

Oak Hill Academy Principal's Newsletter Summer 2



Well, the end of another busy year is upon us and what an amazing year it has been! My thanks to you as parents for all the support you have given us in helping to make this year a successful one for your children, also to all the staff who have worked tirelessly to make the children's experiences of school enjoyable and exciting as well as purposeful!

This half term has been no less packed than the last, with visitors, sporting competitions, in school competitions, the fete, Enterprise Fayre and the family picnic!

The **annual summer fete** was a very successful event this year, the sun shone throughout and everyone got into the spirit of the afternoon. Dawn Cockrell and the CET helpers did a fantastic job of organising it, raising an amazing £2300. A **HUGE** thank you to all who helped, but particularly to Dawn, Sharon, Madeline and Tsena who gave up so much of their time (they were in school so much in the weeks leading up to the fete I nearly put them in a class!). Also, to Catia, Lesley, Claire, Hayley, Jane, Liz & her husband, Emma P and Emma G. Without their commitment it would not have been such a success. Riding on the crest of this successful wave, they would like to form a PTA, more info on this will follow in the Autumn term.

Sporting successes were had in a Y5 Tag Rugby tournament, a Y3/4 Tennis Tournament and a Y4/5 Tag rugby tournament. Our inter-house Sports Competition was a great day and we were joined by some Young Leaders from Rivers who helped the competition run very smoothly. This was a good opportunity for the children to practice for the Sports Day (at the time of writing this is yet to happen), the competition is on for the winning house Griffin to maintain their record of success! Ms Toulmin and her Change4Life club had a great day in June when we hosted the first Feltham area C4L festival. The children enjoyed taking part in lots of different activities promoting a healthy lifestyle. I am certain this will be a regular event in our calendar!



Our team of **Year 5 Debaters** had an



early start last

Thursday when they set off for a day of debating competition against other Aspirations academies in Banbury. Mrs Saim, who has been coaching them all year, is very proud of how well they did. Juliette S, Isobelle H, Dishita R, Uma Y, Emily T H , Maaya A, Eshaal K and Missy A came first out of the Primary academies and were presented with their awards at the Aspirations Forum day on Friday by Dr Russ Quaglia, board member of the Aspirations Academies Trust. A very proud moment for all!

Year 5 and Year 6 developed their **cycling safety and road sense** through workshops and cycling proficiency in June. I hope they will remember all they have learnt when out and about during the summer holidays.

Other visitors have included the fire brigade (planned!), the Roald Dahl museum and various Y7 teachers getting to know our Year 6 children before they arrive in their school in September. As well as grandparents who spent the day with us on 19th June, finding out how much more enjoyable school is now than when they were pupils!

In June, the 800th anniversary of the signing of **the Magna Carta** was celebrated. In an assembly presented by the Chertsey museum, the children learnt about why this document was so important and its impact on liberty and justice in Britain.

In keeping with our **lifelong learning** ethos, staff have also been developing their skills this term - about Talk for Writing, Maths, Computing, First Aid, Safeguarding, assessment and creative lesson planning, as well as continuing to coach each other in developing their teaching skills. This professional development is a vital part of working in a school and really pays off as it was confirmed in our Aspirations inspection this term that we are well on our way to being an outstanding school.

Parents also had the opportunity to develop their learning when we held a '**keeping your child safe online**' workshop. This was very well received by those who attended and we hope to put on another one in the Spring term.

The drama club enjoyed a visit to the **theatre in Woking** to watch The Sound of Music, they have been inspired to continue developing their acting skills next year in drama club. Members of the public commented on how well behaved our children were. Thanks go to Miss Upton for her enthusiasm and insight into how to bring out the best in children through drama.



The children's **Enterprise learning journey** this term culminated in their Enterprise Business Fair last week. I'm sure you will agree that the children did a brilliant job of researching, designing, making and selling their products and we now have quite a few potential Alan Sugars around the place! Thank you to the teachers for keeping their sanity (just about) whilst encouraging the children to think through their business plan and to all of you who came and supported your children by buying their products. It is an amazing experience for the children to know that something they have made is good enough for people to pay real money for! We had lots of very excited and happy children here through the day! They managed to raise £1700 between them, with Year 3 narrowly beating Year 4 in making the most profit, £524.71. The children will be able to spend the money on resources for their year groups.

