

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Issue 10

ITEM PAGE

Group Principal's Message	1
A Musical Assembly from Oaklands LK.....	1
Black History Month Visitors	2
Charities Supported this Term	2
Epping Forest Debating Competition	2
Oaklands Run a Mile	2
Art at the Oak-Tree Group	3
Interactive Lessons at Coopersale Hall.....	3
Remembrance Day at the Oak-Tree Group.....	4
Open Days 2020	4
Celebrating Children in Need	4
Oak-Tree Camp	5
Oak-Tree Fireworks	5
YouTube Channel	5
Oaklands African Drumming Workshop.....	6
Exploring the Local Area.....	6
Madrid Football and Cultural Tour.....	7
Braeside House Drama Competition	7
Harlow Outdoor Pursuits	8
Christmas Card Competition Winners.....	8
Normanhurst Green Tree Schools Award	8
Carol Services	9
Social Media	9
Normanhurst House Music Competition	10
Oak-Tree Netball Tournament	10
Special Awards for Science Week.....	10
Oak-Tree Football Tournament.....	11
Oak-Tree Indoor Athletics Tournament	11
An honour for Claire Osborn	11
Harvest Festivals	12
Key Trips Across the Group	12
Festive Fun	13
Oak-Tree Schools Parents' Associations.....	14

Group Principal's Message

Happy New Year to you all - I hope you were able to get something of a break over the festive season with your children and that they were able to have a rest from the school work for at least a few days...

Here we are in a new decade at the start of another new term, and as I reflect on the Autumn Term 2019 it's difficult to believe quite how much was packed into such a relatively short space of time at each of the schools.

I've been really pleased that the number of Group events for our pupils is increasing. With the many trips, competitions, tournaments and general activities, I've been encouraged to see how successful they have been, and how well the children from the different schools now integrate with each other.

I hope you are able to get a good flavour of life at Braeside, Coopersale Hall, Normanhurst and Oaklands. These Group Newsletters focus on the many opportunities available to our children outside of the more formal learning environment as we aim to enrich their education throughout the age ranges. The Spring Term will be no different and the calendars are full of exciting opportunities.

I look forward to catching up with you over the coming weeks and months, and I hope the children have a good Spring Term.

With best wishes

Matthew Hagger

A Musical Assembly from Oaklands LK

Lower Kindergarten children at Oaklands performed to their families for the first time this term.

The children confidently sang an array of songs with the help of some fun props such as some jumping frogs! The 'Wind the Bobbin Up' song was a particular favourite.

All of Lower Kindergarten seemed to really enjoy performing and the parents were certainly very proud!



Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Black History Month Visitors

Normanhurst pupils had some very exciting visitors during Black History Month. They were visited by two aspiring Olympic 2020 athletes who spoke to the children about their journeys through sport and their inspirations. Basketballer Melita Emanuel-Carr was a Silver medallist in

the Commonwealth Games, and Will Saunders is a frequent member of the Great Britain international basketball squad.



To continue the celebrations, the Junior children also had the opportunity to complete some fitness workshops with the athletes and become 'inspired through sport'.



Charities Supported this Term

- Children in Need
- Save the Children
- Jeans for Genes Day
- Haven House
- Mill Grove Family Centre
- Whitechapel Mission
- The Peace and Hope Trust
- The Royal British Legion
- Samaritan's Purse
- Hestia
- Honeypot Charity
- Macmillian
- Young Minds
- Afasic

Epping Forest Parliamentary Schools Debating Competition

Congratulations to Nicola and Alisha from Braeside who took part in the recent Epping Forest Parliamentary Schools Debating Competition.

These two pupils were among the youngest participants, and were noted by Dame Eleanor Laing as being 'very well prepared' with 'excellent arguments that had been well researched'.

A very proud moment for Braeside School - well done!



Oaklands Run a Mile

The Oaklands cross country team took part in a local run using the beautiful surroundings of nearby Epping Forest. The run started at Earls Path and followed the main path going through the woods, finishing at the top of Warren Hill.



