



Oakbank School

Dear Oakbank School families,

I am writing today to pass on a huge thank you on behalf of all the staff at Oakbank School. The school has already seen a transformation to a calm and incredibly positive and warm environment and this has continued with a fantastic start in January.

Parent Survey

To ensure that Oakbank School continues to be a place where every student can thrive, we are launching our parental survey. We would like to know what we are doing well and where we can improve—from communication and teaching to school culture and safeguarding. Your insights are vital in helping our school leadership team make informed decisions for our community. We kindly ask you to take a few moments to complete this form regarding your child's experience at school - [here](#).

Uniform

Many thanks for your support to get your child to school on time and in perfect uniform. We are always happy to support this, in fact we have already given students over 100 pairs of shoes and 200 pairs of socks this term. We will always support students to get into lessons as quickly as possible.

Equipment

All students have been issued with a free pencil case that holds all the basic equipment listed in the Handbook. Students are expected to have this with them at all times. When items run out e.g. a pen, they can swap it for a replacement with their Head of Year. However, at this stage of the year I would encourage a regular equipment check to make sure that pencil cases have the right equipment. There is a tracking system in place and whilst we can provide equipment, this does risk detention if persistent.

Mr R Gerrard, Headteacher

Oakbank School, Hyde End Lane, Ryeish Green, Reading, RG7 1ER

T: 01189 883616 | E: contact@oakbankschool.co.uk | W: www.oakbankschool.co.uk



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My Child At School (MCAS)

This is the name of the parent portal app, that can be used on all devices - phones, tablets and PCs etc. We will be moving communication, rewards and letters to this platform.

What are the benefits of you using MCAS?

The system will provide you with easier access to important school and instant information, about all aspects of your child: timetable, attendance, calendar and details. You will also be receiving messages from the school through the app.

How to download and access MCAS:

Download the App:

Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps?hl=en_GB&gl=US&pli=1

Apple: <https://www.apple.com/uk/app-store/>

Login: Your username is your registered email address with the school. If you are a first-time user, enter your email address and select "Reset Password." To access the MCAS Parent Portal via a web browser, please visit: <https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin>

MCAS parent guide [MyChildAtSchool \(MCAS\) Parent Guide](#)

Biometric Registration

On Tuesday 20th January, we will be capturing staff and students' fingerprints, which will allow us to use the school's biometric system. Please ensure that your consent is up to date on MCAS. If you do not wish for your child's fingerprint to be taken, please email contact@oakbankschool.co.uk

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Year 7 and 11 photographs

All photographs need to be ordered before Thursday 22nd January to qualify for free delivery to the school.

Berkshire NHS Immunisation Team

A date to put in the calendar, the Berkshire Immunisation team will be in Oakbank on Tuesday 3rd March. The school will be providing Meningitis ACWY and Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio Booster to Year 9 Pupils **Please complete the consent for your year 9 child to receive this. Information and form can be found [here](#)**

Enrichment

After a positive Autumn term, we will be holding our Spring Enrichment Fair on Monday 19th January where students will be able to sign up to a variety of activities that are on offer both during lunch and after school that will be running this term. Please encourage your child to attend and sign up to a club that will interest them.

Half Term School and Mock Exams

Mock Exams for Year 11 are to take place in the final week of term (9th - 13th February) and the first week of next term (23rd - 27th February) To support Oakbank students, we are pleased to inform you that there will be a Year 11 Half-Term School running during the holiday from the 16th - 18th of February between the hours of 9am - 1.30pm. While these additional lessons are optional, we warmly encourage students to sign up. There will of course be a free lunch provided and Prom points allocated for each session attended. Oakbank is committed to supporting Year 11 as much as we can in the run up to their mock exams. The exact session timings for each day will be shared with you in the near future, alongside a link to sign up.

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If you do not have an email address registered with the school as a contact option then please let the school know a valid email address and an account can be generated for you.

May I once again thank you for your support, and please do contact the school with any questions.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Gerrard', written in a cursive style.

Mr R Gerrard

Headteacher

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