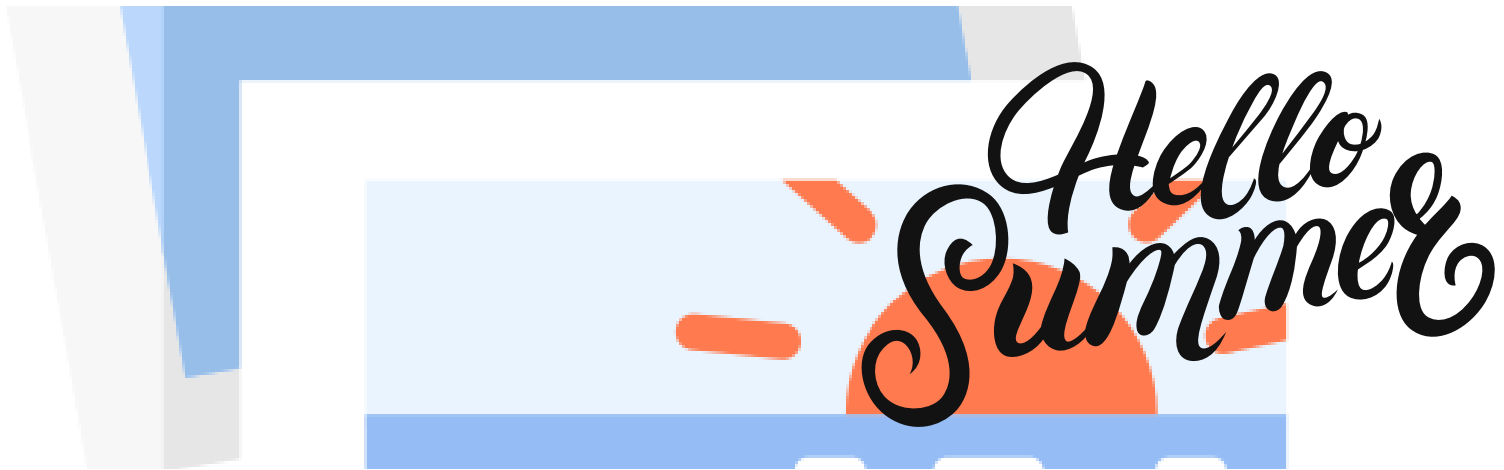


Our Trust News

THE OFFICIAL OAK ACADEMIES TRUST NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Carers,

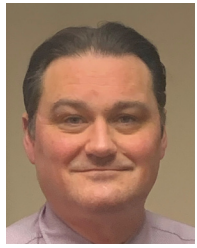
I would like to start by thanking parents and carers for their support during the challenges of the pandemic. I am sure you would want to join with me in expressing our appreciation to all the staff within the Trust who have worked hard to ensure the delivery of high-quality learning alongside fantastic activities. It has been wonderful to see children able to enjoy so many enrichment activities again as restrictions were lifted. A particular good luck to all year 6 and year 11 pupils as they transition to a new learning environment or whichever path they have chosen.

I would also like to thank our children and, of course, our parents and carers for their support and patience over the last year through the challenges which the pandemic continued to bring. Together as a Trust I have no doubt we can continue to navigate this journey efficiently, offering children continued support, development, and learning. We also have strong Local Governing Bodies and Board of Trustees, all of whom have expertise in several areas and meet regularly to set the strategic direction of OAK Trust and to ensure that the schools operate effectively.

OAK Trust is committed to continuing to ensure that our schools are the best they can be, with a strong focus on professional development and staff training. We have lots of plans for the next academic year. I am sure that 2022-23 will be a positive year for the Trust, and once again I thank parents and carers for all their support for our schools.

CEO UPDATE

BY ANDREW WILSON



Since joining OAK in January, I have spent a significant amount of time listening to colleagues and communities across our trust and beyond..

As we move into the new year, we will be seeking further opportunities to work together as a family of schools, The fantastic “500 Words” celebration event in June, where I was proud to read the winning stories from an incredible collection of entries, was an excellent example of the ways in which we will further develop cooperation across our schools.

We have had safeguarding audits at all our schools since January. I am pleased to report that these demonstrated the strong culture of safeguarding that exists across all our schools to support our students in their learning journey. We are keen to liaise closely with you moving forwards to hear your views on our safeguarding work and on wider areas of our work and will be asking your views through an online survey during the next academic year.

