



Friday, 8th May 2026

NOTES FROM MRS MITCHELL

Dear Parents,

It has been a busy and wonderfully 'buzzy' week here at school. Year 4 enjoyed an amazing residential trip to Broadstone Warren, where they embraced new challenges and created lasting memories. Meanwhile, our Reception children had a fantastic morning to Godstone Farm, delighting in hands-on experiences and exploring the outdoors. Year 6 are all set for their PGL adventure next week. School trips such as these are an incredibly important part of children's development; they build independence, confidence, curiosity and social skills, all while bringing learning to life beyond the classroom. My thanks to the staff and volunteers who supported these outings.

It has also been a pleasure to welcome so many prospective parents into school this week. With the sunshine highlighting our beautiful setting, the school has been looking at its very best. We have received many lovely comments and positive feedback, and we look forward to welcoming more families tomorrow.

Congratulations to the children who have been appointed as Eco-Prefects for this term – I enjoyed planting up our hanging baskets with them on Tuesday. In addition, they attended their first meeting with Miss Wright and were delighted to discuss David Attenborough and his 100th birthday. They went on to share their knowledge and enthusiasm during a special celebration assembly with the whole school. We also extend our congratulations to our new Wellbeing Ambassadors, as well as our Form Captains and Vice Form Captains. These roles provide valuable opportunities for children to develop responsibility, leadership and a strong sense of contribution to the school community.

Class	Form	Vice	Eco	Digital Lead	Wellbeing Ambassador
5	Freddie F	Radhya	Nikita G	Alice S	Thomas Y
4	Eloise	Mia	Amaan	Max	Oli
3	Lewis	Oscar	Honor	Evan/Alice	Hanna
2	Manny	Teddy	Ophelia	\	Jack
1	Zac M & Amelie G-T	Beatrice	Owen	\	Zachary A

I am also delighted to announce that Mrs Susan Jefferson has been appointed as our new Office Manager. Mrs Jefferson continues to make such a positive impact to Oakhyrst Grange School and brings warmth, professionalism and a calm, organised approach to this important role. We are thrilled to have her leading our front office team.

Feedback from our parent community is incredibly important to us and helps guide our continued growth and improvement. We would very much appreciate you taking a few moments to complete our survey which will be sent directly to you this afternoon. Your child will also be completing a questionnaire in the coming weeks, alongside our staff. This feedback is invaluable in helping us to identify our strengths and the areas where we can continue to develop.

Finally, I am pleased to share that Mrs Smith-Liggins and Mrs Morgan-Robinson will be co-chairing PFOG, with Mrs Loynes continuing as Treasurer and Mrs Harrison joining as Secretary. My sincere thanks go to all of these parents for their commitment. Parental support makes a huge difference to our school and enables us to run wonderful events, including the upcoming school fayre on 6th June, which we are very much looking forward to. These events bring our whole community together, and every contribution—no matter how small—is greatly appreciated.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Mitchell







Pre-Reception

Our Pre Reception children have really enjoyed exploring our exciting Farm topic over the past two weeks. Through stories, small world play, and creative activities, the children have been learning about farm animals, food production and the different foods that come from the farm. To bring our learning to life, we went to visit Godstone Farm, where the children had the wonderful opportunity to meet some of the animals and learn more about how lots of different animals are cared for. The trip sparked fantastic conversations, curiosity and enthusiasm, with the children showing great confidence, kindness and engagement throughout the day. It has been wonderful to see the children using their new knowledge and experiences within their play and learning back at school. We also cannot wait to welcome the newest additions to our class next week!



Reception

The past couple of weeks have taken us on quite the whirlwind adventure—no passports required! We've been busy becoming mini globetrotters, sharing stories about countries we've visited (and a few we'd love to!), and stepping into the shoes of very enthusiastic travel agents. From recommending dream destinations to practicing how to greet people around the world, our classroom has been full of curious minds and cheerful "hellos" in many different languages.

Meanwhile, in Woodlands time, creativity has been sprouting—quite literally! We had a fantastic time working with Pre-Reception to create our very own cress people. There was plenty of laughter as we designed their "hairstyles" and watched them grow day by day. Who knew gardening could be so hair-raising?

In cookery, we put our cress knowledge to very good use by making delicious cress sandwiches. The children carefully snipped the cress, spread butter onto their bread, and proudly cut their sandwiches all by themselves. There were some very satisfied smiles at snack time! They're feeling very confident in their skills, so don't be surprised if they offer to make you a tasty cress sandwich of their own at home—chef hats at the ready!



