



Oak Lodge Newsletter

6th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week pupils had an interesting assembly to kick off our Black History month and learnt all about CJ Jones a deaf actor who created the Na'vi sign language. Thank you to Susan and Nicholas for presenting such an interesting assembly.



On Tuesday we held our first open morning for prospective parents and professionals – it was a well-attended event and we have lovely feedback – thank you to our two pupil guides, Mouna and Nana.

There has been great excitement amongst our older pupils who have applied and interviewed to be School Leaders or Wellbeing Leaders. These groups will replace our current organisation ensuring greater pupil voice within the school. Further information below.

We have a meet the Tutor event on the 18th October for parents, where the class tutor can share information with you. Please sign up for an appointment.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Caroline Rowlandson

Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

Parents evening (meet the class tutor) – 18th October 2023

Open Morning – 29th November 2023

Christmas Fair – 7th December 2023

Proposed Whole School Jack Petchy trip to London Aquarium – 14th
December

Christmas Lunch - 20th December 2023

Please note that after October half-term school meals will be going up to £3.50 per day.

School Leaders:

This role of School Leaders will be the 'Prefects' and 'School Council' roles and responsibilities combined.

The School Leaders will have training and team building activities at the start of the year.

The role of a School Leader

- Running lunch time clubs
- Peer mentoring
- School tours
- Helping with duties and responsibilities around school
- Collect student voice – deciding and feedback what the pupils what to change
- SLT can present and discuss ideas with the School Leaders to then feedback to the Pastoral Groups.



Wellbeing Leaders:

Throughout the year, the Wellbeing Leaders will access 5 topics which will focus on the following areas.

1. Connect

Examples of work:

- Connecting with friends
- Connecting with other schools
- Connecting with family

2. Be Active

- Physical exercise
- Being active at home
- Being active out in the community

3. Take Notice

- School Run Scavenger Hunt
- Leaf Collection
- Garden/nature



4. Keep Learning

- do a word search.
- try a new food.
- study an animal or bug.
- visit a new place.

5. Give /be creative

- Making arts and crafts
- Making gifts for friends and family

This week students have been learning about what it means to be a 'Nature superhero.'

They have created their own 'nature superhero' masks



Dear Families,

You are warmly invited to a PARENTS' EVENING on Wednesday 18th October 2023

This is a chance to talk to your child's pastoral teachers to discuss your child's progress at Oak Lodge School this year.

- **You will have one booked meeting only and this will be with your child's pastoral teacher.**
- **You will also be able to meet the Language and Communication team to find out how students are progressing in English and British Sign Language.**
- **You will not meet all the other subject teachers this time but there will be another parents evening in the Spring term with all subject teachers.**

This is an important evening, so please make every effort to be here. Staff will be available to talk to you from **4.00pm until 6.00pm.**

If you have difficulty understanding English you are more than welcome to bring along a person to interpret for you.

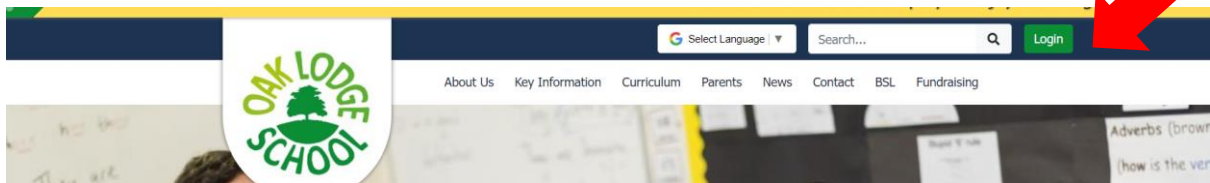
Please note that there are no child minding facilities available on the night and therefore we urge parents **not** to bring their other children unless absolutely necessary.

