

THE OAKS CE LEARNING FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

December
2025

Our School Vision

Connected through the values of love, respect and compassion. Three separate schools, we journey together to grow physically, spiritually, emotionally and intellectually, so that everyone can fulfil their potential. We strive to preserve the wonder of childhood, whilst ensuring our children are future ready.

A Message from Mrs Flynn

Christmas is once again upon us after a busy first term. The children have had so many lovely learning opportunities since September including trips to Testwood Lakes and our sporting tournaments up at Bartley. December has been filled with exciting moments for our school communities. Many of which have been enabled by all the school's PTAs such as the pantomime, the Christmas shops, Christmas fayres/discos/raffles and of course crackers and help at the Christmas dinner. A BIG thank you to all our PTAs who work so hard to provide these experiences and raise money for the schools.

Part of our vision is 'preserving the wonder of childhood'. It was a joy for those who visited the Nativity walk through at the Lyndhurst Baptist Church to see the children's faces as they watched the nativity story in action. The children couldn't stop talking about it when I saw them back in their schools.

Having the opportunity to all join together at our Christmas services has been amazing. The staff have worked very hard to put these together at the end of a busy term of teaching so a BIG well done to them and of course to our wonderful children!

I really hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year together. We look forward to welcoming you all back in 2026!

Staffing

Mrs Maclaurin will be leaving at the end of this term she has worked at all our schools in the Federation and has contributed so much over the years. She has been year 1 lead and most recently the Inclusion Lead. She will be missed by us all but we wish her all the best in her new teaching post.

We have successfully recruited Miss Allinson as our new Federation Inclusion Lead for three days a week and class teacher at Copythorne 2 days a week. She will share the class teacher role with Mrs Langton. Miss Allinson will start after Easter.

During the spring term Mrs Langton will teach full time and we welcome Mrs Thomas back who resume her role as Inclusion lead across the Federation for two days a week.

Miss Bridle at Copythorne will also be leaving at the end of this term. She has been fantastic in her role supporting different children's learning needs. We wish her lots of success in her new job. We will be recruiting someone in January to take on her role.

From January Mr Warren currently our Federation year 2 lead will become the Federation Key Stage 1 lead.

School Tours

Although our official tours have ended, we are still happy to show prospective families around our schools and share more about the work we do. We have places available in various year groups across the Federation. Please encourage anyone seeking a school place – whether for September or mid-year – to get in touch.

"Be strong and of good courage, do not be afraid nor be dismayed for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go"

Joshua 1:9



Federation Improvement Plan

This term all staff across The Oaks Federation have undergone training on The Empowerment Approach. This training will begin to shape our approach to managing behaviour and supporting children in managing their readiness for learning. This term we have introduced the children to 'the 5C's' (comfortable, connected, control, count and capable). These are a key component of the approach and in time we would like the children to understand that if our 5C needs are being met, we feel good and we are ready to learn. Over the year ahead we will begin to look at the 5C needs in more detail and will also share information with you to help you best support your children in becoming happy, settled and curious learners.

We are all supporting children's learning by implementing retrieval practice at the start of each maths lesson. The aim of this is to support consolidation of learning and develop children's confidence in maths. We will start to look at retrieval practise in Science next term.

Mr Warren as maths lead is continuing to work with staff in developing their maths planning, teaching strategies and use of resources to further support children's learning. He is working with support from outside agencies including the maths county advisor.

Our focus on spirituality is now led by Mrs Day and this term she has spoken to and met with advisors from the Diocese. Next term as a staff we can begin to develop opportunities to envelop spirituality into our curriculum and everyday experiences.

Courageous Advocacy

This term the children took part in Children in Need. As a Federation we raised £267.

Families across the Federation also supported our Samaritans Purse – *Operation Christmas Child*. We received shoeboxes filled with toys, and personal care items. These were then taken to the donation centre to be passed on.

At Harvest time the children also considered those in our local communities by bringing in a variety of tins and non-perishables for the local food banks.

We are proud of the children's response and acts of compassion.

Clubs

As you are aware we needed to find a new company for our after school provision. We have successfully secured a great provider 'Superstar Sports UK'. They will start in the second week of January; you should have received information about this. The clubs will run from Monday to Thursday. Next term you can access gym club, football, basketball and stage school. Please remember that you need to book through this organisation not the school. We can use the PE premium to fund places for our KS1 children, however the premium does not cover children in the reception year so parents/carers will need to pay for these places. As the stage school club is not a sport, parents/carers will need to pay for this experience.

Thank you for the interest that you have shown in the piano lessons that will be provided by Sabrina Fancy.

Remember we have wraparound care at all the schools please contact the admin team for details.

Volunteering at School

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered in school already! Volunteering is a great way to learn about our teaching strategies and make a big difference for our learners. If you're interested in becoming a regular volunteer, please visit our website, where you'll find information on how to get started, including the required safeguarding training:

Volunteering

Communication About Learning

We hope that you have found the weekly learning updates from your child's class in key stage one informative.

We also hope that all parents in Year R are successfully accessing their child's learning on tapestry.

Please look out for the curriculum newsletters and note that Key stage one have added some exciting optional home learning opportunities.

Parent/Carer Questionnaire

Please look out for this at the beginning of next term. I would like to find out about how we can continue to improve communication and review what we already provide , such as parent forums.

Click here to stay up to date with our upcoming events.