The children did fantastically well with all of them completing the mile-long course in under 10 minutes, which represents their hard work and commitment during Cross Country Club.

Look out for the next edition as the children plan to increase the mileage next time!

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Art at the Oak-Tree Group

Once again, pupils across the group have showcased their artistic talents in art and design, with many pupils winning awards in a range of competitions.

Sam from Normanhurst won the KS4 Computer Animation section of the ISA Film and Digital Art Competition, which is held annually. He created a fantastic stop motion animation where both his creative and technical skills were put to the test.

Pupils as young as Lower Kindergarten have been getting creative at Oaklands

during their Messy Play Fridays. In one session, the children used spray bottles filled with paint to make a huge, colourful work of art. Not only was it a lot of fun, but using the spray bottles also helped to strengthen their finger muscles.



Oaklands School



Coopersale Hall School

topic by creating some incredible Stone Age art. They foraged around the school grounds for natural materials to use to help them make replicas of Stone Age paintings. Flowers and berries were effective paint and feathers and sticks worked for the brushes.



Normanhurst School

Braeside received some outstanding results for both the Regional and National ISA Art Competitions. For the National Competition there was a first place, two second places and a 'highly commended' awarded to Braeside pupils in a range of categories.

Year 4 pupils at Coopersale Hall combined artwork with their History



Braeside School

Interactive Lessons at Coopersale Hall School

Many classes at Coopersale Hall have taken an interactive approach to their lessons this term. Year 5 gave a fascinating TV news bulletin presenting their theories and findings about why the Mary Rose sank, which included an interview with a very emotional Henry VIII. They have also been working with tangram square puzzles in Maths as part of their problem solving tasks.

Year 4 also had several practical Maths

lessons. In pairs, they drew a plan of the playground and estimated the distance across the length, width and around the perimeter. They then used trundle wheels to check the accuracy of their estimations.

Year 3 enjoyed taking part in Philosophy for Children discussions during their PSHE lessons. They had a particularly interesting debate about what they need to be happy. Everyone agreed that family, friends and love are vital for happiness - above electronics and television!

Both Reception classes have been busy with different cooking activities and they have also been trying some new foods. The children learnt how to follow a recipe and worked in a team to mix the ingredients together.



Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Remembrance Day at the Oak-Tree Group

Pupils from all four schools took part in a moving two minutes' silence in November in order to remember the brave men and women who lost their lives in conflict during the wars.



Coopersale Hall School

Some children from Coopersale Hall were invited to be involved in Epping town's Remembrance Day parade to honour the soldiers who came from Epping.

Oaklands pupils had a special assembly that helped them to reflect about the significance of the day. This inspired some pupils to take on the responsibility of taking poppies around to the classrooms to sell.

The Seniors at Braeside also had a Remembrance Day assembly, led by the school chef. He explained what foods were encouraged to be eaten at home and what was eaten on the front line.



Normanhurst School

Normanhurst marked the day by spending time learning about the different wars that have taken place over the last 100 years. All of the classes made beautiful artwork to symbolise the wars and celebrate the unsung heroes, which they proudly carried during a short ceremony.

Open Days 2020

Coopersale Hall School

Tuesday 3 March 2020 at 9.15am

Oaklands School

Thursday 5 March 2020 at 9.15am

Braeside School

Juniors - Wednesday 4 March 2020 at 9.15am

Seniors - Thursday 5 March 2020 at 9.15am

Normanhurst School

Friday 6 March 2020 at 9.15

Celebrating Children in Need

Children at Oaklands and Braeside enjoyed dressing up in their very best Children in Need outfits on Friday 15 November.

We had full Pudsey costumes, yellow accessories, spotty tops and plenty of glitter and face paint.



Braeside School

Throughout the day the children took part in lots of different Children in Need-themed activities such as assemblies, classroom tasks, dance



Coopersale Hall School

workouts and painting Pudsey pictures.