Online appointment booking

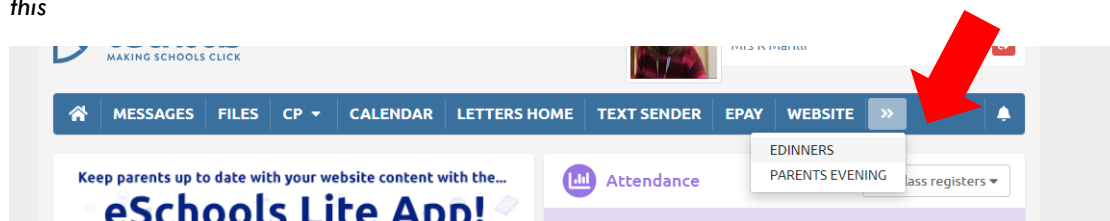
The booking system will be open from the 6th October. You will need to go to our website and then use the login details you will receive with this letter. **If you have any issues using the online booking system please call the school office on 0208 6733453 or email us info@oaklodge.wandsworth.sch.uk and they can book you in.** If you are unable to attend please let your child's teacher know.

How to make bookings

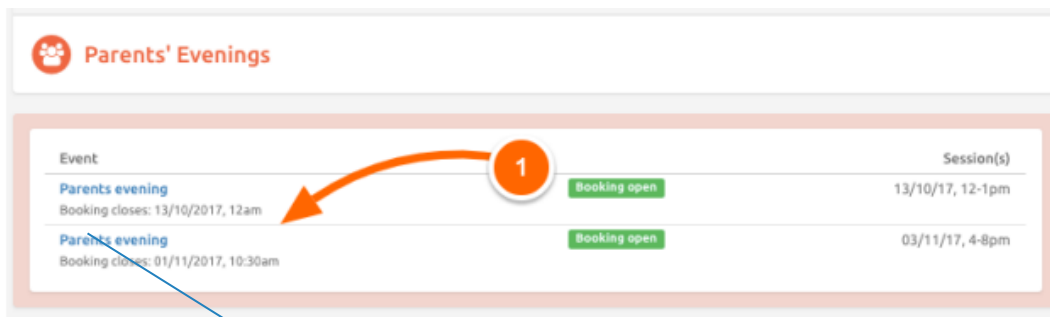
1. Go to www.oaklodge.wandsworth.sch.uk at the top pf the screen you will see the login button.
2. Click Log in and add your login details (sent to you in this letter).



If you can't see the parents evening tab please click on the two arrows and you will see the parents evening tab. Click on this



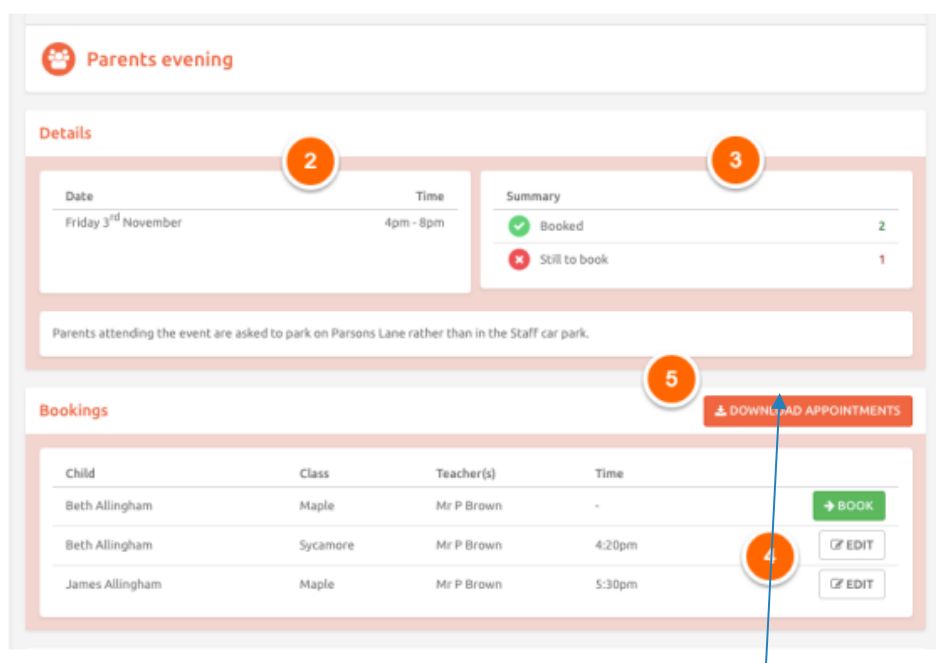
3. Click on the parents evening event



appear on your screen within a pink box.