We are investing very significantly in IT with major upgrades to the infrastructure taking place at several schools over the summer. This will ensure that the Edtech and devices that we currently use, whether they be iPads, laptops, or other technologies, are able to be fully used by colleagues and pupils. We are also continuing to roll out new and replacement devices and are beginning to put in place a strategy to ensure our pupils will engage with, and utilise the most appropriate technology to support their educational progress.

These are just a selection of our plans to “grow together” as the OAK family. At the very heart of this will always be the very best teaching and learning at each of our schools, every single day. Thank you for your support for my colleagues across our schools as they work hard to provide the best possible education for your children.

Our Values

At our trust strategy day in March, we began our review of OAK values. Headteachers, Governors, our Central Team and Trustees joined me in developing these, with very clear agreement across the team.

The values agreed were:

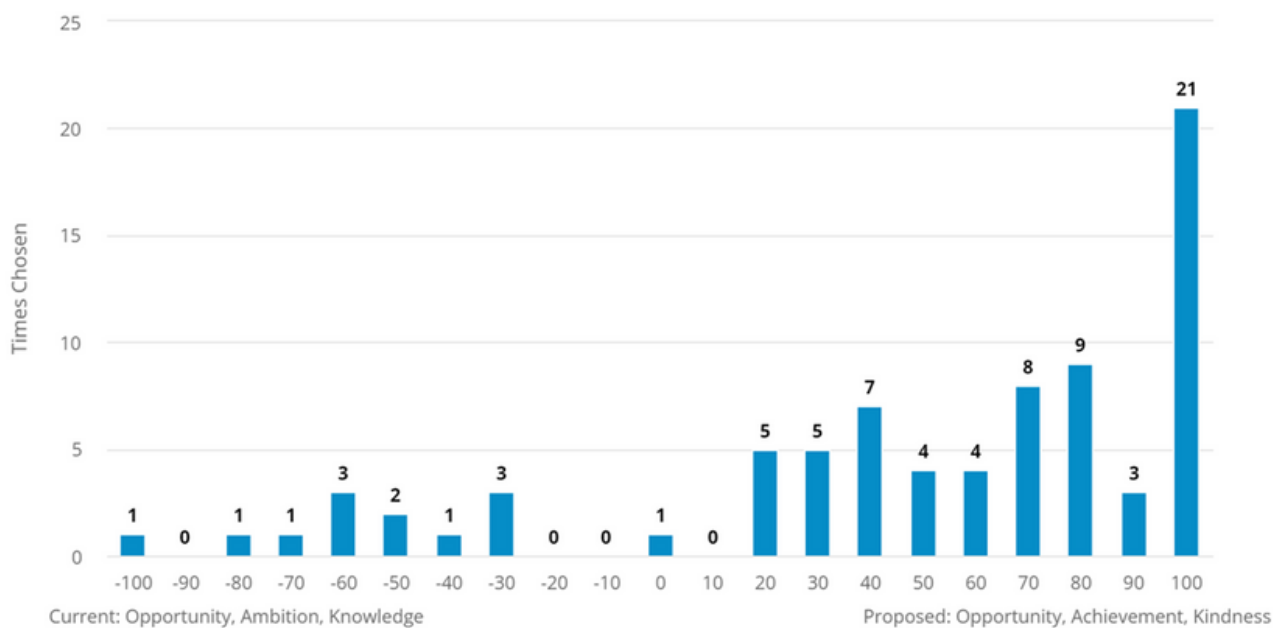
Opportunity, Achievement and Kindness

The strategy day group also wanted to make clear that “Knowledge” is a core element of the curriculum across all our schools.

The values were shared more widely culminating in a cross-trust survey this term. The results of the consultation are shared below.

Please place the slider to demonstrate your preference for the current or proposed OAK Values?

Number of responses: 79



The results of the consultation were shared with our Trust Board and as a result we are delighted to be adopting these from the start of the new academic year.

Our Branding

At the same strategy day we reviewed our branding. We wanted to reflect our new values but also to demonstrate the strength and growth of the Oak family as we continue to grow together as a trust. This growth encourages collaboration between the schools and members of the Trust; which creates a real sense of enthusiasm and desire to constantly have the pupils and students at the heart of everything we do.



You may notice some similarities between our new branding and that of the Overdale schools which links us together as a trust. We hope you like the fresh and modern approach. We will begin rolling this out during the summer.



Welcome!



OAK Academies Trust is pleased to welcome two new Trustees to the Board. We are confident that their skills and experience will benefit the Trust as a whole.