The Year 4 children at Braeside worked together to research the work of the charity and created, in their own words, a presentation for an assembly to the rest of the Juniors.

Well done to all of the children who came in to school dressed to impress and thank you also to everyone who donated to this worthy cause - it is sure to make a huge difference.

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Oak-Tree Camp



Year 3 children from all four Oak-Tree schools enjoyed a two-day camping adventure back at the start of the Autumn Term. The weather was fantastic, which meant the children were able to make the most of being outside and getting to know each

other. It was particularly nice to see pupils from each of the schools getting along with each other so well.

The days were packed with team building activities, such as treasure hunts, orienteering and den building, all of which were a lot of fun. The children even had the opportunity to put up their own tents!



The evening was especially exciting as, after some dinner and games, the children enjoyed a warming hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows whilst telling stories around the camp fire.

After a busy couple of days we are sure the children and teachers slept very well when they got home!



Oak-Tree Fireworks



Anticipation was high for return of this year's Oak-Tree Fireworks event, and it did not disappoint.

Around 1100 spectators attended, enjoying the numerous stalls and activities before the fireworks started.

The children were entertained with a glow juggler, biscuit and mask decorating, lucky dip and a range of glow items, while the hot mulled wine went down a treat with the adults.

Everyone also enjoyed listening to some live music from the Normanhurst Band. The fireworks themselves were as spectacular as always, and overall it was another very successful evening.

A huge thank you to the four Parents' Associations for arranging and running such a popular event, and thank you also to everyone who came to support the schools.



YouTube Channel

Visit our schools' YouTube channels to see videos from some of the many events that take place through the year.

[Braeside School](#)
[Coopersale Hall School](#)
[Oaklands School](#)
[Normanhurst School](#)



Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Oaklands African Drumming Workshop



To celebrate Black History Month, children from Reception to Year 6 at Oaklands took part in an African Drumming Workshop. They had a visit from the Education Group and the children learned how to use traditional African djembe drums, creating sounds and music from the African continent. Every child immersed themselves in the culture whilst in the drum circle and were taught a variety



of new skills including how to keep an African rhythm.

Exploring the Local Area

We are very fortunate that all of our schools have such beautiful local surroundings, and it has been wonderful to see our children making use of the great outdoors as part of their learning.

Children from Normanhurst took a walk along Station Road in North Chingford to look at the local shops as an opener to their new Humanities topic 'Shops and Toys from the Past.' Year 5 especially enjoyed some local trips to Pole Hill, along the high street and also to the Queen Elizabeth Hunting Lodge.



Normanhurst School

Year 4 pupils from Oaklands also took a trip to the Queen Elizabeth Hunting Lodge where they learnt about the

History of Epping Forest and enjoyed the views during a forest walk. The younger Children have also been out and about during their Wild Wood sessions. Woodpeckers were challenged to count acorns, KS2 used their problem solving skills to build dens and Reception made patterns and puppets with Autumn leaves.



Oaklands School

Coopersale Hall's Year 4 pupils visited Epping Forest District Museum to learn all about the Stone Age. One of the highlights was walking through Waltham Abbey Gardens and observing the old buildings. Year 1 and 2 have been having fun in Wellies and Woodlands Club, studying different types of trees, leaf rubbing, and understanding natural and man-made materials within their environment.



Coopersale Hall School

In the run up to Christmas, Reception at Braeside had an exciting trip to the local post office to post their letters to Santa. Year 1 have also been finding out what is located around their school such as the local vets, the library and the post office. Year 2 had the fun opportunity to go on a mini-beast hunt, donning their jackets and using their magnifying glasses to see what they can find.



Braeside School

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Madrid Football and Cultural Tour 2019



The Group's first football and cultural tour to Madrid in Spain was a huge success. 60 pupils from Years 6 to 10 from Braeside and Normanhurst were given the opportunity to experience

Spanish culture. Half of the group chose to improve their footballing skills, with the other half taking part on a cultural tour to explore the historical sites and sample the local cuisine.

