



Friday, 26th September 2025

NOTES FROM MRS MITCHELL

Dear Parents

It has been a full and lively fortnight at school, with so many opportunities for the children to learn, grow, and celebrate together. As I continue to get to know the school, I am struck each day by the energy, curiosity, and kindness your boys and girls bring to our community.

We began with a Phonics and Number Workshop for Pre-Reception and Reception, led by Mrs Dowling and Miss Wright. It was wonderful to see parents exploring the approaches we use in class and finding ways to support learning at home.

A special highlight came with the visit of Mr Gowers from Warlingham Rugby Club, who presented us with a First Team shirt to celebrate our new sponsorship. The shirt will soon be proudly displayed in school, marking the start of what promises to be a strong partnership. In our celebration assembly, we also recognised the many children who took part in the local Tough Mudder and 'Run Reigate.' A special mention goes to Isabelle, Ophelia, and Georgia, who achieved 1st, 2nd, and 4th place respectively in the Year 5 girls' category—an outstanding achievement!

The children have also enjoyed a variety of enrichment opportunities. A drama workshop encouraged imaginative thinking, confident performance, and strong curriculum links. Year 2 and Year 4 enjoyed juice, dominoes, and donuts, while Year 3 had great fun with Jenga and Jammie Dodgers. I particularly valued spending time in the library with Reception and Year 1, sharing stories and discovering which books excite them most. Many children have also been keen to share their 'Personal Best' (PB) moments with me—named, of course, after Paddington Bear. The Year 4 Assembly was a delight, with the children confidently explaining the water cycle and seasonal changes. My thanks goes to Miss Hopkins for her support and guidance in preparing the children so well.

On Monday we presented our new Eco Leaders with their badges. In assembly, I spoke about the importance of respect—not only for one another, but also for the environment we share. The Eco Leaders will work with Miss Wright, our Charities Lead, to adopt a rhino in recognition of World Rhino Day. The children showed great interest as they learned about endangered species and what we can do to protect them. Congratulations to Pareesa K (Y5), Isla (Y4), Willow (Y3), Gracie (Y2), and Hendrix (Y1). Thank you also to our Health and Safety Governor, Jane Bond,

who kindly collected acorns from her oak tree for the children to pot up in Forest School. We look forward to seeing which of them grow into saplings!

We also held our first School Council meeting, led confidently by our President, Jaimin, and Vice Presidents Leela and Lizzie. Eliza in Year 6 shared some particularly insightful ideas as the Fourth Member, while Charlie did a sterling job as Secretary. The boys and girls brought along their ideas boxes and showed real teamwork and collaboration as they worked together to share suggestions for the term ahead.

Our School Council for Autumn 2025:

Class	Form	Vice
5	Theo B	Isabella M
4	Anna	Ellie
3	Edith	George
2	Louis	Hugo
1	Zayn	Lea

Another important moment was our practice fire drill, in which the children were calm, focused, and responsible throughout. Pre-Reception deserve particular praise for the maturity they showed. I am grateful to our PFOG parents, who recently completed a full day of Paediatric First Aid training. Their dedication ensures that the many events they organise are run with both energy and care.

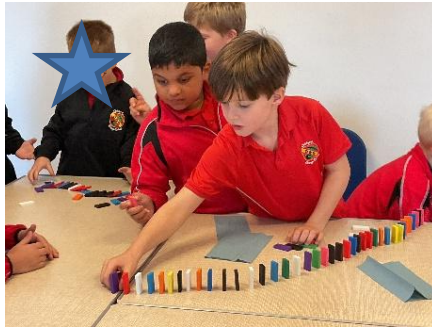
It has been a pleasure to meet many of the Senior school Heads in the local area. Over the past fortnight I have met with Mr Mark Tottman from Dunottar School to learn about their Warrior Programme, and with Mr Alasdair Kennedy, Head of Trinity School, which will become fully co-educational in 2027. We also welcomed Caroline Lawson, Head of Admissions at Reigate Grammar School, who led a thoughtful assembly on gratitude, followed by an engaging Q&A for parents. Looking ahead, we are delighted to be hosting Mr Richard Bool, Headteacher at Lingfield College, on Wednesday 16th October for a similar session. Please sign up via WisePay if you would like to attend.

