Religions. If you **would not like** your child to be involved in Religious Education please send a letter to your child's class teacher indicating this preference.

Back to School Meetings

Next week we will be holding our Back to School Meetings for each class from Years 1 - 6 in your child's classroom.. We have a lot of information to give to Parents and these will take place at 3.15pm (Years 1 - 5) and provision will be made for Staff to look after **School age** children in the ICT Suite. If you require your Child to be looked after, please bring them to the ICT Suite at 3.15pm.. **The Year 6 meeting will be held next Thursday evening at 6.30pm** as this will also cover details for the PGL adventure weekend in October. No children will be looked after at this meeting. See dates for details. We have reduced the amount of paperwork you will receive so PLEASE complete the 2 forms you will be given at the back to school meeting and send back to school via your child as soon as possible. Dojos will be given out and these can only be given if the forms are returned to class.

Reception Parents are invited to a workshop on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 9.00am when Mrs. Heskett and Miss. Barlow will give details of the Curriculum, Assessments and life in the Reception Class.

### Secondary School Admissions

Although the year has only just started, the Local Authority are planning for their Secondary School Applications. A Secondary School Admission Booklet will NOT automatically be given to every Child. Parents of Year 6 children should already have received a letter from St Helens Council giving you information about applying. If you want to apply online please go to [sthelens.gov.uk](http://sthelens.gov.uk) - School Admissions - Secondary. The closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018

### Primary School Admissions

We have just welcomed our new Reception Children into School and we now start the induction process again. The online facility for applying for a place at Oakdene is open now - please go to [st.helens.gov](http://st.helens.gov) - School Admissions - Primary. Our Open afternoon will take place this year on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 2.00pm. Please inform any other Parents who may wish to come to our Open Afternoon of the date and time. The closing date for Primary School Applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

### Music Tuition in School

The Schools Music Service provide small group lessons for children from Year 3 onwards and representatives from the service will be coming into school to tell parents about the lessons they can provide in school. Lessons will be available in flute, clarinet, guitar, keyboard and violin. Staff from the School Music Service will be in school on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 3.15pm when your child can try out some instruments. Details of hire schemes for instruments will also be available at the meeting. Year 3 and 4 will also have a taster session of woodwind instruments with Mrs. Gaynor next Wednesday to help the children try out a few instruments.

### Holiday Club for the year

As you may be booking holidays from work, we would like to inform you of the holiday clubs that we will be running throughout the year. **Dependent upon numbers** the Holiday Clubs that we are planning to run are:

Christmas Holidays - Weds 2<sup>nd</sup> - Fri 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Easter Holidays - Mon 8<sup>th</sup> April - Fri 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Summer Holidays - Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> - Weds 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019. We hope that these dates will help you to be able to sort out childcare. If there is not enough interest in the clubs then it will not be feasible to run them.

### Parent Helpers in School

We always welcome Parents and Grandparents to help in School. We could not do a lot of activities that we undertake without the support from Parents and Grandparents and we are always grateful for any help you are able to provide for us. Even if you cannot make a regular commitment, all staff welcome parental help whenever possible and if advance notice is given of when you are coming in then there are always jobs ready for you! We require your name, date of birth and maiden name (if applicable) in order that the Local Authority can run a check. This only usually takes a couple of days to be completed. Please let the Staff in the School office know your details and we can get this check sorted as soon as possible.

### Democracy Week

Next week our children will be standing as candidates and voting for School and Eco Councillors. I am sure many children will want to be on these councils and the children who serve on these committees do a superb job in developing our school. These are from developing the school grounds, recycling and representing our school as well as ensuring that all the children's voices are heard in decision making. We wish all our candidates every success.

Normal service for the current Newsletter format will be resumed next time we publish a Newsletter - too much information in this letter!

Yours truly,

H. Lee  
Headteacher

## Dates 2018 - 2019. To be added to throughout the year

Weds 5th Sept - School Opens. Rec class am / pm.

Mon 10th Sept - Reception stay for lunch. Parents collect at 1.30pm

Mon 11th Sept - Back to School Meetings School Aged children will be looked after in the ICT Suite

Monday 10th September. 3.15pm (Miss. Barlow) Y2

Monday 10th September 3.15pm (Mrs. Whittaker) Y1

Tuesday 11th September 3.15pm (Mr. Byrne) Y5 (FH to observe)

Wednesday 12th September 3.15pm (Mrs. Garton Pope & Mrs. Hodgson) Y3

Thursday 13th September 3.15pm (Miss. Harrison) Y4

Thursday 13th September 6.30pm. (Mr. Weston, Mr. Byrne)

Thurs 13th Sept - Rec Workshop 9am - 11.00am

Thurs 13th Sept - SLT & Biscuits - 5.30pm - 6.30pm.