Each day was packed with activities including football matches against local Spanish opposition, a training session by Real Madrid academy coaches, day trips to the Prado Museum, the Royal Palace and El Retiro Park, a fascinating tour of the Bernabeu Stadium, watching Getafe vs Basel in a Europa League match and even a full day at the Warner Brothers Theme Park.



Everyone had an excellent week away and it was encouraging to see the pupils from the two schools getting along so well together.

The hotel was excellent and although the weather was mixed, it didn't stop our pupils from making the most of all the activities on offer.

Braeside House Drama Competition



Everyone had an entertaining evening during the annual House Drama Competition, which took place in Lopping Hall in Loughton. The hall was packed with friends and family keen to see the products of the many rehearsals and meetings in the run up to the event.

Fry performed a fun and lively version of 'Matilda'; Bronte performed an abridged version of another Roald

Dahl story, 'Witches'; Mason did a showcased the hilarious play 'Bad Auditions' and Nightingale finished the show with 'Appropriate Audience Behaviour'.

The evening flowed smoothly, with each pupil performing her part to the very best of her ability. The pupils were confident and professional and the staff were very proud of them all!

The judges were Mr Coates from Normanhurst, Mr Reich-Storer from Braeside and Coopersale Hall and a special guest appearance from past



pupil, Zoe Zacaria. After a short interval they announced that the winners were as follows:

Most Promising Actress: Humaira and Freya

Runner Up (Best Actress): Lily-Ann and Samantha

Best Actress: Kiera

Best House Play (Alexis Glasser Cup): Nightingale



Well done everyone!

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Harlow Outdoor Pursuits

Last term, Coopersale Hall's Year 5 and 6 pupils visited Harlow Outdoor Pursuits to take part in a range of adventurous activities. Year 6 had already had the chance to visit the Centre, but for Year 5, it was a completely new experience, and there

were some very excited pupils!

The children took part in activities such as the Leap of Faith, kayaking, canoeing, climbing, bouldering, wall climbing and many more.

Everyone enjoyed conquering their fears and working as a team.



Christmas Card Competition Winners



HUGE congratulations to Inaaya from Braeside, who was the winner of the annual Buckhurst Hill Christmas Card Competition this year!

As a reward, Inaaya had the honour of opening the Buckhurst Hill Christmas Fair alongside Dame Eleanor Laing and Santa in front of the local crowds. Her design was displayed on the Christmas tree at the top of Queen's Road. Well done Inaaya!

Congratulations also to Darcy in Year 5 from Coopersale Hall who won the Mayor's Christmas Card competition with her entry. Alice in Year 2 and Charlotte in Year 3 were runners up. Cllr Michael Wright, the Deputy Mayor of Epping, attended the whole school assembly to surprise the winners. He told the school that the judges were very impressed by all of

the entries and that winner Darcy had particularly captured the festive spirit in her design. Cllr Michael Wright presented the winners with a certificate and gift, as well as a copy of the final card that was distributed in the local area this Christmas. Well done everybody!



Normanhurst Green Tree Schools Award

The Normanhurst Juniors are working on the Green Tree Schools Award with the Woodland Trust and have recently been awarded the Bronze Award.

The scheme involves the children taking part in fun, practical activities in Epping Forest linked to the curriculum.

Year 5 have recently taken part in the challenge of taking photos with different viewpoints. They enjoyed

exploring the forest and working together to find interesting scenes and perspectives. The children took some beautiful photographs as a result.



Year 2 pupils had a tree party, putting Christmas decorations on the tree and having a snack around it.

Year 3 pupils made some decorations of their own and chose a tree to dress, while the Year 6 pupils explored the story of A Midsummer Night's Dream, looking carefully at the words to find suitable locations for different scenes.

All of the other year groups will be completing challenges over the coming term to work towards the Green Tree Silver Award.