Year 1

In Maths, the children have been working hard on understanding doubling and halving, as well as learning about position and direction using key vocabulary. They have shown great enthusiasm and are becoming more confident in applying these skills. In English, we have been focusing on the prefix *un-* and exploring a range of suffixes including *-ed*, *-ing*, *-er* and *-est*. The children have enjoyed building new words and using them in their writing.

We have just begun our new topic on the Great Fire of London, which has already captured the children's interest. They are really enjoying learning about what happened and asking lots of thoughtful questions.

We also had the most amazing class concert! The children performed brilliantly and should be very proud of themselves for their confidence and enthusiasm.



Year 2

To begin our new term, Year 2 have been exploring the world of fractions! We have been noticing that fractions are all around us, and that learning how to understand them can help us see numbers and quantities in new ways.

So far, our Year 2 mathematicians have explored halves and quarters, thirds, fraction notation and have begun to look at some equivalent fractions!

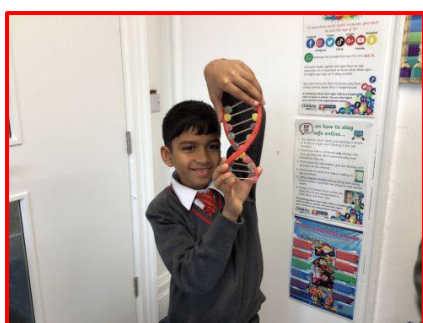
- Halves and Quarters: We have been exploring how to split objects, shapes, numbers and sets of items into two equal parts (halves) and four equal parts (quarters).
- Thirds: We have also begun to look at thirds, dividing things into three equal parts.
- Fraction Notation: We have been practising reading and writing fractions like $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, and $\frac{3}{4}$, understanding what the numerator and denominator represent.
- Equivalent Fractions: We have been discovering the relationships between fractions, such as recognising that $\frac{2}{4}$ is the same as $\frac{1}{2}$.

Fabulous fraction work Year 2, well done!



Year 3

Year 3 love bringing science to life through hands-on, practical learning. From building colourful “Sweet DNA” models to exploring *Light and Shadows* to investigating how *Plants* grow, the children have approached every activity with curiosity and enthusiasm. They have also been developing their skills in writing up experiments clearly, using real scientific language to explain their predictions, methods, results and conclusions.



In our *Light and Shadows* unit, the children explored how shadows are formed and what affects their size and clarity. One of the highlights was creating their own shadow puppet, investigating how the distance between the torch and the puppet changes the size of the shadow. The children quickly discovered that moving the torch closer makes the shadow bigger, while moving it further away makes the shadow smaller. They also investigated what makes the clearest, sharpest shadow. Through testing different materials, they found that opaque materials create the strongest shadows.

Grown on the windowsill



Grown in the cupboard

As part of our current *Plants* topic, the children continue to explore the scientific idea of ‘variables’. They worked brilliantly to identify which variables needed to stay the same to make it a fair test and then chose one variable to change. They decided to keep the type of plant, amount of water, soil and pot size the same, while changing the location to compare how different environments affect growth. What a surprise we got after the long weekend!

Year 4

Year 4 have made an incredible start to the summer term, kicking things off with an unforgettable residential experience at Scout Adventures. Throughout the trip, every child rose to the challenge, overcoming personal fears and demonstrating remarkable bravery, teamwork, and courage. It was wonderful to see them support one another and grow in confidence as they tackled new and exciting activities.

Since returning to school, the enthusiasm has continued. The class threw themselves straight back into their learning with great focus and determination. In history, we have begun exploring castles, building up our knowledge in preparation for our upcoming visit to Hever Castle in a few weeks’ time—a trip we are all very much looking forward to.

The children have started using protractors in maths, developing their skills in measuring and drawing angles with increasing accuracy. Meanwhile, in science, we are delving into the fascinating topic of the digestive system, learning about how our bodies process food and keep us healthy. The students took part in a very hands on competition, trying to remember where the organs went in the body correctly.



Year 5

Year 5 have made a fantastic start to the summer term, studying new topics across the curriculum and setting sensible goals for the last few weeks of this academic year. There is a buzz of excitement and enthusiasm in our classroom as everyone works hard to achieve their targets whilst having lots of fun along the way!