4. Book a slot to come and see your child's pastoral teacher.

5. Once a Parents Evening has been created, it will



download/print a list of your appointments (5).

6. You can also

Watch this useful video on how to book or see below step by step instructions.

<https://academy.eschools.co.uk/users/parents/parents-evening-parents/>

Safe Searching - Online Safety

There is so much online that we would not want our child to view and even an innocent search can result in inappropriate content being seen. To make our child's online world safer, we would firstly recommend switching on Safesearch settings for the search engine your child uses. However, as not all search engines allow you to 'lock' Safesearch on (so users may be able to simply turn it off), we would encourage you to apply further parental controls.

For some search engines, for example Google, you can set up a Family management account, which will ensure that Safesearch settings cannot be switched off. We would recommend using a family management account (either Google or Microsoft) so even if your child is using a search engine that cannot be locked, there will at least be an additional level of content filtering provided.

In addition to the above, make sure you have set up appropriate parental controls on your home broadband (and any consoles/ devices/ apps/ websites that your child uses/accesses) for example, to restrict access to explicit websites or access to websites that are not suitable for children.

Please remember that no filtering/ parental control is 100% safe, so it is important that you talk to your child about how they can stay safe online and that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if they need to.

CEOP have produced an article exploring what you could do if your child sees something inappropriate online:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-to-do-if-your-childhas-seen-something-inappropriate-online/>

Further information Parent Zone have published an article to help you understand searching in more detail:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/search-engines>

Our children may not have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse all situations yet so it is important to talk to your child about hoaxes and challenges that may appear on the internet.

Some challenges are fun and provide no risk, however there will be challenges that are risky/dangerous. Your child may see others complete certain challenges online without being harmed and therefore may want to repeat them and not consider the potential risks to themselves.

Make sure they know that they should talk to you (or another trusted adult) about what they see online, particularly if they plan to try a challenge or if something scares or upsets them.

We would always advise that if your child has not heard about an online challenge, then do not draw attention to it as this may lead to them searching for it out of curiosity, so just talk about challenges in a general sense. Reassure your child that challenges that suggest that bad things will happen if they do not complete the tasks are not real.

The following link will provide you with further information as well as content to help you talk to your child:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/connecting-safely-online/advice-forparents/tackling-the-hard-stuff-on-social-media-to-support-youngpeople/online-challenges-are-they-harmless/>

TikTok have also produced this resource to help you talk to your child about challenges and the potential risks:

<https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en-sg/online-challenges/>

OAK LODGE TERM DATES

Autumn Term	Date/s
Staff INSET Days	Monday 4 th and Tuesday 5 th September (Staff only)
First day of Autumn Term 1	Wednesday 6 th September (pupils start at 10am)
Half-term (School closed)	Monday 23 rd October – Friday 27 th October
First day of Autumn Term 2	Monday 30 th October 2023 (pupils start at 10am)
Last day of Autumn term	Thursday 21 st December (school ends at 1.30pm)
Spring Term	Date/s
First day of Spring term 1	Monday 8 th January 2024 (Pupils start 10.00am)
Half-term (school closed)	Monday 12 th February– Friday 16 th February 2024
First day of Spring term 2	Monday 19 th February 2024
Last day of Spring term	Thursday 28 th March 2024 (school ends at 1.30pm)
Summer Term	Date/s
First day of Summer term 1	Monday 15 th April 2024 (Pupils start 10.00am)
May Bank holiday (School closed)	Monday 6 th May 2024
Half term (School closed)	Monday 27 th May 2024 – Friday 31 st May 2024
First day of Summer term 2	Monday 3 rd June (Pupils start 10.00am)
Last day of Summer term	Friday 19 th July 2024 (School ends at 1.30pm)
Staff INSET Days	Monday 22 nd and Tuesday 23 rd July 2024 (Staff only)

The timetable allows for the legal 195 school days. This includes the 190 days when the school must be open to pupils and 4 staff training days. The 5 staff training and development days are decided by the school's governing body according to the school's development planning cycle. Our 5th training day will be made up by 6 twilight sessions after school on a Wednesday.