Kirstie Johnson is Principal at MV16, the outstanding sixth form college in Melton. Her role as a principal of a college in the Nova Education Trust has allowed her to see how powerful it is for all stakeholders to have a team of Trustees who can support, nurture and challenge schools in the Trust to ensure the creation of opportunities, ambition and knowledge. She explains that the Trust foundations resonate with her own educational ethos. She has worked in Leicestershire Secondary schools for over 20 years, 14 of which in senior leadership. She brings to the Trust an open and honest approach and looks forward to engaging with the wider trust community.

Kirstie lives locally and in her spare time enjoys many hobbies including baking and gardening, along with walking her dogs in the beautiful Leicestershire countryside

John Watson is Principal of Leicester Grammar School Trust (LGS, Leicester Grammar Junior School and LGS Stoneygate), whilst also being Head of LGS. Prior to this, he was Head of Bablake School in Coventry for twelve years. He has been an independent schools inspector since 2003, and for six years chaired HMC's Professional Development Sub-committee, directing the induction courses for all new HMC headteachers. An Oxford-educated modern and classical linguist, he currently teaches a leadership award in the Sixth Form and looks forward to training as an executive coach, as a coaching approach is adopted throughout the LGS Trust.

His wife is a secondary Deputy Head (Pastoral) and DSL, and his daughter is a Year 5 class teacher. With experience of governance in both independent and maintained sectors, he understands the difference between the responsibilities of governors and the executive. He looks forward to learning more about the vibrant, ambitious school communities within the Oak Multi-Academy Trust and to supporting their ongoing development; he is above all interested in making a difference to the lives of young people, regardless of sector.



MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

www.manorhigh.leics.sch.uk

Future in Medicine

Students from Years 9 and 10 had the opportunity to visit the University of Leicester to attend the Future in Medicine - Spotlight on GP Event. The students went to a lecture theatre where they were spoken to by a qualified GP who explained the role of a GP and also spoke about the different routes in getting into medicine. They then took part in interactive workshops where they were able to work with doctors in analysing different case studies. The students were also given a tour of the university. Overall the day was really positive, and the students were each given a certificate for partaking in the day from the university.





MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

www.manorhigh.leics.sch.uk

After almost 2 years of restrictions in experiencing the arts, we have had the privilege of running a number of trips to galleries, museums, workshops, exhibitions and live productions in the West End.

We have been able to soak up local art, music and theatre and visit some of London's most prestigious galleries and award-winning theatre.

Our students have been able to enjoy a range of exhibitions in the National Gallery, Tate Modern, the British Museum, Design Museum and Imperial War Museum. They have also been able to experience live musical theatre, set design and costume/puppetry in productions such as Hamilton, Matilda, The Woman in Black and Back to the Future The Musical.

Over this academic year, over 100 students, ranging from Year 7s to Year 10s, have been able to take part and each trip has been uniquely inspirational.





BROOKSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.brookside.leics.sch.uk

Eco-Schools Green Flag

Fabulous news! Brookside has been awarded the Green Flag accreditation again from Eco-Schools, a charitable organisation that encourages students to protect their school and the wider environment through accomplishing eco-challenges along a journey towards the award of their Green Flag Award. It means pupils helping to raise awareness of environmental issues through planning and running the eco-projects in school. So we are very proud that this term, Brookside has achieved the the Green Flag award, meaning the school is working hard to teach children about looking after the world and ensuring the next generation is eco-aware.

Well done Mrs Wilcox and the Eco Council!





BROOKSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.brookside.leics.sch.uk

Enrichment activities

Pupils at Brookside have enjoyed a whole hoast of enrichment activities including Warwick Castle, Hunstanton, Beaumanor Hall residential and an extra special sleepover for Year 6 who were unable to attend their residential due to COVID. The homemade pizza, campfire s'mores and film were a big hit though.





WOODLAND GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk



We were delighted at Woodland Grange to have benefitted from community volunteers from Ridge and Partners LLP, a national architectural company with a local office, who came to us to design and plant an area that was very much an eyesore following some remedial drain works. The five volunteers, headed up by Rizwan, Senior Architect, worked all day to transform the area that most parents walk past every day. Pupils painted designs on cans which were subsequently planted-up by Year 6 pupils.

The area now looks beautiful and we are incredibly grateful to Rizwan and his team for their efforts.

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OVERDALE INFANT SCHOOL

www.overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk

Summer Enrichment

Another school thrilled to welcome back school trips for the first time since the pandemic, Overdale Infants enjoyed visits to Twycross Zoo, Westlodge Farm Park and Stonehurst Family Farm. These trips link perfectly to the school's current theme of Animal Magic



Reception children (and staff) had a wonderful day at Westlodge and learnt lots about a variety of farm animals. The children were able to experience feeding goats, chickens, lambs, and turkeys. They also watched the pigs sleeping in their pen.



