

THE OAKS CE LEARNING FEDERATION

NEWSLETTER

July
2026

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

We are coming to the end of the Summer term and it is wonderful to see how every individual child has grown 'physically, spiritually, intellectually and emotionally' on their learning journey at school this year. This term the children have been busy learning about growing plants and what helps them to grow. I've seen some fantastic potato plants and radishes amongst other flowering plants that all the children have grown, nurtured and cared for. Across the Federation the children have all looked at the sea and the life within it. With the hot weather we have all explored water in different ways and talked about water safety. Thinking of the summer holidays ahead I've attached two links that you can share together as a family.

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/listing/category/the-water-safety-code>

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/safety-on-holiday>

The children in Key Stage 1 learned about Amazing Africa and we were thrilled to have a visit from Sue Bowen from the Diocese who talked about life in Rwanda and how it is different to life in Britain. The children also enjoyed creating Kente weaving in class. In summer two the children learned about two inspirational women Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale. They were able to look at some fantastic historic artefacts.

Year R also had their first big trip out to Longdown Dairy Farm and were so excited to tell me about the different animals they'd seen and handled. They also watched their tiny caterpillars develop and turn into butterflies which were released. Presently they are looking at lots of different countries across the world.

As always swimming has been a great success each week. A big thank you to the parent helpers who have supported us in these sessions.

We are glad they managed to get both the Year 1 and Year 2 athletic sports days in. The children engaged well in the events and enjoyed the experience.

We all wish the year twos a successful start at their new junior schools and hope that they continue to thrive.

A massive thankyou to all the parents/ PTA, grandparents, helpers and educational visitors who have enriched each school's learning experiences and helped to create that 'wonder of childhood' this year. I really appreciate the time and commitment that you give to the schools. May you all have a fantastic and safe Summer holiday and I look forward to seeing you in September.

"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 the senior leadership team have continued to lead assemblies so that children can become more confident in understanding what helps them to be prepped for best in their learning and how they can self-regulate.

In assessment the teachers continue to develop strategies to assess children's learning and especially their prior knowledge in lessons. This is really supporting children's recall in learning.

In maths Mr Warren and the teachers have continued to develop our maths planning and lesson structure and the children are now more confident in talking about maths and how they are solving problems.

Mrs Day sent out a letter to you about spirituality and we are continuing to develop significant moments that allow children spiritual reflection times in their learning.

Courageous Advocacy

Some children at St Michael and All Angels sang at the local family fun day in the community recently. Thankyou to Mrs Day for organising this.

A big thankyou to the ladies who kindly supported the children in growing vegetables at Copythorne Infant school. Everything is growing very well indeed.

We will also be welcoming some residents from Hartwood House to St Michael and All Angels to read stories to the children.

PTA Events

As always, I cannot say thankyou enough to all three of our PTAs. All those involved give up their own time to organise key events at each school to raise money that allows us to purchase items that support the children's learning. At Copythorne we have been able to get visualisers for each class. Year R have also had mini sheds and equipment bought for their outdoor area. At Netley Marsh and St Michael and All Angels lots of different resources have been bought to support learning.

St Michael and All Angels PTA also secured a grant of £20,000. This money has been used to build a wooden play castle on the field. We are very excited as it is being designed and built by the designer of the wooden apparatus at Moors Valley Country Park. We are hoping for completion by the end of this term.

Some of our PTA members will be leaving us this year after a few years of making a big difference. We truly appreciate all that you've done. We hope that newer members now take the helm and continue to organise events to raise funds for the schools.

If you are interested in supporting the PTA please contact the school office.





Staffing

This year we will be saying goodbye to some staff at Netley Marsh. Miss Bowen joined us as an Early Career Teacher a few years ago and has really developed all our DT learning opportunities whilst she has been at the school. Miss Hynes has developed the learning environment in Year R and has been praised by the Early Years Advisory Team for the provision she has created. Other teachers have also come to the school to observe her excellent practice. We know they will be greatly missed, but we wish them both luck in the future.

We are very excited for Miss Sanderson at Copythorne, who will be going on maternity leave from September. We will be thinking of her and eagerly awaiting her new arrival, whom we will all be excited to meet.

Recently, we have welcomed a new cover supervisor, Miss Leigh Parkinson, and a new teaching assistant, Mrs Allen, at St Michael and All Angels. We have also welcomed a new teaching assistant, Mrs LeBaron, at Copythorne.

We look forward to welcoming Miss Hayes, our new Owl Class teacher, and teaching assistant Sam Wingham, who will work with Miss Sharrat in Robin Class. We also welcome Mrs Donaldson who will be teaching Badger class during Miss Sanderson's maternity leave.

Ofsted

I am delighted to share the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection! We achieved the expected standard across all seven inspection areas: achievement; attendance and behaviour; curriculum and teaching; early years; inclusion; leadership and governance; and personal development and wellbeing. Our safeguarding arrangements also met all required standards.

The Ofsted report praised our leadership and governance, recognising our determination to ensure that every pupil receives a high-quality education while fostering a strong sense of belonging and community for both staff and parents. It also acknowledged that we place equal importance on children's social development alongside their academic progress.

I am particularly proud that the report highlighted our children as articulate, positive in their attitudes, and enthusiastic about their learning. Ofsted also recognised that our pupils feel safe, behave well, and enjoy coming to school.

I would like to say a massive thankyou to all the staff at Copythorne involved in the process and to the teachers and SLT across the Federation that contributed to the process.

Volunteering in School

I would like to say a very BIG thankyou to all the people who have helped and supported across the Federation this year. You bring us so much!

We have parents who hear readers, tidy the library and support with school trips.

We have had grandparents and members of the local community who have supported with gardening .

We have our 'Open the Book teams' with Reverend John and Pastor Paul.

The three hardworking PTAS.

Relatives who have come to share their life experiences with children especially regarding their jobs (doctors, singing etc).

The ladies from the Parishes/local community who spend time knitting our welcome dolls for Year R.

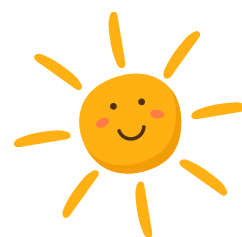
The governing body who support the schools in lots of different ways.

I know we are so grateful for those who support showing their values of love, respect and compassion in a voluntary capacity. Your actions will have a positive effect on our school communities.

I hope that I have remembered as many as I can.

Parent Forums

Next term I will be holding parent forums in the first half term so do look out for these dates. We will inform you of the dates of these as soon as possible.



HAVE A FABULOUS SUMMER HOLIDAY!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU BACK TO SCHOOL ON SEPTEMBER 2ND

2026/2027 Inset Days

Tuesday 1st September

Friday 2nd October

Monday 2nd November

Monday 22nd February

Friday 25th June

Please see the second attachment for next term's diary dates.