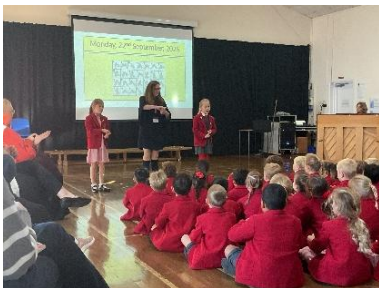
This week I am pleased to welcome Megan Richardson, our new Lunchtime and After-School Care Supervisor. Megan brings warmth and energy to her role and will be a real asset to our provision. From Monday, sessions will take place in the Reception and Year 1 classrooms, with collection through the main entrance. We hope this new arrangement will be more convenient for families with siblings.

Looking ahead, I am excited to support our U9s Football Team at their tournament at Caterham School this Saturday, and I wish all the best to our swimming first team who will be training at Surrey Sports Park on Sunday with Mrs Evans and Mrs Cox. Excitement is also building in Year 5 for their Bushcraft Residential at Penshurst Estate—always a highlight of the Prep School year. I am sure parents will also appreciate a little free time while the children are away!

None of this would be possible without our outstanding staff team. Their commitment, creativity, and care ensure that every child experiences learning that is purposeful and joyful. Thank you for your continued support and for the warm welcome you have given me during these first few weeks. I look forward to sharing more news in our next edition.

Mrs Mitchell





NOTES FROM THE EXCEPTIONAL OAKHYRST STAFF

Pre-Reception

In Pre-Reception, our topic this term is *Me, Myself and I*. The children have been talking with their classmates about their families and proudly sharing photographs on the interactive whiteboard. We have also explored our similarities and differences, and celebrated what makes each of us unique and special. To go alongside this, the children created little paper people to represent themselves, which are now displayed together in the classroom—a wonderful picture of our whole class community.

Recently, we enjoyed a visit to Mrs Mitchell's study for a story. The children loved looking around and exploring the toys in the play area, and their excellent behaviour was rewarded with a special sticker as they left.



Reception

This week in Reception we've been busy starting our brand-new topic: *People Who Help Us*. The children have loved exploring the important role of firefighters — in Literacy we've been labelling different parts of a fire engine, and in Expressive Arts and Design we even had a go at designing and creating our very own fire engines!

In Maths, we've been continuing to build our number skills. We've been consolidating recognising and ordering numbers, paying close attention to forming each digit accurately and neatly. To help with our number ordering, we've been using Miss Wright's very mixed-up number line and pegs — the children have enjoyed solving the puzzle of putting everything back in the correct place.

Our Phonics sessions have been full of energy and fun! We've been focusing on the sounds 'qu' and 'ch', and have also learned a brilliant new rhyme to help us remember our digraphs. The children are really growing in confidence when spotting and sounding out digraphs in their reading.

We also had the chance to take part in an amazing Perform Workshop, where the children became heroes on an imaginative adventure. They threw themselves into the activities with so much enthusiasm, showing off their confidence, teamwork and creativity.

In Music, the children have been practising for our Harvest Celebration. We've started learning our "Cabbages Green" song — it's sounding fantastic already (and it's safe to say it's stuck in all of our heads too!). We can't wait to share it with you soon.

