MAY, JUNE & JULY

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the final week of the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been a fantastic last couple of months at Oak Tree School. Looking through this newsletter, you'll see just how much our students have achieved and experienced. From outdoor learning and educational visits to sporting events, practical learning opportunities and new developments around the school, it has been wonderful to see our young people embracing every opportunity with enthusiasm, confidence and pride.

One of the highlights has undoubtedly been seeing our students complete their GCSE and Functional Skills examinations. They approached this important milestone with maturity, resilience and determination, and we could not be prouder of the way they represented themselves and our school. I would also like to thank every other student for the respect and consideration they showed throughout the examination period. Their willingness to help create a calm environment demonstrated the kindness and empathy that makes Oak Tree such a special place.

This term has also been one of growth beyond the classroom. Whether taking on the Ten Tors Jubilee Challenge, developing new skills through outdoor education, celebrating success in hospitality and catering, or helping create our wonderful new Hygge outdoor space, our students have continued to show what they are capable of when given the opportunity to thrive. These moments remind us that success comes in many forms, and we are incredibly proud of every young person for the progress they have made this year.

I hope you enjoy reading about the many successes and experiences captured in this edition of our newsletter. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership throughout the term. It is greatly appreciated and plays such an important part in everything we achieve together as a school community.

Best Wishes
Matt

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ACORN

MESSAGE FROM Mike

As we come to the end of another busy and successful term in the Acorn building, it's a great opportunity to reflect on all that we have achieved together.

This term has seen lots of exciting developments, including new planters in the car park thanks to our Lundy Bay team, the introduction of Wake and Shake and Messy Play clubs, and fantastic use of our outdoor spaces. Children have enjoyed the Lost Garden, Forest School sessions with our Outdoor Education teacher, Lucy, water sports, Wednesday games, Sports Day and a range of educational visits and activities.

I would like to thank all of our children for the exceptional maturity, kindness and respect they showed during the GCSE and Functional Skills examination period. Their thoughtful behaviour around the Oregon building was a real credit to them and demonstrated genuine empathy for others.

A huge thank you also goes to our parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year and for cheering on the children at Sports Day. Your partnership plays a vital role in making our school community so special.

I hope you all have a wonderful, relaxing summer break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year.

DARLEY

MESSAGE FROM Nina

This term has been a fantastic celebration of achievement, creativity and teamwork across the Darley site. Students have embraced a wide range of exciting opportunities, including Sports Week, Sports Afternoons and the Beach Olympics, demonstrating resilience, enthusiasm and excellent teamwork. Football, pickleball and dodgeball proved especially popular, while the Football Fun Factory sessions were a particular highlight for many.

Crantock students did a wonderful job hosting a tea party for guests from across the school, preparing delicious fresh scones and cakes in Catering while proudly showcasing their accreditation work. In Art, students produced some outstanding printing work, and one student celebrated the significant achievement of accessing a photography lesson at the beach, capturing a fantastic collection of photographs that reflected their growing confidence, creativity and independence.

Despite the warm weather, students made the most of the shaded areas in the Lost Gardens, enjoying time outdoors in a calm and relaxed environment. It has been inspiring to see our students continue to develop new skills, challenge themselves, celebrate their successes and make lasting memories. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved this term and thank you for your continued support.

OREGON

MESSAGE FROM Barry

We are delighted to announce the success of Oak Tree School's first Ten Tors Jubilee Challenge team. Under the guidance of Chris, Courtney and Tracy, our students completed the 8.7-mile course with resilience, determination and excellent team spirit, earning Bronze medals.

They represented the school with kindness and respect, supporting fellow teams along the route. Well done to all involved — they'll be aiming for Silver next year!

Students and staff enjoyed a memorable trip to the Isles of Scilly between the 1st and the 3rd of July, and after a lively outbound crossing on the Scillonian, everyone was rewarded with sunny weather, stunning views, horse riding, beach games, swimming and shared meals at the campsite. Thank you to all students and staff who made the trip such a success!

We are very proud of every student who took part in these events.

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NEWSLETTER

Lost Gardens

UPDATES

The garden has been busy over the break, with mixed results due to the recent heatwave we have had!

Unfortunately, the strawberries and sweetcorn did not survive due to insufficient water, and some pak choi plants bolted and flowered.

However, Fred's Patch is doing really well, with healthy peas, celery, and chilli plants. The cabbages planted by Leeland have grown exceptionally large and will be featured in this week's roasts after being harvested by Keegan!

With external garden maintenance no longer available, there is plenty of weeding and tidying to do, and students interested in helping are more than welcome to get involved.

Finally, the scare bunny has been successful in reducing rabbit damage to the crops, so big thanks to Helford classes help in protecting the garden!

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SOUTH BODMIN MOOR OUTDOOR LEARNING VISIT

Eddison and Ethan took part in an outdoor learning visit to Bodmin Moor, exploring areas around Minions, The Hurlers, and Warleggan.

Damp weather conditions helped them identify and compare animal tracks and signs of wildlife activity, in the area, including droppings! They observed ponies, sheep, Highland cattle, and Belted Galloways across the moor.

At The Hurlers stone circles, they explored the landscape and talked about what the site may have been used for in the past, alongside local folklore about fay folk and fairies.

Both of the boys engaged well throughout the visit, showing curiosity and taking part in conversation with adults!

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NANCARROW FARM

Visit

Some of our students have enjoyed a visit to Nancarrow Farm this term to learn all about the processes.

he farm grows and rears its produce on site and is very popular for weddings and themed event nights.

Students started with a tour of Nancarrow Farm and were shown how the farm operates, as well as seeing a professional kitchen and butchery area.

Students were able to forage for herbs and garlic to create their own salsa verde and dukkha which went down really at the end taste testing.

After lunch, students foraged edible flowers and created vol-au-vents and crackers which tasted amazing! Students met the animals and understood how all the food grown/reared on site is used in the restaurant.

It was great to see students ask questions and show a genuine interest in hospitality and catering!

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Oak Tree School SPORTS DAY

This term our students took part in Sports Day, and what a lovely day it was!

It is great to see the students from all across the school coming together and giving it their all.

If you see a photograph of your child, which you would like sending home, please get in touch using **enquiries@oaktreeschoolcornwall.co.uk**, and we will be happy to send this over.

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Lost Garderns Updates!

Today's celery in the Darley canteen was grown from seed and lovingly nurtured by Fred and Lowen from Polly Joke class.

Thanks to all their care and attention, it's come out sweet, fresh, and well worth trying!

Their veg patch has a few more exciting things growing too, though these won't be ready to harvest until September.

Well done to Fred and Lowen for their fantastic green-fingered skills!

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Student Success!

Congratulations to Will on his final day at school, where he helped prepare and serve a five-course meal for 25 senior business executives as part of the Cornwall College Hospitality Academy!

His hard work and skill earned excellent feedback, reflecting the impressive progress he has made over the years.

After completing his final work placement at the Norway Inn, Will will begin a full-time catering course at Cornwall College in September, where we are sure he will continue thriving and pursuing his passion for becoming a chef!

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