In Science, we are exploring the life cycle of plants and have turned into keen gardeners. Potatoes, spring onions and broad beans are now proudly planted and we eagerly arrive at school each day in anticipation of their growth and development. We will keep you posted on our spectacular sprouting success!

Our Geography lessons have been both fascinating and thought-provoking as we learn about the dangers facing our planet, what causes them, and how we can help. To guide us, we have created our very own eco-hero, Peter Pledgehog—our positive class mascot who reminds us daily to keep our promises to protect the planet! We understand that each of us can play a small part in making a difference for the future. In History, we are finishing our studies of the Tudors and Stuarts by exploring the dramatic events of the Great Plague and the Great Fire of London ahead starting our new topic before half-term.

Over in English, we have been busy sharpening our grammar skills and mastering explanation texts—their features, structure and style. Expect some expert explainers coming your way! We have written about volcanic eruptions, the water cycles, how the internet works and the life cycle of a moth. Meanwhile in Maths, we have been working on perimeter, area and volume, tackling everything from rectangles and triangles to cubes and cuboids.



Year 6

We have been exploring imperative verbs and linking our English learning to our History topic on the power of propaganda during WWII. The children created some powerful propaganda posters encouraging people to grow vegetables, save food and encourage women to work. They carefully selected catchy slogans and discussed how persuasive language can influence people's thoughts and actions.

We have also been studying the present progressive tense; learning all about auxiliary verbs and the present participle. Alongside this, Year 6 have become our very own "Punctuation Police" as they mastered apostrophes for possession and became excellent detectives spotting apostrophe errors around the school! The children also produced some fantastic recounts based on their Easter holidays; it has been wonderful reading about all of their

adventures. In Reading, the children have been analysing the characters William and Zach, from Goodnight Mr Tom, in depth, using the PEEL (Point, Evidence, Explain, Link) model to justify their answers and develop deeper responses to texts.

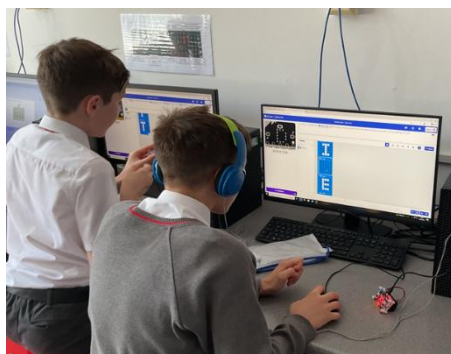
Year 6 have enjoyed lots of practical investigations in maths. They explored area and perimeter through creating their own shapes using pentominoes and loved completing Tetris-style challenges. The children have also been calculating the area of right-angled triangles, other triangles and parallelograms using formulas. We have now moved on to volume, where the children have been using multilink cubes to create their own cuboids with given cubic unit volumes and complete a range of exciting challenges.

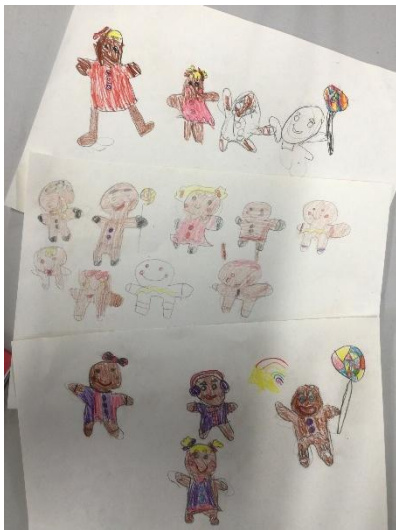
We have started our new topic on global sustainability in Geography. The children have thoroughly enjoyed designing their own sustainable city maps, identifying environmental problems and creating thoughtful solutions to make cities healthier and more environmentally friendly places to live.

