

ORLEANS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 2nd October

Dear Families,

As we enter Black History Month, the influence of oracy on the world around us has rarely been more significant. There are few more powerful examples of oracy than Dr Martin Luther King Jr's 'I Have a Dream' address or Mahatma Gandhi's 'Quit India' speech of 1942. More recently, Amanda Gorman's stirring poem at the 2021 presidential inauguration championed unity and the search for commonality over difference.

Without oracy and passionate orators, meaningful change would not have occurred nor would it in future. Those who advocated for change deployed a diverse range of skills and techniques to express their ideas verbally. They engaged critically with the world around them, championed fundamental human rights and argued with unwavering conviction that the world must change.

This is one of many reasons why oracy is so topical in the media and in schools. The term itself was coined to place the subject alongside core subjects such as English and Mathematics, lending it greater credibility and status. Historically known as 'speaking and listening', oracy is far more than that. Both schools in TEAM Federation place it at the heart of their School Development Plans and we are taking part in a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) project with the borough (AfC) to explore how best to embed it in all that we do. We want our pupils at Orleans to master rhetorical skills and to listen and respond respectfully and empathetically, while remaining critical where necessary. Oracy is not about speaking with a particular accent or in a particular register. It should equip our pupils to analyse information, opinion and the media critically in this digital age.

Our first step was to develop discussion guidelines in each class, which are referred to regularly; an example from 6ST is shown below. Next, we shall work with the children to use these guidelines to enrich their discussions and support their written problem-solving and reasoning in mathematics. They will also write using sophisticated rhetorical devices, exploring the persuasive appeals of logos (logic), ethos (credibility) and pathos (emotion). Finally, they will tackle complex philosophical questions in PSHE and RE. We look forward to working on this theme with Chase Bridge and our wider school community.

On Saturday, we may see some of you at the celebration of the 150th anniversary of St Margarets Station and many of you will be attending the rugby event at Chase Bridge on Sunday. It is a busy weekend but for those who are not, we wish you a restful one, whatever you may be doing.

All the best,

Victoria Coward



This collection of inspiring speeches has useful introductions to explain the historical context.



Amanda Gorman's book for younger readers about positive change.



Another powerful poet, Joseph Coelho, writes about about children finding their voice.

THANK YOU TO...

Jodie and Charlotte for their long service (5 years) on OPPTA. During that time they have raised vast sums of money and galvanised the OPS community with wonderful events all year round. We shall be celebrating them more formally on Friday 9th October at 3.30pm in the playground. Please do join us!



A huge thank you to Brentford Community Trust for their continued support and for the wonderful relationship we have begun to build. It was fantastic to celebrate with them last weekend and join them in introducing the Under-14 and Under-16 girl's squads. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our relationship with Brentford and supporting the development and success of boys' and girls' football at Orleans.



TAG RUGBY

Let's Play Tag

WHAT IS IT?

