



# Headteacher's Blog

FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2015

## FAREWELL MISS WINKFIELD!



Yesterday we said a very fond farewell to Miss Winkfield. An original Oxley Parker, Sarah has been with us since we first opened our doors. She has decided that the time is right for a new venture, and has taken up a position within another local primary school. We wish Sarah all the very best for the future and she has promised to keep in touch.

## HANDWRITING AT OXLEY PARK ACADEMY



Alongside our 'Read Every Day' challenge, we are also introducing a Handwriting Challenge for the children. There will be prizes for every year group within the following categories:

- ***Most improved handwriting***
- ***Best day-to-day presentation of work***
- ***Best special piece***

A special pizza party lunch will be arranged for the end of next half term to celebrate with those children who have won the awards. See 'Latest News' on the school website for full details.

## YEAR 3 TRIP TO MK GALLERY & THEATRE



On Monday, year 3 visited Milton Keynes Theatre. The children got to take part in lots of fun and interesting activities. We had an stage manager workshop, learning all about the different language used whilst on stage, we then designed our own theatre props. Over at the exhibition space, the children had the chance to be really creative and design and make a time machine! To top off the day we had a backstage tour of the



theatre and got to see all the areas that are usually out of bounds! We visited the wardrobe department, green room and even got to stand on the stage. A brilliant time was had by all and we hope that has inspired some of the children to visit the theatre in the near future.

## YEAR 1 VISIT FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE



Year 1 were lucky enough to have a visit from the local fire brigade on Monday, as part of their topic 'To The Rescue'. The children had the opportunity to ask lots of questions and Mrs Carter even had the chance to dress up in a fireman's uniform! Big thanks to Chris Bamford (one of our parents) who organised the event. The children had an amazing afternoon and learned lots about how fireman rescue others.



## YEAR 3 & YEAR 5 LITERACY

Our Year 3 and Year 5 children have been working on non-chronological reports in literacy, and on

Thursday the children in Woodpeckers class shared their wonderful work with Year 3. Today, Year 3 visited Year 5 to show their work in return. Both year groups were very impressed with each other's work!



## FOOPA CINEMA NIGHT

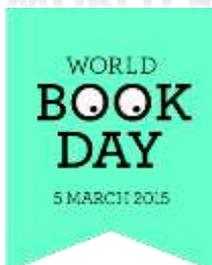
Thank you to everyone who came along to the FOOPA Cinema Night yesterday – we had a really good take up and the children really seemed to enjoy themselves. Special thanks, too, go to our lovely FOOPA volunteers.



## NSPCC VISIT – THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

We were really lucky to have a visit from Fiona of the NSPCC (and Buddy the NSPCC mascot!) on Thursday. The children were brilliant, and listened whilst Fiona told them all about the work the NSPCC do to help children who have not been treated nicely, and how we can help them. As mentioned in a previous letter we also wanted to support the NSPCC as it was a charity close to the heart of one of our parents Tony Montgomery who sadly passed away in the autumn term. The children will bring home a list of maths questions to practise over the half term holiday. There is also a sponsor form attached. We hope that by working together Team Oxley will be able to make a huge difference to the lives of the children who receive support from the NSPCC. The children were also told about Childline and the Childline website where children can go for help and advice with any problems or concerns they have, from homework to transition to high school. The NSPCC website and helpline also offer lots of advice for parents on any subject. There is a link on the school website.

## WORLD BOOK DAY – THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH



World Book Day is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March this year, and we would like to invite all children (and staff!) to come in to school dressed as 'Where's Wally', or one of the characters from the 'Where's Wally' series. Very simple blue jeans and a red & white stripy top will be perfect - a plain white t-shirt with red stripes painted on will be fine (a project for half term perhaps?!). We are planning lots of fun book-related and reading activities for the children on the day.



## RED NOSE DAY – FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH



Just to flag up that we will be celebrating Red Nose Day in school on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. I am meeting with the MADD Group ('Make a Difference Day' Group) during the first week back after half term to talk about what activities we will be having in school on Red Nose Day, and further information will follow after half term.

## CELEBRATIONS

This week we have shared the following celebrations in school:

- ★ Zach in Year 5 came to show me his super literacy work on Tuesday.



- ★ Ben in Year 4 was recently presented with a 'Core Values Trophy' by Milton Keynes Rugby Club, for displaying teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship – what fantastic qualities to have! He received a medal to keep, too.



*Congratulations to all of this week's Oxley Park superstars!*

## COMING UP AFTER HALF TERM

Date		
<b>Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	School re-opens	
<b>Weds 25<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Parents Evening	2:30pm-8:00pm
<b>Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Celebration Assemblies Year 1/2/3 Year 4/5/6	9:10am 10:00am

I hope you all have a very restful half term and we'll see you all back when school re-opens on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

**Cathy**