

# FOUR OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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[www.fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk](http://www.fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk)

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Next Week—Menu 1

## 22nd October 2021

### Dear Parents and Governors

Well, amazingly we are already at the end of our first half-term and are a sixth of the way through the school year - where does time go?

Many thanks to all of our families for supporting us in school in our efforts to get back to a new normal way of school life. It hasn't been easy, but we are definitely getting there, and even though we still have children and adults struggling with both new and old autumn/winter germs, at least we are not back in the situation of having to isolate whole year groups and resort to remote learning on masse. I would like to urge all parents to continue to be highly vigilant in terms of infection control, as this is a message that we push with the pupils every day in school. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break in the hope that we all return to school with renewed energy to enjoy the rest of our Autumn Term and the Christmas celebrations that we will all look forward to.



Happy Hallowe'en everyone!

### A SAFEGUARDING ISSUE - Squid Game

I would like to ask for help from all school parents over an issue which is causing growing problems in school. It seems that the most popular television program in the world at the moment is a show on Netflix called 'Squid Game'. I am not going to go into details about its content in this newsletter, suffice to say that it is totally inappropriate for any of our children. It has a 15 rating and yet many of our children are coming in to school and talking openly about having watched it, often on their own in their bedrooms, and then they are talking about and re-creating violent scenarios from it in the playground. I would hope that all of our parents would take the responsible stance of safeguarding children and not allowing them to watch inappropriate content on-line at any time. Thank you for your support on this matter.

### Parents' Evening

Many thanks to all parents who attended our two Parents' Evenings this week. We hope you found them informative in terms of finding out how your children have settled back into normal school life. If any parents wish to view their children's books they can of course book a time after school one day just by talking to the class teachers.



### School Trips

We hope Year 1 enjoy their trip to Sandwell Valley RSPB site on 2nd November and Year 6 enjoy their trip to Wroxeter Roman City on 4th November. Can I please ask all parents when they receive a notification on SchoolMoney about a trip to please read the letter attached as this will now contain a link to a form which needs to be completed for your child's packed lunch. Thank you.



### Summer Reading Challenge—Birmingham Libraries

We are delighted to announce that we have been informed by Birmingham Libraries that our school has won the overall trophy for the Summer Reading Challenge! The trophy will be coming into school on Monday 1st November. If your child completed the challenge could they please bring their certificate and medal in on 1st November as we would like to take their photograph with the trophy and they may even feature in the local newspaper!



### Our School Governors

In an effort to highlight all areas of school life we have asked our school governors to write a short pen-portrait about themselves, so that we can include them in our school newsletters over the course of the year. The Governing Body is made up of volunteers, and is the group of people who have ultimate responsibility for the running of the school, and they meet in a full Governing Body meeting once a half-term. As well as these six meetings they also work in smaller groups such as the Resources, Finance and Safeguarding Committees which meet at other times throughout the year. We hope that these snippets of information will help all parents to understand a little more about the work of the Governing Body and the people who sit on it. We are starting with Mr Trevor Johnson who is a parent Governor and Chair of the Governing Body.

#### **Hello, my name is Trevor Johnson.**

*I was appointed to the Governing Body of Four Oaks Primary School in 2015 after a parent ballot.*

*I am currently Chair of the Governors having been voted into the role in 2017.*

*I qualified as a secondary teacher in 1973 and have since taught in Liverpool, Walsall, Dudley and Sandwell.*

*My first Headship was of a school in Sandwell, followed by another headship in Dudley where at the same time I also assisted another school.*

*As well as a Teaching qualification, I have degrees of Bachelor of Education and Master of Philosophy. I also had some work published relating to parental perceptions of education.*

*Throughout my career in schools I have served on Governing Bodies which I believe has given me a unique insight into the ways that Governors can support and develop schools to ensure that the children are happy, safe and making progress.*

*My child went through Four Oaks Primary School successfully, and has now gone to secondary school from this September.*

*I live in Four Oaks, I am a keen reader, enjoy music and art, and I support Wolverhampton Wanderers.*

*I hope my contributions to education have made, and continue to make a difference to children.*

### School Fund Donations

Many, many thanks to all of those families who have decided to make a donation to our PTA School Fund. We sent out letters to all children in all year groups a couple of weeks ago and we are very grateful to those parents who have reacted generously to our pleas for support.

