



## In this issue

Girls' Cricket Triumph **P.2**Football Results **P.2**More Chess Success **P.3**Woodford Wins **P.3**Digital Parenting **P.4**Reminder to  
parents/carers

There will be a meeting on Thursday 5 March at 7pm at Oakmeeds. Parents, carers and the local community will have the opportunity to meet our chosen sponsor and to hear directly what the University of Brighton Academies Trust will bring to Oakmeeds.

The governing body would also like to remind parents and carers that you have a final opportunity to make comments regarding Oakmeeds' move to become a sponsored academy as part of the University of Brighton Academies Trust. You have until 24 MARCH 2015 to comment, either via email to: [dfry@oakmeeds.co.uk](mailto:dfry@oakmeeds.co.uk) or to Mr Fry via Oakmeeds postal address.

## A word from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you should already know we have had another 2 day monitoring visit from Ofsted this week. I am very pleased to let you know that it went very well and the inspector's report that will come out in approximately two weeks will show a continually improving and positive picture with significant progress seen since their last visit in November. Please feel re-assured that everything is being done to get us out of special measures as early as possible but in all likelihood another set of GCSE exam results that show an increase on previous years will be required before any final decisions will be taken.

It appears that our staffing issues seem to have settled down somewhat since the start of this term and the position is more stable than it has been for a while. We will continue to closely monitor the position. We are aware of one long term illness absence and we are managing that situation as best as possible under the circumstances.

With regard to the specific contents of this newsletter I would like to point you to the comments regarding academy conversion situation and the meeting on 5th March. Just to reiterate, this will be the final public meeting as part of the process and your last chance to raise any issues on this matter or hear directly from Governors and representatives of the University of Brighton.

It is good to see that in other noteworthy articles there are even more successes for students at the College at this time. Well done to all the students represented.

Last night it was good to catch up with many parents at the Year 9 Options Evening and I hope to see many more of you in the coming weeks. It was interesting to hear the comments about the options process and we will consider these for the way we organise this event in future years. We welcome feedback on the way the College is managed and appreciate the comments that are made on the Ofsted Parent view website when Ofsted visit. However, and as always, if during the normal working times you have any comments or issues regarding the College and the way we do things then please provide direct feedback to Elaine Setterfield, my PA, at the College and we will endeavour to follow up on your comments.

Yours sincerely,

**Colin Taylor**  
Headteacher





The Year 10 football team played away at Downlands on 10 February and drew 0-0 against a very good team.

Mr Butcher said: "It was the best I have seen this team play, they really could not have tried and worked any harder. They were faultless in defence with a Man of the Match performance from Michael Platt for two outstanding saves. We were unlucky not to win the match when Cameron Charlton and Luke Moulds several times came close to scoring."

The team were: Thomas Booth, Joe Butterfill, Cameron Charlton, Dan Cockram, James Davis, Dan Fanner, Jake French, Charlie Gladding, Ollie Lewis, Luke Moulds, Niall Murphy, Michael Platt, Ollie Terry, Alex Wotton.

## Good start to cricket season



Well done to the U13 girls' cricket team, who played really well and came second in their round of the Lady Taverners Indoor Cricket Tournament this month.

The team won their matches against Portslade Aldridge Community Academy

(PACA) and Birchwood Grove and lost to Warden Park.

Ms Hugo, PE Teacher, said: "The girls did a fantastic job. Most of the team are Year 7s and are all fairly new to the sport, except for the captain Adeline Preston, who played excellently and hit

3 balls for 6 across the 3 games."

The team were: Amy Butterfill, Charlotte Deamer, Millie Denyer, Kelly Fuller, Sophie Hooper, France Jones, Grace Pordage, Adeline Preston and Kim Short.

## U15 Girls' Cricket Team through to Semi Finals

Oakmeeds' enjoyed more sporting success on Monday 23 February when our U15 girls' cricket team won their match against Oathall. This means that

Oakmeeds are through to the semi-finals of the Lady Taverners Indoor Cricket Tournament.

