

Orley Farm School



ISSUE 33 (13/14) 27th June, 2014

A Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

Orley Farm is doing what it does best, creating lifelong memories from extraordinary events!

Last Friday, our current School Leaders led an enterprise team-building workshop for our current Year 7 pupils in order to test their mettle! If I talk about 'succession planning' and 'mentoring', these are initiatives that ensure that we are, and will always, be aiming for the stars. It was



a great event that brought out the best in everyone and ensured that the skills of today will transfer to the next generation. I would add that this was a theme that continued through the week...

On Saturday, the sun shone and our main field was transformed into picture of fun. I would like to thank and congratulate the PA for organising the best Summer Fair to date! Having it at this time in the year and with the fantastic array of stalls and



This Issue

A letter from the Headmaster

Snapshots

Achievements

Notices

The Week Ahead

KEY DATE

Saturday 5th July

Graduation of Leavers' 2014

17:00 Drinks

**17:30 Leavers ' Graduation
Barbecue**

(Leavers' and their Parents)

19:30 PA Disco



rides meant that it was a truly 'Orley Family' affair.

On Monday, the school gathered to mark and recognise the Centenary of WW1, in which 73 Orleyans gave the ultimate sacrifice in order that generations could enjoy freedom. Mrs Cregor called the school to a

very small garden outside the front of the school to unveil a plaque. This garden is planted with hundreds of poppy seeds that mark our eternal commitment, as a school, to resolve conflict through peaceful means. Year 8 sat on this lawn and did exactly that; resolved their differences. I am proud that as a school we will never shy away from challenge!

In the middle of the week we were treated to three Sports Days that absolutely showcased our PE and Games departments. The competition and spirit were the perfect blend, as boys and girls gave heart and soul to individual and group events, all in the name of their Houses. I was especially touched as I saw our older pupils cheering and encouraging those in Middle School and Pre-Prep, reflecting my earlier comments about the 'mentoring' philosophy that abounds in this school!

Any finally, and appropriately, the crescendo of the week was the Upper School Concert, Mr Turner's swan song. Those who attended will know what I mean when I say that I was speechless. Choral pieces, soloists and ensembles led the evening to a climax that was, quite frankly, extraordinary. Last night was not a prep school concert; it moved me and the entire audience to the core and a standing ovation that took some time to settle. What a way to cap a week, Mr Turner, thank you for being so ambitious and aiming for the stars, this has been a week in which Orley Farm pupils have



AN OUTSTANDING WEEK!



travelled through space! Might I add that Mr Turner will be taking a cheque for £389 to support the RNLi Weymouth Lifeboat following the retiring collection.

So, what of next week...? Well 248 pupils will be packed off for the week, a quiet one for those at home. I ought to add on a personal note that I am



home alone with my 4 year old daughter...and I am not sure who will be doing the 'looking after'... her or me! How-

ever, Libby will be attending the PA AGM on Wednesday as all of the staff who usually babysit will be on Expeditions Week! I would encourage parents to come along as this is a great evening to help shape the new PTA that will emerge, as well as hearing about some initiatives that we are launching...in the meantime, enjoy packing bags for the intrepid adventurers who are departing on Monday!!

Mr Gabeq.

AN OUTSTANDING WEEK!

Across the School

Pre-Prep News

It really is a week for saying thank you! So many memorable events have happened and they could not have happened without some key people mentioned below but also all of the staff in Pre-Prep, the maintenance team and the kitchen staff and of course yourselves as parents. A huge amount of gratitude needs to be expressed for all.

On Monday the children were very humbled during our Commemoration Assembly. The Year Two children have been researching and finding out information about the 35 young men from Orley Farm, who gave their lives in World War 1. Thank you to Miss Brodie for researching in her own time so this was set up for the children.



The new children and parents for Reception 2014 came to visit on Wednesday. Thank you for your support in this welcoming event by taking your children home slightly earlier on that day.