OVERDALE INFANT SCHOOL

www.overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk

For our Year 1 and Year 2 children this was their first school trip, despite having been attending school for either several years already. It was wonderful to see the children's faces as they boarded the buses armed with sun hats and packed lunches. It was such an adventure for them all.

The children were able to see many different animals including lemurs, monkeys, penguins and meerkats. They all had an amazing time and were very well behaved! We aim to ensure our school trips build on from one another throughout the years.

With our younger children visiting farms to learn about native animals and our older children visiting a zoo to learn about more exotic species they would not otherwise encounter.



OVERDALE INFANT SCHOOL

www.overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk



BankTheFood

Mustard Technologies

Reminder:

Please send any donations into school where they have set up a foodbank donation box if any of our families would like to donate items.

Download 'Bank the Food' app to find out items urgently needed. Please contact the school office if you could benefit from this system.



New Chair of Governors



In May 2022, the Chair of Overdale Infant School, Daniel Routledge, stepped down after many years in post. The Trust thanks him for a lengthy and committed service to the school. He is succeeded by the new Chair, **Matt Davis**, who brings a wide-range of skills to the Board. Welcome, Matt, and thank you.

We also welcome new Governors Sally Birch (Vice-Chair), Kam Shergill, Vish Bagga and Sukhi Rai. Thank you for offering your valuable time to help the school and the pupils.





OVERDALE JUNIOR SCHOOL

www.overdale-jun.leicester.sch.uk

New Logo

Following the recent rebrand of the Infant School, the Juniors have developed a new logo to link with the infants and the Trust overall. A triangle illustrates the importance of parents and schools working together to support the pupil. The three points of a triangle represent the three parts of that relationship. Overdale Junior School provides that triangle of support for each individual child so they can flourish throughout their educational journey.

We hope you like the new look which will be rolled out gradually.





Eco News



Thank you to everyone who supported Clean Air Day on 16th June. It was wonderful to see 50 children cycling and 12 children scooting in to school as well as nearly two thirds of the school walking or using the Park and Stride scheme. It's encouraging to see our wonderful families trying to reduce their carbon footprint and help to reduce the air pollution around our school, with the added benefit of developing a healthier lifestyle.

On Monday 27th June members of the City Council Eco Team visited all Y5 classes to talk about the effects of the fast fashion industry on our environment and natural resources.

The sustainability teachers talked about the amount of energy and water used to produce clothing, such as a cotton tee shirt and the effect of that on the planet and people who make them. Pupils took part in eye opening quiz, highlighting the consequences of fast fashion where clothing is produced cheaply and then thrown away literally after one use. They watched a video showing children stage a fashion show by reusing recycled materials such as plastic, paper and fabric.

Mrs Scott, Mrs Cooper and the EcOverdale Team



Athletics



Following on from our success just before half term at the Saffron Lane Athletics, our year 5/6 team secured a place at the Quad Kids city finals. They performed exceptionally on the day and finished second out of the whole city, narrowly missing out to St Johns.

Our parallel games team also took part in their Quad Kids finals and had an excellent day. Well done to Ted whose performance on the day saw him selected to represent the

East Midlands at the national finals! Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support. @ojsSport



Jubilee Celebrations

Our schools had a lot of fun celebrating the Queen's Jubilee in May 2022. It seems like the teachers quite enjoyed it too - Mrs Brown had a lot of fun being Queen for the day!



500 words



We were so impressed with the fantastic stories from Year 2 and Year 6 across the Trust submitted to the annual 500 words competition. 32 finalists were chosen and had their stories published, and ten of these won a commendation and a book voucher.

A HUGE congratulations to our overall winners who received a trophy and book voucher for Kibworth Books.



Year 2

Bronze: Harnek Bagh, Woodland Grange Primary School
Silver: Jamila Elabeh, Overdale Infant School
Gold: Mehdi Hussain, Woodland Grange Primary School



Year 6

Bronze: Willow Shan, Woodland Grange Primary School
Silver: Keir Omand, Brookside Primary School
Gold: Matilda Kirkland, Overdale Junior School



500 words



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Summer Holidays



Thank you for your continued support of your school and of the trust. Have a lovely break whatever your plans are this Summer.



**WE CREATE OPPORTUNITY
WE NURTURE AMBITION
WE DEVELOP KNOWLEDGE
WE ARE OAK**

**OAK Multi Academy Trust — a partnership of schools in Leicestershire
and Leicester city.**

Registered company number: 07695364

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