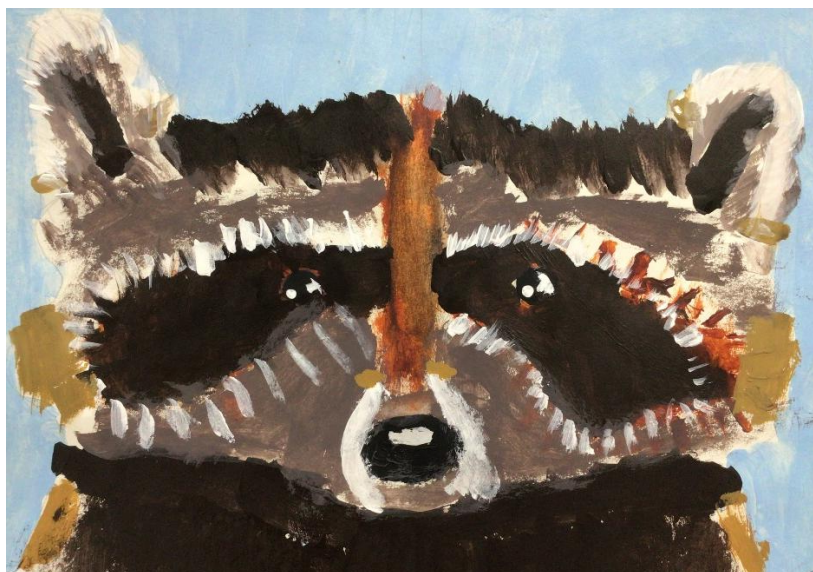
Year 6 have enjoyed working with the microbits during Computing lessons. They completed coding challenges to create a 'Rock, Paper, Scissors' game and designed different patterns using the LED display.

Lastly, we have begun our new unit on electricity by investigating light sources and reflective objects, while also exploring common misconceptions about light.

We are all very much looking forward to our exciting PGL trip next week. It will be a fantastic experience filled with teamwork and adventure!







Shrek and Donkey gazing at the moon by Manny in Year 2, Rabbit by Max in Year 4, Gingerbread people by Sloane, Lillian and Isabella in Reception class. Year 6 have started constructing the set for the school's production of Shrek. Raccoon by Bobby in Year 4, Wanted poster by George in Year 3.

Music

Reception have been having fun in music learning all about pitch and playing on the glockenspiels, whilst Pre-Reception have been developing their confidence in singing and using their different voices. The children are making progress in learning the songs in Shrek and are enjoying glimpses of Year 6 performing. The talent we are seeing from Year 6 is truly incredible and they are certainly building their characters and enjoying the journey of putting a show together. We are in for a treat!

Year 1 and 2 had a spectacular concert with each person giving an amazing performance! The children were confident and enjoyed demonstrating what they have been learning in lessons. I am always amazed at the progress of the children. We all thoroughly enjoy teaching the children and nothing gives us greater pleasure than seeing them give a happy performance. They should all be so proud of themselves and your support in helping and encouraging them is invaluable. Thank you.

Sport

It's been a brilliant few weeks of sport at Oakhyrst Grange. The children have been practicing hard in PE with their Athletics ready for the 'brand new' sports day in June (more info to follow!). Cricket has also been on the radar in Games with many children smashing 6's out the school grounds!

We have had lots of fixture and event opportunities over the past weeks, with children representing the school brilliantly as usual. A quick breakdown of the events which have occurred are below:

TCS London Mini Marathon 2026 – 25th April 2026

Well done to all 15 children who took part in the TCS London Mini Marathon event. It was an incredible experience with over 22,000 children involved in total. All the children received a wonderful medal at the finish line, a well-deserved reward for their hard work and commitment this year.

Every pupil should be extremely proud of themselves. It was a brilliant day that will stay with our pupils for a long time, and we look forward to taking part again in the future!

ESSA Swimming Regional Finals

Congratulations to our swimmers who competed in the ESSA Swimming Regional Finals. Reaching this stage is a tremendous accomplishment, and the pupils showed great dedication and commitment both in training and during competition. We are incredibly proud of their performances.

St David's PE Sessions

Our pupils have thoroughly enjoyed participating in the recent PE sessions at St David's. These sessions have provided valuable opportunities to develop skills, build confidence and experience a variety of sporting activities in a positive and encouraging environment.

P&C Festival


A huge thank you to everyone involved in the P&C Festival. The event was a wonderful celebration of sport, participation and teamwork, with pupils enjoying the chance to compete, support one another and showcase their talents.

U11 Cricket

Our U11 cricket team has continued to make excellent progress this season. Pupils have shown great teamwork, sportsmanship and improving skill levels in both training and matches. We look forward to seeing their continued development over the coming weeks.



OTHER NEWS



GEOX SHOE EVENT AT ELLIS SCOTT

By this point in the school year, many school shoes haven't been outgrown – they've simply been worn out.

With the Easter holidays bringing more walking and activity, shoes that are already tired often don't last much longer.

The Ellis Scott Geox Easter Shoe Event helps parents choose breathable, well-made footwear designed for everyday school wear and the holidays ahead.