On the letter it states that the account name is 'Four Oaks School Fund'. One parent has had an issue that this name has not been recognised, so if you do have such an issue you could also try using the name 'Four Oaks Infants & Junior Schools Parents Teacher Association'.

As our School Fund letters detailed, in these days of minimal school funding from the Government we need every bit of help we can, and so can I reiterate that we will be extremely grateful for any donations, whatever the amount. Many thanks!

### Year 5 & Year 6 'Bikeability'



A huge well done to all of the pupils who took part in our Y5/Y6 Bikeability course last week.

This is a vital service we offer in the school calendar which helps to instil important life skills for our older children. Being safe whilst cycling on the road is extremely important. A reminder to parents that any child who rides a bike to school must wear a helmet and their bike must be in full working order. A big thank you to Miss Appleby for organizing this course. Depending on Local Authority resources we may be offered further training later in the year by council instructors so keep your eyes peeled for news in the Spring and Summer terms.

### Individual Photographs

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November we will have our school photographers in school to take individual photographs of children and sibling groups. Please note we do not have the facility to take photographs of parents with children. Please make sure you have returned the letter about school photos that came out to you this week by Tuesday 2nd November.





### Super Stars and Acorns



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The following children received Stars (Infants) and Acorns (Juniors) in Assembly last week. Well done to them all!!

Bumblebees	Arjun
Ladybirds	Amelie
Owls	Ellena
Hedgehogs	Oliver
Turtles	Ollie
Sharks	Harry
3B	Laina
3E	Faith
4B	James
4R	Noah
5C	Connor
5ST	Harry
6B	Poppy
6E	Willow

The following children received Stars (Infants) and Acorns (Juniors) in Assembly this week. Well done to them all!!

Bumblebees	Avni
Ladybirds	Saya
Owls	Lily
Hedgehogs	Thea
Turtles	Isla
Sharks	Annie
3B	The Whole Class
3E	Jessica P.
4B	Theo
4R	Emily
5C	Jessie
5ST	Francesca
6B	Jessica H.
6E	Martha

### Courtesy Cup Winners ~ last week

Reception	Jaya / Toby M.
Year 1	Finley W. / Anaya
Year 2	Isla / Joshua
Year 3	Ava / Noah
Year 4	Nicole / Bella
Year 5	Sapphire / Scarlett
Year 6	Erin / Oscar



Well done to all the winners!

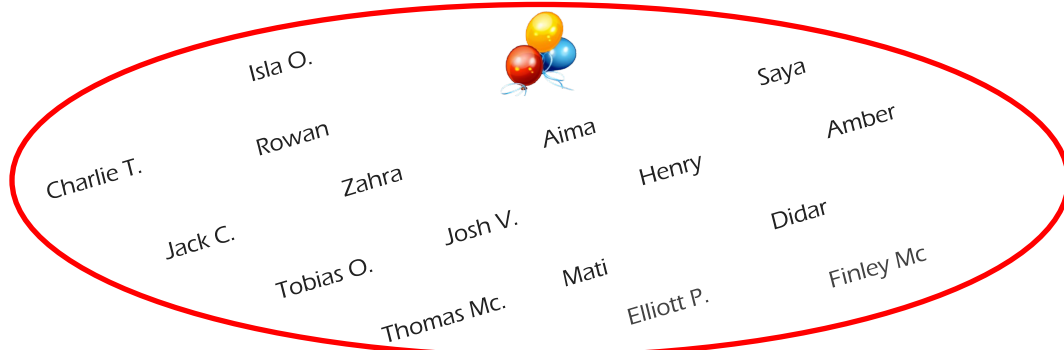
### Courtesy Cup Winners ~ this week

Reception	Poppy / Landi
Year 1	Harry / Noah
Year 2	Ollie / Giaan
Year 3	Lilly-Mae S. / Jessica C.
Year 4	Annabel / Elise
Year 5	Louis / Maisie
Year 6	James S. / Alexander T.