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Carol Services

Braeside

The voices of pupils from Year 1 to 11 filled St James Church for the annual carol service this year. The Senior Fusion Band impressed the audience with a range of Christmas songs accompanied by instruments, while the Junior Choir also performed a number of songs beautifully. There were readings from LAMDA pupils throughout the event and the service ended with a multi-faith prayer that was written and read by the Year 10 Religious Studies group.



Braeside School

Coopersale Hall

This year the Coopersale Hall Carol Service was written, composed and directed by our own Head of Performing Arts, Mr Reich-Storer. The event was held in St John's Church in

Epping and was called 'Guide the Way'. It followed the Nativity Story but with a fun, modern twist. The Junior pupils entertained with some fantastic singing, acting and dancing, with brand new toe-tapping numbers such as 'Camel Fury'.



Coopersale Hall School

Normanhurst

It was lovely for the whole school to come together for the Normanhurst Nativity in church, with a special guest appearance by new Normanhurst



Normanhurst School

Headmistress-in-waiting, Mrs Job. The story of how the hymn 'Silent Night' came to be was beautifully acted by the children from Year 5 and 6. There were also performances from the choirs, orchestra and readers who all came together to produce the perfect festive service.

Oaklands

All children from Years 1 to 6 gathered at St Mary's Church in Loughton for the Oaklands Carol Service. The audience were treated to a lovely performance of the Nativity Story with a variety of song, carols and Bible readings. Years 1 and 2 gave a lively rendition of 'Knock on Another Door', complete with actions, while Years 3 to 6 sang 'Who Would Imagine A King?' beautifully. The service certainly put the audience of friends and family into the Christmas spirit!



Oaklands School

Social Media



[braesidesch](#)
[coopersalesch](#)
[normanhurstschool](#)
[oaklandssch](#)



[@BraesideSch](#)
[@CoopersaleHSch](#)
[@NormanhurstSch](#)
[@OaklandsSch](#)



[Braeside School](#)
[Coopersale Hall School](#)
[Normanhurst School](#)
[Oaklands School](#)

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Normanhurst House Music Competition

The House Music Competition was once again a highly anticipated event. Children from Reception to Year 11 took part and both Warren and Connaught Houses dedicated a great



deal of time and effort into the rehearsals, which paid off on the day with some wonderful performances.

The Houses battled it out over a series of categories in front of a panel of judges and an audience of family and friends. This year there was a new 'a cappella' category to start off the competition, followed by both a Junior and Senior ensemble performance, and finally the House Song.

The judging panel consisted of Mrs Coates, Miss Barnard, Miss Stone, Mr Clair and Guest Judge, Michael Goodlet. Michael is a multi-instrumentalist who has worked on



tracks with artists such as Ed Sheeran, Fuse ODG, Wyclef Jean and Sean Paul.

After much deliberation from the judges, it was announced that Connaught House was the overall winner! Well done!

Oak-Tree Netball Tournament



What an afternoon our Year 5 and 6 girls had at the Oak-Tree Netball Tournament!

Children from all four Oak-Tree schools gathered together at the Peter May Sports Centre to play some competitive netball matches. All schools worked extremely hard and the team work was fantastic.

Well done to everyone who took part, putting the skills they have been learning in PE/Games to good use. Special congratulations to Coopersale Hall for being the overall winner!

1st - Coopersale Hall

2nd - Oaklands

3rd- Braeside and Normanhurst

Special Awards for Science Week

Coopersale Hall pupils prepared some incredible projects for their Science Week over the half term.

There were demonstrations, posters, power points, models and videos, all of which helped to explain various Science topics such as chemical reactions, electricity, magnetism,

insulation, forces, density, plants, and animals to name a few.



Each pupil was awarded a certificate for contributing to the learning experience, but one pupil from each class was selected to be given the Special Science Week Award.