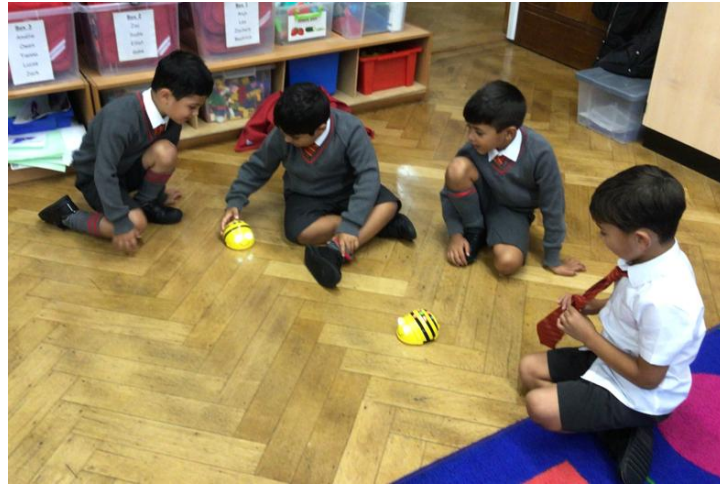


Year 1

Year 1 have been fully engaged in Marvellous Maths, exploring shapes, numbers, and problem-solving. In Excellent English they have been building their writing and reading skills with growing confidence, while Scintillating Science has sparked plenty of curiosity and wonder about the world around them. Their digital learning adventures have also taken off, as the children were introduced to the world of coding and algorithms using Beebots. They learned how to sequence instructions and solve problems creatively, all while having great fun navigating their Beebots through exciting challenges.

A further highlight was the Perform Drama Workshop, where the children joined forces with Mildred the Witch on a thrilling mission to reclaim a powerful sword from King Arthur. Our budding actors stepped into the story with energy and imagination, showing fantastic teamwork and storytelling skills. The week was rounded off with a special Story Time session with Mrs Mitchell, where the children gathered to enjoy a carefully chosen story together.





Year 2

In our History lessons, we have been enjoying finding out about old toys and how they are similar and also different to the ones we enjoy today. We met Old Bear who will be 99 this November and looked at an Edwardian doll's tea set which was beautiful but very "delicate". Great work Year 2! We have been learning new vocabulary to help us with our historical investigation such as century, antique, Victorian and Edwardian.

We have also been very busy working on our assembly which is linked to our very exciting Science topic "Animals including humans". We have been working extremely hard rehearsing and can't wait to show you next week!

Year 3

On Thursdays, Year 3 stretch our minds with critical thinking activities. Last week, the children tackled a fun and thoughtful challenge with a feelings sudoku. Instead of numbers, they used images representing different emotions. The aim was to place each image so that every row, column and mini-grid contained one of each feeling without any repeats. It was a fantastic way to build logical thinking whilst also exploring emotional awareness.



In English, we've been learning about free verse poetry - a style of poetry that doesn't need to rhyme or follow a set structure. The children were inspired by author Michael Rosen to perform poetry in front of the class. Different tones of voice, facial expressions, actions, and changing the speed and volume of their reading made the children's poetry performances lively and engaging. It was a pleasure to see their confidence grow as they brought poems to life!



Year 4

Year 4 have continued the way they started this year – with energy, enthusiasm and excellence across the board! The children delivered a superb assembly about Autumn and the water cycle. Whether in the classroom, preparing for the stage, or tackling new skills, they have shown themselves to be hardworking, motivated, and eager to take on every challenge. We couldn't be prouder of all that they are achieving, and we are very excited to see what they will do next!



Year 5

This term within Year 5's History work we are learning about life during the Tudor Times. We have already researched what Tudor life would be like within their villages and towns and this week we looked at the type of clothing Tudor monarchs would have worn. We then put our best creative and artistic skills to the test and became Fashion Designers for the day! We created our own outfits for a Tudor King or Queen using the knowledge we had developed throughout our lesson. The children were fantastic designers and thought carefully about all the finer elements of each individual piece of clothing. Next week, we are going to be designing a Tudor home and look forward to sharing these with you.



Year 6

In Maths, we have been exploring large numbers up to the millions, as well as ordering and multiplying decimals. A real challenge came when we faced a question on an 11+ paper involving circles. This led us into new learning about the area and circumference of circles and discovering Pi, which the children have enjoyed tackling with enthusiasm.

In English, our work on *Kensuke's Kingdom* has inspired some excellent writing, including diary entries and storm descriptions. The children have also shown great perseverance with their loop card words, beating their personal bests several times. In science, we have been learning about inheritance and evolution, thinking carefully about the traits we inherit from our parents and how living things change over time. In history, our focus has been on the long- and short-term causes of the First World War, while in geography we have begun our volcanoes topic, looking at the structure of the Earth and how volcanoes are formed. It has been a busy but rewarding fortnight, and the children should be very proud of their hard work.

OTHER NEWS

Open Morning

A reminder that our Open Days are on 3rd and 4th October – please spread the word!



