



Oakfield School



Welcome to issue 13 of the Oakfield School newsletter. Since the Summer holidays we seem to be heading towards half-term at the speed of light.

It's been a busy few weeks in school with several new staff members and three new Year 7 classes.

Staying Healthy

Respiratory infections are common in children and young people, particularly during the winter months. Symptoms can be caused by several respiratory infections including the common cold, COVID-19 and RSV

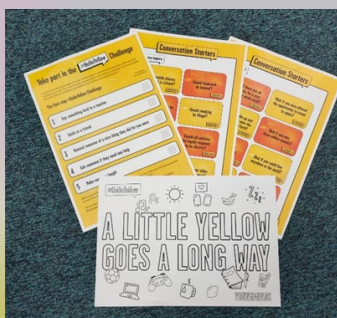
If a child/young person has symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, and has a high temperature or does not feel well enough to go to school or carry out normal activities, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until they no longer have a high temperature (if the child/young person had one) or until the child/young person no longer feels unwell.

It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to do so by a health professional. If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can.

Emotional Wellbeing (EWB)

The school donned yellow clothing on 10/10/2022 to show support of Young Minds' #HellowYellow. This was in order to raise awareness about young people's mental health. Staff encouraged and engaged in activities with students to help promote positive mental health and well-being. (Please see the photograph of resources).

The EWB team are working with 26 children on selected programmes and Jackie the parent/young person liaison officer, continues to support families alongside this. Jackie's contact number is: 07716085868.



Science

Year 9 and 10 students have been learning more about cells and the human body, including studying plant and animal cells under the microscope, using models to understand what our blood is made of and even dissecting a lamb's heart to help them learn more about how our own hearts work.

Year 11 students have had their heads down working hard and learning about our immune systems and how our bodies are able to help protect us from diseases.

3J and 3G have been getting out and about exploring. They have harvested potatoes grown on the school allotment and even got cooking outdoors to taste the yummy produce. There may also have been one or two snail races!



Residential

Students arrived back from the summer break happy to be returning to the school and the residential provision. Upon returning, the students were still buzzing about the residential camp which took place prior to the holidays, therefore deciding to create collages and scrap books from their time on camps. Students have taken ownership over this and are really happy with the outcome!

As usual focus-based activities have taken place throughout the week with some students trying new clubs in the local community. We have had Yu-Gi-Oh club in the city centre on Wednesday evenings, Tigers Trust football group and a number of students have recently started attending a local Youth Club, mixing with pupils of a similar age whilst in the community. All of these clubs have been hugely successful and have given the opportunity for the residential pupils to try new interests in the local area.

Some of our older boys have recently attended the KC stadium for an evening game. The Tigers won 2-1 on the evening with the pupils using the skills they have learned through their independent travel to get themselves to the stadium. The students sang their hearts out and loved the experience!



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Intervention Sessions

Pupils who struggle with reading have been accessing our intervention sessions regularly this half term. A new timetable, which has proven to be a challenge, has started. A group of students has been identified, through baseline testing, as needing the newly purchased high quality phonics/reading programme created by Ruth Miskin called Fresh Start. This programme is aimed at older students who still need support with reading. Fresh Start provides intensive, targeted support to address specific gaps in a student's reading. It teaches each student at their specific challenge point to accelerate progress. Students are taught to read sounds, words and the matched decodable modules. The student learns to read the first set of sounds, and then how to blend the sounds together to read words. They then read simple texts containing the sounds they know, alongside learning more sounds, ready for the next set of modules. Hopefully, this will continue to work well and pupils who attend will enjoy speeding their reading progress up!



Sport

In the second week of October, a group of Key Stage 4 students played an away football match at Phoenix Sevenhills School in Grimsby. The match was 5 a side and was played on an all-weather pitch at Sevenhills. With the sun shining, Oakfield came out on top in a closely-fought match, winning 2-1. Further matches against Phoenix will follow for both KS4 and KS3 students. Students can earn the chance to play in matches through positive behaviour in school.

Outdoor Education

Year 9 Outdoor Education has got off to a flying start with the pupils enjoying bush craft. They have made their own lunch and erected shelters. They have begun working towards their GoMTB Level 1 award which has involved playing games, learning bike components and taking part in a trail ride. Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Award have started their Physical and Volunteering sections, some of the activities have been canoeing, paddle boarding and MTB riding. Year 7 students have started Outdoor Education lessons this year. This is an expansion of our OE provision. They have been working on a National Trust scheme on the "50 things" challenge. This has seen the year 7 students discovering new places and they have been building dens, undertaking bush craft and doing some geo-caching.

Year 8 students have started the John Muir Award and are working on developing the school allotment. They have harvested some lovely potatoes which they have used to create cook outdoors.





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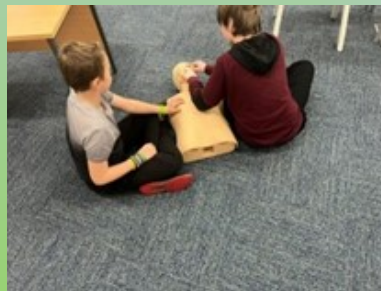
Rowan Building

The Rowan build, formally the CLC, has gone through an impressive transformation during the summer holidays. It has been decorated throughout with a bright new finish and each classroom has individual workstations for pupils. Pupils also have their own chrome books and there are also many resources available like ipads the new Rec room and the outdoor sports MUGA. The Rowan building is the new home for our new year 7 pupils and to Mr Banks' Nurture class. The building is named after the Rowan tree because trees are a theme which runs throughout our school buildings including the residential houses.



Restart a Heart Day

On Friday 14th October, a group of 4 local paramedics visited the Rowan building as a part of Restart a Heart Day. The day is focused on teaching students how to help people with cardiac arrest. The Year 7 and Nurture students taking part were thoroughly engaged. A big thank you to the paramedics for giving up their time. It was especially nice to see one of our former residential staff members in her new paramedics role.



Halloween Day

On 31st October, the first day back after the half-term break, school will be holding a Hallowe'en Day. Staff and students will be encouraged to wear fancy dress costumes and there will be Hallowe'en-themed food and activities on offer. It would be great to see everyone dressed up in their scariest costume!

The day was the idea of our new Student President.



Have a great
half term