I would like to thank the string, brass and wind ensemble from Middle School, as well as their talented music teachers. They played some fantastic tunes to Pre-Prep. It is lovely to see how far they have come since leaving Pre-Prep, even though some have been in Middle School for less than a year.

We would also like to thank all of the parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, friends and siblings who came along to watch our new Sports Day on Thursday. The children absolutely loved you all being there supporting them in their races. The afternoon was very successful and I have forwarded all of the lovely diary entries to Miss Hehir and her team. I would like to say a very special thank you to Miss Hehir as it really was a perfect afternoon, she did an amazing job organising such a brilliant event! Please click on the link below to view photos of the day.

<https://www.icloud.com/iphoto/projects/#6;CAEQARoQ39wpTRbKBLbLVrPOSjp-Q;11C11319-851C-471E-9D9E-55D01A5F407A>

It was lovely to see so many Year 2 parents at the Middle School transition meeting on Friday morning. I had mixed emotions of excitement and sadness as your children and yourselves continue on your journey through the school. I do hope the session was informative and you feel reassured that your children are ready and prepared for the move.

The children all enjoyed meeting their new teachers on 'Move Up' morning. They were very excited and had lots to tell me at lunchtime play!

Next week is Expeditions Week for Middle School and Upper School. There will be many rehearsals for the end of year Productions and many other fun activities as well.

Reminders

If you are a new class rep or would like to volunteer, please come and see me or send me an email so that we can organise the distribution of contact lists. This will enable parents to organise play dates over the summer break, which would be particularly beneficial for next year's, Year Two and also the new parents and children joining us in September 2014. Thank you.

Across the School

Pre-Prep(cont.)

Year One Parent Social – Tuesday 1st July

I am looking forward to seeing many of you on Tuesday in the Atrium. This is a chance to meet the other parents in your child's new class.

Year 2 Leaving Assembly – Thursday 3rd July

Year 2 parents are invited to come along next Thursday at 2:15pm for a informal leavers' assembly.

Productions

In your child's bag today you would have received your tickets for the end of Year Productions, please make sure you take them out so they do not get lost.

Reception – 9:30am, Thursday 10th July

Year 1/2 – 10:30am, Thursday 10th July

Pre-Prep term finishes after each production.

There will be no late class on Thursday 10th July.

Reception children with siblings in Year One or Two will be cared for until the end of the production.

Hobbies

Hobbies for Year 2 are now finished for this academic year.

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

Samantha Mowle

Head of Pre-Prep

Middle School News

Last Saturday feels like a long time ago when, at the Summer Fair, I was bombarded with wet sponges as I took my turn in the stocks.

Luckily the throwing accuracy did not make me too wet but hoses and buckets of water require less aim and by the end I was soaking.



“Take your marks!”



“Get set!”



“GO!”



NOTICES

Across the School

Middle School(cont)

Everyone in Middle School has been involved in Sports Days this week with the Year 3 and 4 event taking place on Tuesday and the Year 5 one taking place on Wednesday, along with Year 6 to 8.

It was wonderful to see the children giving their best for their house and for themselves. Our Year 6 and 8 leavers supported the Year 3 and 4 pupils brilliantly and it was great to see the older children cheering on and encouraging the younger ones. As this was my first round of Orley Farm Sports Days, I was very impressed.

Next week we will be taking part in Expeditions Week and Years 3,4 and 5 will be involved in a varied and exciting programme. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience different activities and perhaps to socialise with different people.

Transition Morning seemed to go off smoothly today and it was lovely to see so many smiling faces as children officially met their teaching team for September.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Gavin Ryan

Head of Middle School



Upper School News

For the attention of Current Year 7 Parents:

Final registration deadlines loom quickly once the new academic year starts and we would encourage parents to check that they have completed forms and paid deposits in good time in order not to miss any of these deadlines.

Mrs Mitchell

Upper School and Year 5 Sports Day

Please find below the web link to the photo journal of yesterday's Year 5-8 Sports Day.