Talking of happy children, we have now had our **move up week** and all the children have enjoyed getting to know their new classmates, teacher and classroom. Our new Year 3 children have quickly become part of our OHAWL family and took to junior school life like ducks to water! A list of teachers and classes for September is at the end of this newsletter.

In order to make space in the school for our new children, we have to say **goodbye to our amazing Year 6 children**. I am so proud of this group of children, they have been great role models this year and have also achieved well, giving us **our best set of SATs results ever!** There will not be many dry eyes when we watch their leavers' performances next week! However, they are going on to bigger experiences and I know they will not let us down. I have had several comments about how brilliantly they have behaved and how polite they have been during their transition days from teachers at their new secondary schools.

I've enjoyed a weekly lunch with various children who have been nominated by the lunchtime supervisors for being **excellent at lunchtimes** and last week I held my termly **Aspirations tea party** for children who had collected the most Aspirations Points in their class during the summer term; well done to Harry, Manleen, Jody-Ann and Walter from Y3, James, Libby, Chanel and Mimi in Y4, Sana, Emily, Joshua for Y5 and Ravinder, Adrians and Segun from Y6.

Our Y3 children entertained us with a performance showing off the **recorder and singing talents** that they have developed during the past year – brilliant!

The staff have been busy voting for the **Gerry Becke Cup winner** (formerly the Governors' cup), several children were nominated for their consistently good contribution to school life during the

past 4 years, however, there was a clear winner in Kiera Brown and she was presented with the cup by Gerry's great nephew and great niece on what would have been his 85th birthday!

Nearly 130 children enjoyed **a special day** this week as a well done **for excellent attitudes to school all year and for making particularly amazing progress during the year**. We are proud of all of them.

Finally, it is with a feeling of sadness that I say **goodbye to Miss Fisher, Mrs Saim and Mrs Triscott** as they move on to different schools. They have been a fantastic part of OHA and will be missed on many fronts. We have **welcomed our new members of staff** this half term - Mr Ashton, Miss Bajwa, Ms Griffin, Miss Obozua and Miss Roberts and know that they will fit right in to our Oak Hill family.

So, as you can see, life does not get any quieter at Oak Hill Academy, except, perhaps for the next few weeks. Enjoy the summer break and if you can, encourage your child to keep up their homework and join the library summer reading challenge – <http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>

I'll look forward to seeing most of you back again on **3rd September** at 8.50am, a term when we will be launching our exciting Be the Best You Can Be programme, with the help of an Olympic athlete (more details to follow). To our Year 6 children and parents and others who are leaving us, I wish you fond memories of your time at OHA and I have a feeling the future is very bright for you!

Mandy Lancy

Principal

Classes 2015/2016

3C – Mr Clifton	3P – Miss Penycate
3G – Ms Griffin	3B – Miss Bajwa / Mrs Mulhall
4U – Mrs Uhure	4GR – Mr Ridgway
4O – Miss Obozua	4R – Miss Roberts / Mrs Barnes
5T – Miss Taylor	5C – Mrs Cronin
5D – Miss Darkes	5L – Miss LeVoir
6B – Mrs Berry (nee Mason)	6D – Mrs Dar
6U – Miss Upton	

A word from our CEO:

An Aspirational Trust

The Aspirations Academies Trust main purpose is to raise aspirations and to give all our young people real life chances, and this is really being achieved. Not only is Oak Hill Academy doing really well, all the other Aspirations Academies are making an enormous difference to their young people. There are currently nine Aspirations Academies and over the past four months three of them have achieved outstanding Ofsted inspections: Rivers Academy

West London, Magna Academy Poole and Jewell Academy Bournemouth. Also, all four primary Aspirations Academies last week received outstanding Key Stage 2 SAT's results. As a result of this success the Department for Education have asked the Trust to take over STEM Academy in Central London, a post 16 college, which will open in September as Tech City College. Also, in September another two academies will be opened by the Trust: Ocean Academy Poole and Space Studio West London.