We wish the team all the very best in the next

stage of the competition.



Jack Woodford (Year 9) continued his winning streak when he competed as part of the successful Crawley Athletics team in the final stage of the indoor athletics Sportshall competition on Sunday 8 February.

Jack was the Captain for the Crawley boys' team (including U15s and U13s). Crawley competed against Haywards Heath, Horsham, Brighton and Chichester during the Sportshall competition. They won after 4 Sunday meetings where the points earned from each 1st, 2nd and 3rd place are added together.

Jack was then chosen to compete on 22 February as part of the Sussex team at the regional Sportshall Competition.

Jack also competed and won another gold medal at long jump on 14 February at an open indoor meeting at Sutton Arena. He competed at County level and he is now the County Champion. His winning jump was 4m 99cm.

# Success at Sussex Junior Chess Grand Prix



Congratulations to Year 7 student, Thomas Midmer, who became the U18 Minor Champion at the Sussex Junior Chess (SJC) Grand Prix at Eastbourne on 7 February.

The six Sussex Grand Prix events each year attract chess players from all over Sussex and sometimes the best from other Counties looking for top competition. These events are popular amongst junior chess players looking to

improve and play quality opposition.

Burgess Hill Junior Chess was well represented at the 5th Grand Prix of the season and there were some notable successes for Oakmeeds' students. Thomas Midmer came first with an unbeaten score of 5 ½ out of 6 points. Thomas will now be promoted to the U18 Major Competition and will find himself having the opportunity to play England Junior International players,

amongst others, within that group.

Two other Year 7 students were also very successful. Thomas Rousell came second with 5 points and Thomas Lawrence received a grading prize.

Well done.

## College dates for your diary - full list at [www.oakmeeds.co.uk](http://www.oakmeeds.co.uk)

Thursday 5 March 2015, 7pm  
Meet the University of Brighton Academies Trust

Thursday 5 March 2015  
World Book Day

Wednesday 11 March 2015  
Voice in a Million Trip

Thursday 12 March 2015  
Fashion Show

Friday 13 March 2015  
Comic Relief

SPRING TERM ENDS Friday 27 March 2015

SUMMER TERM BEGINS Tuesday 14 April 2015

## Hiring

Need a venue?

We have a large campus and a wide range of areas and facilities which are available for hire all year round. Just contact [jmills@oakmeeds.co.uk](mailto:jmills@oakmeeds.co.uk) for further information.

## Absence

Student absence should be reported by 9am on the College absence line, where messages can be left 24 hours a day.

Alternatively, absence can be notified via email at [absence@oakmeeds.co.uk](mailto:absence@oakmeeds.co.uk).

# Helping to protect our students

"With the Internet landscape constantly changing, I hope parents will find the 'Digital Parenting' magazine useful.

Digital Parenting Magazine into your search engine."

Kay Norman, Parent Support Adviser

To view the magazine simply type Vodafone

# Private Fostering - Important Information

Have you had someone else's child living with you for more than 28 days?

Please call WSCC on 01403 229900 for more information, or email [private.fostering@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:private.fostering@westsussex.gov.uk). Find about more at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/privatefostering](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/privatefostering)

Private fostering is when someone under 16 (or 18, if registered disabled), is cared for by an adult who is not a close relative. It is your legal duty to let West Sussex County Council know about a Private Fostering arrangement, and their legal duty to provide you with advice and information.

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Do it.

With an Apprenticeship you continue gaining  
qualifications whilst working and earning.

Considering an apprenticeship when you leave education?

Would you like an alternative to University or College?

Drop in for some expert information and advice on your future

Clair Hall, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath  
Tuesday 10 March  
5pm - 7pm Apprenticeship Info Event



Find out more at:  
[www.yourspacewestsussex.co.uk](http://www.yourspacewestsussex.co.uk)