Well done to all the winners!

### Infant Birthdays



### Book Fayre

Many thanks to all of the children and parents who visited our school Book Fayre this week. It's fantastic to see the enthusiasm that our children have for books, and for reading, and also great to see our parents supporting that love of reading with their children. We speak about it constantly in school, but I can't reiterate it enough that an improvement in reading makes every other part of learning easier, and there is masses of hard evidence that confident readers have much improved life chances. We like to pride ourselves that we are a school who always promotes a love of reading and have staff that are adult role models who still read every day!



### Year 4 Swimming

Our Year 4 swimming sessions will begin in the first week back after the half-term break with 4B going swimming between 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> November, and 4R going swimming between 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> November.



## Reception Places - September 2022

The Local Authority are now working with any parents of children due to start in Reception in September 2022 and you can access all the official guidance and registration forms by following this link:

[www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

Any parents who missed our Open Day last Friday can still contact school on 675 4040 and we will arrange a tour of school for them alongside the chance to talk to Miss Appleby or myself and we will endeavour to answer any questions about this process.

## BONFIRE News



On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November Four Oaks Saints Cricket Club who are based behind the shops on Clarence Road will be running their annual Bonfire Night event which is always incredibly popular with Four Oaks Primary families. It's also very popular with lots of other local families so get in quick and book your fast-track tickets. More information about this event can be found on the flyer attached to the end of this newsletter. As always at events like this we would like to impress upon parents how important it is to make sure all families have a safe and enjoyable time.



## PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS..... PTA Smarties Challenge

Once again our fantastic PTA have launched their annual 'Smarties Tube Challenge' to help raise funds for all of our children in school. All children have now come home with a Smarties tube which, over the half-term break, they will endeavour to fill with coins which they can earn by doing jobs for you..... it's a win-win situation, you get your chores done and the children benefit from extra funding in school. The full Smarties tubes can be returned to school after half-term, and the class who raise the greatest amount will win a giant tube of Smarties for every child in the class.



## PTA Quiz

Unfortunately, the PTA Quiz for parents that was due to take place on October 15<sup>th</sup> had to be postponed. This event will be moved to later on in the year when hopefully more parents will feel comfortable with attending an event inside the school building.

## PTA Comedy Night Change



Looking further into the school year the PTA Committee have now fixed a date for their very successful and incredibly popular 'Comedy Night' which will take place in the Junior Hall on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Keep your eyes peeled for news of the comedy line-up and ticket prices.

## PTA Disco & Pizza Party



Two Fridays ago the PTA ran their most successful disco and pizza party ever raising an incredible £900 for the children in school! Thank you so much to the children and parents who supported this event and to the PTA Committee and staff who helped to run it.



## ICT Tip of the Week

*A spoof website imitates a genuine website in order to fraudulently collect personal or sensitive data from you. They're designed to look like the genuine site. Always check the website address of any site you're visiting. Look for small clues like a spelling mistakes in the web address. On the login page of a website, click on the padlock symbol next to the address in your browser's top bar to check the security certificate.*

If you have any queries regarding any of the above please do not hesitate to contact me.  
Yours sincerely



# **Four Oaks Saints CC**

Clarence Road (behind the shops)

## ***Bonfire Night***

Spectacular Fireworks Display & Kiddies Funfair



**SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**Licensed Bar & Hot Food Available**

**Fast Track tickets available from**

**<https://fouroakssaints.co.uk/bonfire/>**

**Adults £7.00, Children (up to 12) £4.00**

**Pay on the gate tickets**

**Adults £9.00, Children (up to 12) £5.00**

**Under 5s Free.**

**Family tickets available on the gate:**

**2 Adults & 2 Kids £25**

**Bonfire lit at 6.30pm**

**Fireworks at 7.30pm & 8.15pm**