SENDSitive Sundays

Designed for climbers with SEND or additional needs

Smaller session numbers *

An adapted environment to ensure climbers feel safe and happy.

Quieter music, gentle lighting and sensitive, thoughtful staff to help get the most out of your visit.

10am sessions on 17 September, 15 October, 19 November

Grown-ups accompany climbers into the arena either as a climber or a non-climber, to encourage and help your climber to have a brilliant time!

**

** Each of the climbers will have an accompanying adult, who may or may not choose to climb with them.*

*** Accompanying climbers will pay for a ticket to climb as usual, non-climbers will not be charged to be in the arena.*



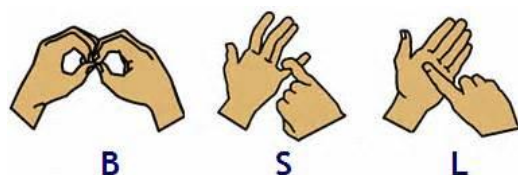
For more photographs and news please follow us on social media or take a look at our website: www.oaklodge.wandsworth.sch.uk



: @OakLodgeSchool



Instagram: @oaklodeschool



**The class has
changed to a
Thursday!**

BSL Family Communication Classes

We are providing free BSL Family Communication classes.

Would you like to learn BSL?

Come and join us! 😊

Dates for Autumn Term 2023

Thursday 12th October

Thursday 2nd November

Thursday 16th November

Thursday 30th November

Thursday 14th December

Time: 1:45 – 3:15pm

If you would like to attend, please call/text Jess Doyle (Wellbeing Coordinator) on 07734 995437 or inform the school office.

PLEASE REMEMBER we expect children to come to school looking smart clean and tidy. So uniform and haircuts/colours should meet this requirement. Uniform can be purchased from the below:



Angels



317 RAYNERS LANE, PINNER,
MIDDLESEX HA5 5EH

Tel.: 020 8866 9972

[Email: info@angelsuniforms.co.uk](mailto:info@angelsuniforms.co.uk)

www.angelsuniforms.co.uk

Appointed School Uniform Suppliers
(also Official Suppliers to Guides, Brownies & Rainbows)

PRICE LIST JULY - 2023

School Gateway cashless payments

All school related communications and school dinner payments will be accessible via School Gateway. Download the app for free by searching "School Gateway" in your app store or log-in to the School Gateway site here <https://login.schoolgateway.com>

Schoolgateway

THE EASIEST WAY TO INTERACT WITH YOUR SCHOOL

PAYMENTS & DINNER MONEY

School Gateway is simple, safe and secure to use. You can make payments using a debit or credit card – or use superfast 'Bank Transfer'. You can check balances and pay for dinners, trips and other items at any time. View your child's school timetable via the app, website and now the Apple Watch. A good conversation prompt and can help save last minute P.E kit dramas

Creating an account is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes:



1. REGISTER

Register using the same email address and mobile number held by the school



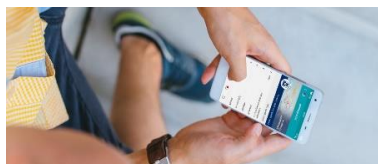
2. FOUR DIGIT PIN

School Gateway will send you a text with your PIN



3. LOGIN

Login, you are ready to go



Access School Gateway using the website



OR BY DOWNLOADING THE FREE APP



Please contact the school if you have any problems accessing the site. 02086733453