Fri 14th Sept - 3.15pm - Schools Music Service Roadshow

Tues 18th Sept - Full Govs Meeting. 6.30pm.

Thurs 20th Sept - NSPCC Day

Weds 26th Sept - European Day of Languages - Children can wear Red, white & blue (French Day)

Thurs 27th Sept - Writing Workshop for Y1 - Y6 Parents 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Fri 28th Sept - MacMillan Afternoon Tea - 2.15pm

Mon 1st Oct - Photos - Families and Individual Photos - Please can children wear Winter Uniform

Fri 5th Oct - Year 5 Assembly. 9.00am

Fri 12th Oct - Mon 15th - Year 6 to PGL

Fri 19th Oct - Values Assembly 9.00am

-School Closes. 3.15pm.

Tues 30th Oct - School Opens

Tues 30th Oct - Flu Immunisation Spray- Rec - Y5

Thurs 1st Nov - Open Afternoon for prospective Parents 2.00pm.

Thurs 1st Nov - Internet Safety Workshop for Parents of children in Year 5 & 6.

Weds 7<sup>th</sup> Nov - Parents Evening. 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Mon 12th - Fri 16th Nov - Friendship Week

Fri 16th Nov - Children in Need - Penny challenge. Save your pennies!

Mon 19th Nov - Maths Workshop. Y1 - 6. 6.30pm - 7.30pm.

Weds 21<sup>st</sup> Nov - SLT & Biscuits. 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Fri 23rd Nov - Book People Bus at School all day for children and Parents

Weds 28th Nov - Year 3 Assembly 9.00am

Fri 30th Nov - Bauble Service for Children

Fri 30th Nov- Christmas Fayre - to be confirmed

Thurs 6th - Christmas Cracker - Choir and Singing Club 6.00pm

Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Dec - Nativity - 2.00pm (Y2 & Y1 Parents)

Weds 12<sup>th</sup> Dec - Nativity - 2.00pm (Y2 & Rec Parents)

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec - Carol Service at St. Ann's Church. 10.00am

Tues 18th Dec - pm - Rec & KS1 Party

Weds 19th - pm - KS2 Party (MW)

Weds 19th Dec - Values Assembly 9.00am

Thurs 20th Dec - School Closes 3.15pm

Weds 2nd - Fri 4th Jan 2019 - Holiday Club - pending numbers

Mon 7th Jan - INSET Day

Tues 8th Jan - School Opens

Mon 21st Jan- Reading Workshop for Years 3,4 & 5. 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Mon 11th Feb - Y1 Phonics Workshop 3.15pm

Thurs 14th Feb - Discos - to be confirmed

Thurs 14th Feb - SLT & Biscuits - 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Fri 15th Feb - Values Assembly 9.00am

- School Closes. 3.15pm

Mon 25th Feb - School Opens  
Thurs 28th Feb - Y2 SATs Workshop. 3.15pm  
Fri 1st March - Year 1 Assembly. 9.00am  
Weds 6th March - Parents Evening. 3.30pm - 6,30pm  
Thurs 7th March - World Book Day  
Weds 13th March - Parents Evening 4.30pm - 7.30pm  
Fri 15th March - Comic Relief (Red Nose) Day  
Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March - SLT & Biscuits - 5.00pm - 6.00pm  
Tues 26th March - Full Governors 6.30pm  
Fri 29th March - Rec Assembly; 2.15pm with afternoon tea  
Fri 5th April - Values Assembly 9.00am  
- School Closes 3.15pm

Mon 8th - Fri 12th April - Holiday Club. Pending numbers  
Tues 23rd April - School Opens  
Mon 6th May - Bank Holiday  
Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> May - SLT & Biscuits - 8.30am- 9.30am  
Mon 13th - Thurs 16th May KS2 SATs.  
Mon 20th May - KS1 SATs Week  
Fri 24th May - School Closes  
Fri 24th May - Values Assembly. 9.00am  
- School Closes. 3.15pm

Mon 3rd June - INSET Day  
Tues 4th June - School Opens  
Tues 18th June - Full Governors. 6.30pm  
Thurs 20th June - Sports Day  
Fri 28th June - Year 4 Assembly. 9.00am  
Weds 10th July - Y6 Production (Afternoon 1.30pm)  
Thurs 11th July - Y6 Production (Evening - 6.30pm)  
Fri 12th July - Reports out  
Mon 16th & Tues 17th July - Year 6 Induction Days at Ranhill High  
Thurs 18th July - SLT & Biscuits. 6.00pm - 7.00pm  
Thurs 18th July - School Discos 5.00pm - 6.00pm; 6.30pm - 8.00pm  
Fri 19th July - Values Assembly. 9.00am  
Weds 24<sup>th</sup> July Y6 Leavers Assembly - 9.00am  
- School closes. 3.15pm  
Holiday Club - Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> July - Weds 31<sup>st</sup> July - Pending numbers