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## Introduction

The school celebrated Chiané's time at school with an afternoon performance of dance and song by Green and Orange classes. Kyri, 6Ks form teacher read short messages from Emma, and Finlay whilst Demetrious read a short piece he had written. We then all moved outside to the back of school where all the students and Chiané's parents released 135 Pink balloons into the sky.

We are now well into the summer term and the SLT have agreed the dates for INSET, the Summer Show, Sports day and the Leavers Ball: These are 24/6/22: Sports Day, 8/7/22: Summer Show, 15/7/22: Leavers Ball/Prom (from 1pm) and of course the staff BBQ on the 20/7/2022 from 3:30 pm. This will allow all staff to attend. The governors are of course cordially invited. We will also be celebrating the Queen's Jubilee next Thursday with a traditional British lunch (Coronation Chicken?) served by the School Canteen and a traditional afternoon tea for the students served outside (weather permitting).

INSET days are as follows: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022, 2<sup>nd</sup> November INSET in the morning and Parents followed by afternoon Parent/Carer consultation between 1 pm and 3:30 pm, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 INSET in the morning followed by Parent/Carer consultation between 1 pm and 3:30 pm. The final INSET will be on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

We are awaiting final confirmation from the Joint Qualification Centre that we can be a complete examination centre covering qualifications and accredited courses at all levels up to level 3. Ruth will now be in charge of the exam booking and invigilation process.

We are expanding the periods in which the café is now open to 3 periods on separate days of the week and this is also being linked to enterprise events which the students have devised. This week is car washing which has raised in excess of a £100.

Joel from Cringe Technologies, who maintain the school's ICT, have agreed, in principle to support annually updating our educational applications and platforms. In particular they will support the INSIGHT assessment database. The school will also advertise for a member of staff (payment through an annual honorarium – so this will not be a teacher) to support the management and administration of the student transport into and from school to home in the morning and afternoon. This is part of the continuing disbursement of Mandy's role.

Our new minibus has arrived and we now have 8 staff without D1 licences who have agreed to be trained to drive the new minibus. This will support our weekly external Pathway visits as well as other educational trips. We will still encourage teachers to use public transport as part of the wider vision of developing confidence/skills for students to plan external journeys. This bus also has a tail lift to support students who are unable to independently board the bus. We should also be taking receipt of our other new bus (the 17 seater bus) in July.

Our new minibus



More equipment has been added to the outside play area which has significantly increased the number of activities the students are involved in. Students are now engaging in 'creative play' throughout the back play area<sup>i</sup>.

Louis is now supporting (consultancy) the setting up and running of 2 new ASD units at Lavender School and Brimsdown School. This is an exciting initiative from the borough to create areas within schools that are for students with ASD and additional complex needs that need a particular type of school environment.

Finally we now have our generously donated bench, from the Southgate and Oakwood Townswomen guilds, placed outside the front of our school, facing the foyer. This replaces the dilapidated (the rotting bench eyesore) that was previously in its place.

## Curriculum

### Pathways

The Café will become a separate curriculum area operating on more than just the 2 afternoons per week. It will also work closely with Food technology, Horticulture and Hospitality and Retail. Animal care are now visiting and working with Capel Manor's farm at Forty Hall every Thursday. The horticulture group will also begin to work more closely with the Church of England seminary next door (estate management). Drama continues to work closely with Chicken Shed.

### Reading

Ricardo is exploring moving our phonics approach from Jolly phonics to Read Write Inc. (use to be Ruth Miskin Language - RML). We have reviewed the current Jolly Phonics offer and do not believe that the books suit an older reading group. We now have many students who enter the school at years 7 plus without any reading knowledge whatsoever. RML support these students with reading books that are more appropriate to their age range.

### General

Student council will create and organise a survey for all students to find out what works and doesn't work so well for students at Oaktree School as well completing the OFSTED recommended survey themselves and critically evaluating its effectiveness in a special school setting.

Finally, we now have a further 12 students independently travelling to school since January. We also have 4 students this year with confirmed places for college training courses. This is a significant improvement upon last year's numbers but will need to be improved upon still further next year (no pressure on Kyri).



## Training

After a short break whilst the trainer Sue Jones was away the role of the LSA training programme this Monday with a session on working with Students who have Downs Syndrome. This is part of a sequence of LSA training sessions with next week's session looking at supporting students with ADHD/ADD. Every 3 weeks a general session will be held in which LSA's can assess how much they have learned. Again as with teachers the overarching themes of PFA and Total communication will inform all sessions. The Speech and language Team are running a Tuesday Makaton session as well as Communicate and Print session, PECS and Colourful semantics. We are also continuing to hold Total Communication sessions for next term as well as this term. Teacher meetings now take place in the hall every Thursday and are focussing on planning (sequencing lessons) and learning outcomes. PBS training is now starting in earnest and will be led by Louis as the trained trainer. I will feedback on how this will support improved behaviour and learning in the autumn term (in line with the SEF/SDP objectives)

## Pupil Premium

Louis will speak on this area

## Therapeutic interventions

Louis will speak on this area

## Premises and Finance

Please see Brenda's report

## HR

We have one member of staff who has resigned to take up another job offer. We will also be inviting to interview 3 agency members of staff for the role of LSA.



## Survey

If you look at the survey it is generally positive however there are a number of areas to address; staff pay and conditions (difficult one), leadership and the management of change and in the issues concerning colleague's view of one another.

## Attendance

Attendance remains at over 90%. The percentage of students who are recorded as sick is 6.5 % with 4.5% of this directly related to Covid-19. Louis and Loraine alongside our EWO are continuing to monitor persistent absence which is reducing significantly

## Safeguarding

The ongoing concerns are as previously with 2 new concerns which can be elaborated upon in part 2 of the meeting

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<sup>i</sup> Some examples of play















**Shop and 'Play House'**