Forest School





Art Curriculum

Year 6 have made an impressive start to their 'Landscapes' project. They have been considering atmospheric and linear perspective to give their work a sense of depth.





Pre-Reception have painted sunflowers. They used their fingers to paint dotty seeds and a brush to paint bright yellow petals.

Year 1 have been designing monsters. They played a game which helped them to choose body shapes and body parts to create some amazing creatures!

In Art Club, Year 5 and 6 have been working on the theme of boats. Pupils are able to choose the materials they use, so they have been busily drawing, painting, printing, using clay and making papier-mâché models.

Work by Lizzie Y6, Suleyman Y6, Zuri PR, Jack Y1 and Bella Y5.

Sport Update

We have had a brilliant start to Sport here at Oakhyrst Grange. The children have been taking part in various fitness and cross country related activities during PE across the age groups. In Games, the Prep children have been taking part in Football & Netball activities with Pre-prep children taking part in an array of ball skills.

On Wednesday 24th September, we had our first competition of the year, with the U11 football team taking part at the Epsom College festival. 24 schools attended in what was a brilliant morning of competition. Our team finished 4th in their group, progressing to the Plate Semi-Final where they then narrowly lost 3-2. There were some brilliant performances on show, and the team gelled well together given it was their first time playing together. A full list of our results from the competition are below:

2-1 win v The Mall

0-0 draw v Dulwich Prep B

4-1 loss v Thomas Kensington

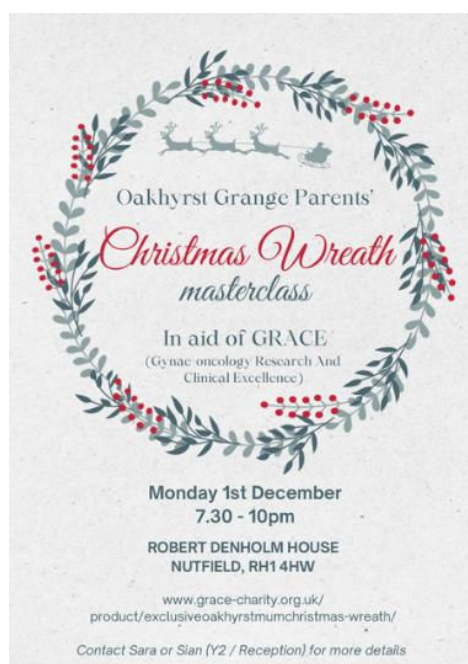
3-0 loss v Banstead B

3-2 win v Wallace Fields

3-2 loss v Donmead



Exclusive Christmas wreath making masterclass for Oakhyrst parents



ROTATIONAL WEEKLY MENUS



Oakhyrst Grange School Autumn Term Menu 2025

Week 1	Week Commencing: 1 st , 22 nd September 2025, 13 th October, 17 th November 2025				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Jacket Potatoes served with Baked Beans Cheese and Sweetcorn	Beef Chilli Con Carne served with Nachos and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Chow Mein Served with Seasonal Vegetables	Roast Turkey Roast Potatoes served with Stuffing Balls and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Goujons and Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Plant Based Chilli	Stir fry Oriental Vegetables with Noodles	Vegetarian Strudel	Plant Based Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake	Water Melon and Pineapple	Yoghurt	Ice Cream	Chocolate Chip Cookies
	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table



Oakhyrst Grange School Autumn Term Menu 2025

Week 2	Week Commencing 8 th , 29 th September 2025, 3 rd , 24 th November 2025				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Margherita Pizza Served with Hash Browns and Sweetcorn	Beef Pasta Bolognese served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Korma Curry Basmati Rice served with Naan and Seasonal Vegetables	Roast Pork with Roast Potatoes Gravy served with Yorkshire Pudding and Seasonal Vegetables	Battered Pollock with Steak Cut Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Veggie Pasta Bake	Chickpeas and Potato Curry	Vegan Roast Strudel	Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake	Water Melon and Pineapples	Yoghurt	Ice Cream	Chocolate Chip Cookies
	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table