This task was very difficult to judge as all the pupils really worked hard and produced some excellent projects. Well done to all of the pupils for putting such pride and effort into their work.

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Annual Oak-Tree Football Tournament

Congratulations to Normanhurst, the worthy winners of the Oak-Tree Football Tournament this year!

Year 5 and 6 children from Normanhurst, Oaklands and Coopersale Hall braved the wet and



cold weather on the football pitches at the Peter May Centre for a series of competitive matches. Each school played each other twice, working on their passing, tackling and marking skills.

Well done to all those that took part, and thank you to the parents who came to support!

Oak-Tree Indoor Athletics Tournament



On Friday 29 November, all four Oak-Tree Schools gathered at the Peter May Centre to take part in an Indoor Athletics Competition. Throughout the day, a huge number of events took place. On one side of the hall there were 'track' events, where the

children competed in shuttle relays and obstacle races, and on the other were the 'field' events. These included activities such as standing long jump, vertical jump and speed bounce.

All of the pupils had enjoyed the tournament and worked hard to score as many points for their school as possible.

Results for Years 5 and 6 were as follows:

- 1st – Oaklands
- 2nd – Coopersale Hall
- 3rd – Normanhurst A
- 4th – Braeside
- 5th – Normanhurst B



The results for the Year 3 and 4 teams were:

- 1st – Normanhurst A
- 2nd – Oaklands
- 3rd – Braeside and Normanhurst B

Well done everyone, what a fantastic tournament!

An Honour for Claire Osborn

Congratulations to Normanhurst Headmistress and new Oak-Tree Principal, Claire Osborn, as she was honoured at the start of the academic year with the role of Chair of the Independent Schools Association.



This is a huge role as there are around 530 member schools in the ISA. Mrs Osborn had her investiture at the House of Lords in October. Lord Lexden, President of the ISA, presented the chain of office as she officially took over the role of ISA Chair for 2019/2020.

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Harvest Festivals

The Braeside Harvest Festival this year took place in the United Reformed Church. The children enjoyed entertaining their friends and family with a range of songs such as the 'Harvest Hymn' and 'Harvest Samba', and the Junior Band accompanied 'Big Red Combine Harvester' beautifully.



Braeside School

At Coopersale Hall, children from Kindergarten to Year 6 put on a fantastic show filled with songs, poems and readings for families and staff in aid of the Harvest Festival. Revd Lee Batson also spoke to the

children about the importance of the Harvest and about how their donations will go on to help others.



Coopersale Hall School

The Normanhurst Harvest festival took place in the United Reformed Church, and the children had a great time entertaining the audience of friends and family with songs such as 'Healthy Habenera' and the ever popular 'Harvest Samba'. It was especially interesting to hear the children talk about the Soup Run.

The donations from the Oaklands Harvest Festival this year were sent to



Normanhurst School

the Whitechapel Mission, where they will distribute the gifts to those in need. In the Harvest Assembly, pupils were challenged to think about how they want to make a difference in the world.



Oaklands School

Key Trips across the Group

- Queen's Road
- Natural History Museum
- Lea Bridge Road Mosque
- Waltham Abbey Gardens
- PGL Centre
- Old Vic Theatre
- Epping Forest Field Studies Centre
- Colchester Castle
- Royal Institution
- Saatchi Gallery
- Waltham Abbey Church
- Epping Forest District Museum
- Evergreen centre
- Harlow Outdoor Pursuits
- Wensley House Care Home
- Pelly Court Care Home
- Ashlar House Care Home
- Royal Gunpowder Mills
- Jump Trampoline Park
- Colchester Zoo
- Floating Classroom London
- Museum of London
- The Spinney Care Home
- Belgique
- Imperial War Museum
- ExCel Centre
- St Edmunds College
- Stansted Mountfitchet Castle
- Ragged School Museum
- Mellows Care Home
- Millfield Theatre
- Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Festive Fun

The run up to Christmas is always a wonderful time of year for all of our pupils, with a huge range of events taking place for the children and their families to enjoy.