All styles 20 per cent off
Available online and in store in Reigate.
Friendly fitting advice always available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR EASTER EVENT WWW.F.I.L.ESSCOTT.CO.UK



Dance Camps!

Our camps are suitable for children aged 4+. Each fun-filled day includes Ballet, Tap, Modern, Contemporary, Drama games and Arts & crafts.

Oakhyrst Grange School

- Tuesday 26th May 2026
- Thursday 28th May 2026

9.00 - 5.00pm
£40 per session

Email: eleanorcoleys@hotmail.com
Phone: 07809112887
Instagram: Ballet by Eleanor




Calling all Old Oakhyrstians!

Did you attend Oakhyrst Grange School? This year we are proudly celebrating 75 years, and we would love to reconnect with our former pupils.

Share your memories, stories and where life has taken you since your time at Oakhyrst.

Please get in touch and be part of our special anniversary celebrations!

Contact us to reconnect and join the celebrations.

Reconnect, laugh, and relive the best memories.


We look forward to hearing from you!
office@oakhyrstgrangeschool.co.uk

ROTATIONAL WEEKLY MENUS




Oakhyrst Grange School
Spring Term Menu 2026

Week 1	Week Commencing: 26 th January, 23 rd February, 16 th March				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Jacket Potatoes served with Cheese, Baked Beans and Sweetcorn	Pork Sausages and Creamy Mash Potatoes served with Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Chow Mein and Seasonal Vegetables	Roast Pork Potatoes Yorkshire Puddings Onion Gravy and Seasonal Vegetables	Fish and Chips served with Seasonal Vegetables
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Plant Based Sausages	Mix Vegetable Rice Noodles	Plant Based Roast	Plant Based Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake Fruit Table	Pineapple and Watermelon Fruit Table	Yoghurt Fruit Table	Chocolate Chip Cookies Fruit Table	Poffertjes Fruit Table



Oakhyrst Grange School
Spring Term Menu 2026

Week 2	Week Commencing: 12 th January, 2 nd February, 23 rd March				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Pasta in Tomato and Basil Sauce served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables	Margarita Pizza served with Mini has Browns and Cucumber Batons	Beef Chilli con carne Basmati rice served with tortilla chips and seasonal vegetables	Roast Pork Potatoes Gravy served with Cucumber Batons	Breaded Fish and Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	As above	Three Beans Chilli	Plant Based Roast	Plant Based Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake Fruit Table	Pineapple and Melon Fruit Table	Yoghurt Fruit Table	Homemade Flapjacks Fruit Table	Homemade Chocolate Cake with Warm Custard Fruit Table



Oakhyrst Grange School
Spring Term Menu 2026

Week 3	Week Commencing: 19 th January, 9 th Feb, 9 th March, 30 th March				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Pasta in Tomato Sauce Grated Cheese Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Korma Basmati Rice served with Naan Bread and Seasonal Vegetables	All Day Breakfast Baked Beans Hash Yorkshire Pudding served with Garden Peas	Roast Gomon Roast Potatoes Rosemary Gravy Yorkshire Pudding and Seasonal Vegetables	Breaded Fish and Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Three Beans and Potato Curry	Plant Based Sausages	Plant Based Roast	Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake Fruit Table	Pineapple and Watermelon Fruit Table	Yoghurt Fruit Table	Jelly Fruit Table	Chocolate Chip Cookies Fruit Table

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 11.05.26 Year 6 PGL residential trip
- 12.05.26 Year 3 concert 17:00-18:00- All year 3 parents invited
- 13.05.26 Christs Hospital Performing Arts day- Selected Children attending, parents can attend
- 15.05.26 ISA Reginal Athletics- Selected children, parents can attend
- 15.05.26 Reception visit to Buxton Lodge
- 18.05.26 Year 4 visit to Hever Castle
- 18.05.26 Year 5 trip to Caterham. 13:115.30. Parents can attend
- 19.05.26 Epsom College Philosophy Masterclass Year 5- All Pupils
- 19.05.26 U9 Cricket Match vs Chinthurst. Parents can attend
- 19.05.26 Parent and Child sports festival 14:00-15:30. Parents can attend
- 21.05.26 Year 5 Maths Challenge at Royal Russell. Selected Children
- 21.05.26 EYES Bugs and Butterflies Ball
- 31.05.26 Caterham Festival. We will have a stall, please come and say Hi!
- 05.06.26 Sports Day.
- 06.06.26 Oakhyrst Summer Fayre
- 13.06.26 Caterham Carnival