Oakhyrst Grange School Autumn Term Menu 2025

Week 3	Week Commencing: 15 th September 2025, 6 th Oct, 3 rd November, 1 st December 2025				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Tomato and Cheese Pasta served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables	Beef Burger and Hash Browns served with Ketchup and Cucumber Batons	Mediterranean Chicken with Basmati Rice and Vegetables	Roast Turkey Roast Potatoes Rosemary Gravy served with Stuffing Balls and Seasonal Vegetables	Breaded Fish with Steak Cut Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Plant Based Burger	Vegetarian Paella	Richmond Vegan Sausages	Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake	Honeydew Melon Pineapples	Yoghurt	Ice Cream	Chocolate Eclairs
	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table

KEY FORTNIGHTLY DATES

- Saturday 27.9.25 U9 Football Tournament at Caterham Prep School all morning commencing 9.00am
- Monday 29.9.25 Imago Photography taking individual pupil photographs all morning
- Tuesday 30.9.25 Selected Years 3 to 6 pupils Swimming Gala away at Cumnor House leave OGS 3.15pm
- Wednesday 1.10.25 Year 5 Bushcraft Residential leave OGS 9.00am
- Friday 3.10.25 Year 2 Form Assembly – 8.45am
- Friday 3.10.25 Prospective Parents Open Day – 10.00am to 3.00pm
- Friday 3.10.25 Year 5 return from Bushcraft Residential Trip 5.00pm approximately
- Saturday 4.10.25 Prospective Parents Open Morning – 10.00am – please sign up your child if they are available to support through Wisepay
- Monday 6.10.25 to Wednesday 8.10.25 Harvest Donations to be brought to school
- Tuesday 7.10.25 Year 6 trip to Tandridge Junior Citizen Child Safety Event – leave OGS 8.45am
- Wednesday 8.10.25 Year 4 trip to Bough Beech – all day
- Wednesday 8.10.25 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Parent Forum – 6.30pm please sign up through your Wisepay account to join us
- Thursday 9.10.25 Harvest Festival Service – R to Year 6 dropped at St Mary's Church from 8.15am
- Friday 10.10.25 Selected Years 4 to 6 children competing in ISA LS Swimming Gala away K2 Leisure Centre, Crawley all day
- Friday 10.10.25 PFOG Spooky Disco – please book your child in through your Wisepay account
- Saturday 11.01.25 U11 Football Tournament away at Caterham School all morning commencing 9.00am



Oakhurst Grange School



**Join us at
Our Open Day**
Friday 3rd October
and Saturday 4th October

To book a personal tour and get a real sense of what life is like at Oakhyrst Grange School, contact our admissions

An independent day school for pupils aged 3 - 11 OakhyrstGrange School,
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Stansted Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 6AJ
01883 343344 | office@oakhurstgrangeschool.co.uk


Oakhurst Grange School

 **Caterham & District Foodbank**
Together with Trussell

Harvest appeal



Help support your local foodbank this Harvest, providing emergency food and practical support across northern Tandridge District.

Donate food

Please donate an item or two from our shopping list, helping ensure we can provide food and practical essentials for people facing hardship in our communities.

Shopping list

Tinned meat
Tinned fish
Tinned vegetables
Custard
Rice pudding
Jams or spreads
Fruit juice (long-life)
Bars of chocolate
Shampoo
Soap

Caterham & District Foodbank
caterham.foodbank.org.uk

Caterham & District Foodbank is the working name of Caterham Foodbank - Registered Charity 1155330 in England & Wales. Poster issued September 2025.

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PR-Year 3
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OCTOBER DANCE CAMPS!

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**27th October 2025
29th October 2025
30th October 2025**

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Football Coaching For School Years R(KG) & yr 1



Quality football coaching for reception & year 1 children on Sunday mornings from 9-10am @ Whyteleafe Recreation Ground, Hillbury Road, CR6 9TA.

Sunday 21.09.25 – 14.12.25 (exc. 26.10.25, 02.11.25 & 07.12.25).

Price - £70, or book a taster session for £7.

Sessions run by experienced, dbs checked, level 2 FA coach Ali Martin (who has been the football coach at Oakhurst Grange since 2012).

Ring 07504332625 or email agonsports@outlook.com to book or for further details.