December was filled with performances, pantomime trips, visits from Santa and his reindeer, singing at local care homes, nativities, classroom activities and lots more. During the last week of term the pupils all enjoyed a hearty Christmas lunch which was a very appropriate way to end the year together.

The younger children at Braeside entertained their families with a wonderful performance of 'Angel Express'. The children looked lovely in their costumes and really gave it their all. This year, the Juniors took part in 'Christmas Around the World Week' where pupils learnt about different traditions and beliefs in countries around the globe. The first Christmas Activity Afternoon was a huge success this year, with pupils from all year groups coming together for a few hours of festive treats and fun.



Braeside School

Different year groups from Coopersale Hall paid a visit to local care homes and entertained the residents with festive songs as part of their service to the community. Year 2 children performed at the annual Epping Christmas market and many of the children sang at the Christmas Tree Festival held at St John's Church. The children were all excited by a visit from Santa and his reindeer who gave each class a present to take home with them. There were some lovely performances from the younger children in 'Everyone Loves a Baby', and 'Lights, Camel, Action 2! The Sequin'.



Coopersale Hall School

Normanhurst Kindergarten, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 put on a fantastic nativity performance of 'Rockin' Around Bethlehem', which was energetic and lots of fun. Many pupils took part in Christmas Craft Club this year, where they learnt a range of new arts and crafts methods and created some festive decorations to take home. On the penultimate day of term, children and teachers came to school in their Christmas 'finery', with the whole day continuing with the



Normanhurst School

festive theme. Lunch was followed by the arrival of a very special visitor who brought presents for the children.

We had some superb Christmas shows from the younger children at Oaklands this year. Upper Kindergarten did a fantastic job of performing the story of 'The Littlest Christmas Tree', where we had trees, stars, kings, angels, rabbits, birds, badgers, squirrels and families all singing and dancing on the stage. Reception children gave the packed audience a lovely 'Winter Medley' of songs. The children enjoyed paying a visit to Santa in his magically transformed grotto and have been able to take part in many Christmas-themed craft activities in class, such as making granola reindeer food and designing the House post boxes.



Oaklands School

Oak-Tree NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019



Oak-Tree Schools Parents' Associations

Our Parents' Associations were very busy last term arranging a number of events for pupils, families and friends. The Parent's Associations are always looking for parents to get involved with fundraising or events. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your committee if you would like to meet new families, contribute your ideas and work together to make a difference to your child's experience at school. All four Parents' Associations joined together to organise the annual Oak-Tree Firework Display which was a huge success, with many parents volunteering their time to run the stalls.

Braeside



FOBS has made the exciting announcement this term that they have now raised enough money to pay for 30 iPads for the school to enhance the pupils' learning experience. Some money was also used to make a contribution towards the Senior House Drama Competition for props and also to the Juniors for their ice cream at the annual pantomime trip. Thanks for your contributions!

Coopersale Hall



The FOCHS Christmas Fayre was back with a bang this year, with a huge range of stalls and activities to keep the children entertained. There was 'Pin the nose on Rudolf', reindeer food making, cupcake decorating and more. FOCHS also arranged for a special visitor to make an appearance, with each class having the chance to meet the man in red and his reindeer before visiting the Christmas Gift Shop.

Normanhurst



It was a busy term for the NSPA this year. 'The Great Bingo Mashup' was a huge success, with fish and chips for all and a great evening of family entertainment.

Also this term the NSPA arranged the annual 'Winter Walk', with families enjoying a chilly walk, picking up litter along the way, before returning to the school for some mulled wine and mince pies.

Oaklands



The OPA arranged a number of treats for the pupils over the festive period. The library was transformed into a magical grotto for the Christmas party, with the children having the opportunity to pay an exciting visit to Santa. There was also the annual trip to the local panto for the older children, while the younger children were visited by a travelling theatre group. These were lots of fun, so thanks to the OPA for making it all possible.