[View "The Sports Day Journal"](#)

If you are unable to access this web journal by clicking the button, please copy and paste the URL below into your browser.

<https://www.icloud.com/iphoto/projects/#6;CAEQARoQ39wpTRbKBLbLVrP0SlpJ-Q;664E9A86-E42A-4135-B5A7-7874A7789CF4>

General News

Expedition Week Timings for Parents

Year 4 Depart from School at 9.00am expected back on Friday at approx. 4.00pm

Year 5 Depart from School at 7.00am expected back on Friday at approx. 7.00pm

Year 6 Depart from School at 8.00am expected back Friday at approx. 3.00pm

Year 7 Depart from School at 5.00am expected back Friday at approx. 3.30pm

Year 8 Depart from School at 4.30am expected back Friday at approx. 7.00pm



A very big thank you to all parents who supported our Pimms Stall during the last week on Sports Days - a total of £622.00 is being donated to Cancer Research.

THANK YOU!!!

Harry Soma won the Paper Aeroplane prize with an astonishing 28m throw! Thank you for all the money raised.

NOTICES

Across the School

General News *cont...*



For the first time at Orley Farm School, the House Captains and Vice Captains for next academic year are being elected this term. I am delighted that 25 out of 30 Year 7 pupils and a good amount of Year 5 girls decided to step up and prepare a speech to be elected as a leader for September. Their respective Houses then voted while they were out and House Staff have been trying to finalise their final decision since then. This will be announced to all at Harrow by our Head of School and Deputy Head of School, Jordan Cordice and Dhillon Selvarajah. Good luck to all 38 candidates!

You official photographs of 'Bugsy' are now online:

Click this link to view photos: [Schools\Orley Farm School\2014\Upper School Production - Bugsy Malone](#)

The event code for this event is:

Event Code: toyn

PA News

A HUGE Thank you to everyone - Staff, Parents and Children alike who helped make last week's Summer Fair the best we have ever had!

(On a housekeeping note, there is still a fair amount of lost property from the Fair in the PA tray in the Main Office, please have a look if anything was left behind)

The Orley Farm School Parents' Association will have it's **last ever AGM**, next **Wednesday 2nd July at 7pm** in St George's Hall.

Everyone is welcome!

Mr Calvey has been invited to speak and he will be giving an overview of the current Intranet and new School Web site. He will also be introducing 'A New Way Ahead' for communication between Home and School.

Furthermore, from September we will no longer be a Parents Association but

A PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

the details of which will be unveiled next Wednesday.

We hope that the success of the Summer Fair will encourage more members of the school community to come forward and support the new Parent Teacher Association, and we hope to recruit more members to the committee of this new organisation.

In the absence of an expression of interest for the position of Chairperson it is proposed that the new organisation will be led by a steering group which will collectively perform the role of the Chairperson. It is also intended that one class Rep from each year group will be invited to join the committee.

We are run for the benefit of the school community by the school community and hope for a continued cohesive environment for all at the school.

We look forward to seeing you next WEDNESDAY, with a glass of something cold!

Your PA

NOTICES

Looking Ahead...

Monday 30th June

Expeditions Week Begins

Trips depart— see timings under Notices

Tuesday 1st July

08:00 Year 3 Ancient Greek Workshop (Gym)

15:30—16:00 Year 1 Parents' Transition Social (Atrium)

Wednesday 2nd July

08:50 (approx.) (depart) Year 3 Visit to The Roald Dahl Museum (All Day)

19:00 - 20:30 PA AGM (SGH)

Thursday 3rd July

14:15—14:45 Year 2 Leavers' Ceremony (SGH)

Friday 4th July

Expeditions Week Concludes—please remember to collect your children!

Saturday 5th July

17:00 Leavers' Graduation Drinks/Barbecue (venue tbc—due to weather) followed by PA Leavers' Disco at 19:30(SGH)

THE WEEK AHEAD