Come try Tag Rugby

You SCORE

Its like TAG/TIGGY in the park

Its FUN

You RUN

Its PASS

Its FAST

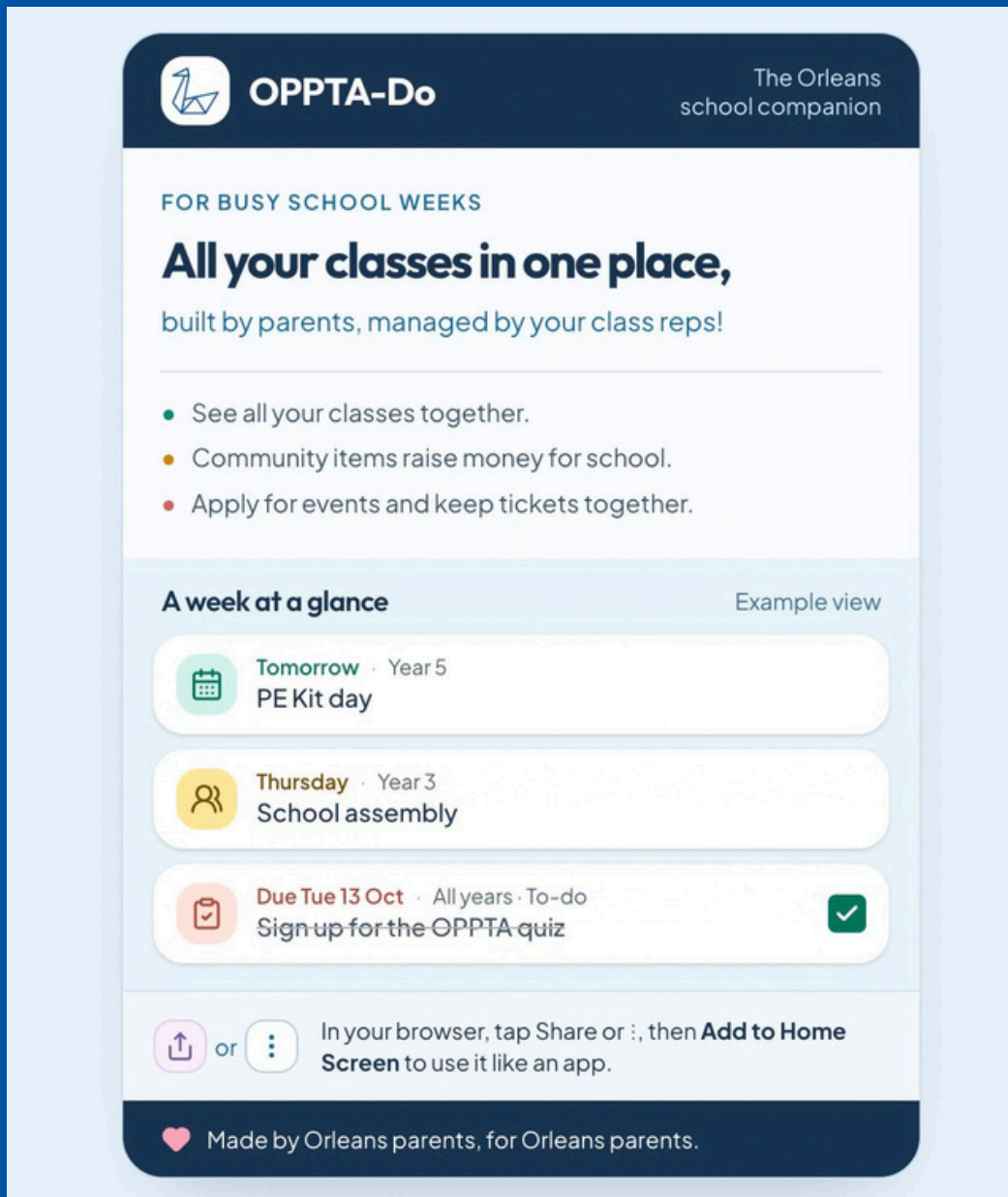
You TAG Players

You MAKE FRIENDS



CONGRATULATIONS

Shay, Phoebe and Aurelie for being voted in as the new model of an OPPTA bench and Natalia K joining the team.



The OPPTA site is live with a merged calendar, events and a second hand marketplace. Sign up at <https://app.oppta.co.uk>

Privacy policy can be found at the bottom of the site and while you are there, sign up for the OPPTA quiz! The teacher table is currently in the lead for sign ups 🙄🙄

A WARM WELCOME TO...



Miss Parkinson- lunchtime support staff

I've been part of the Orleans community as a parent for many years, so it's lovely to now be joining the school team too. I have previously worked in nursery settings, and I'm also an aromatherapist and run my own small aromatherapy business. In my spare time, I enjoy gardening, travelling, discovering different foods, and I've recently started playing football, which I'm really enjoying!



Miss Edwards- Office Administrator

I love travelling and exploring new places, and I've been lucky enough to live in India, which was a brilliant experience. I'm a big animal lover, especially dogs — I have two rescue dogs of my own - Blu & Milo. I also love reading, spending time with my family and friends, going on holiday to discover new places. A few of my favourite things are dogs, books, sunshine, travelling and a good cup of earl grey tea!



Miss Mariana- lunchtime support staff

I was born and raised in Caracas, Venezuela. Although my background is in journalism, teaching Spanish has been my passion for many years.

I love travelling, crafting, photography, and, of course, cats of all kinds!



John Oliver- Caretaker

I would like to introduce myself. My name is John, although I am also known as Johnny. I live locally and am a family man with a teenage son who has also attended school locally. My background is in construction and I am also a keen sportsman, having played hockey and now a coach. I am looking forward to working at Orleans and meeting all of you.



SUPPORT AND ADVICE



School Nurse Drop-in - Friday 9th October 9am

On **Friday 9th October**, our school nurse will be at school to support any parents with any concerns about their child's health or well-being. This confidential drop-in service is on a first come first served basis. Register via the school office after dropping your children off on the day. Our school nurse can help with anything from bedwetting to growing pains and everything in between.

Parent workshop The Healthy Child -

Wednesday 14th October 9am - main school hall

Information on health, milestones and the development of the school aged child. Come and find out how to support your growing child in their developmental milestones.

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Orleans Park Friends Orleans Park Fireworks Display 2026

Book now!! Tickets must be bought online - no tickets can be bought at the gates. Sales must end 5pm on Sunday 1st November Come and join us for the Orleans Park Fireworks Spectacular from 4:30PM. As usual we have music, stalls, hot foo...

[pta-events.co.uk /](https://pta-events.co.uk/)

Follow [this link](#) to get tickets for the
Orleans Park Friends Fireowrk displau

Digital Parenting

Workshop for parents and carers

Navigate screen time, social media, and online safety with confidence

Raising children in a digital world can feel overwhelming. This practical, single-session workshop equips parents and carers with down-to-earth strategies to understand children's device use, manage screen time, and safely navigate online risks like gaming, inappropriate content, and emerging AI technologies. An individual workshop, suitable for families with children of any age.



Tuesday 17th November

12.30pm – 2.30pm

Ham Children's Centre

Ashburnham Road

TW10 7BG

Wednesday 16th December

12.30pm – 2.30pm

Heathfield Children's Centre

Powder Mill Lane

TW2 6EX

To book your place on to this course, please scan the **QR code** or visit <https://forms.gle/zd9v3NCdkXen7x6Q8>.

To find out more, contact Tom Maybey, Richmond Parenting Lead.

Email: tom.maybey@achievingforchildren.org.uk

Phone: **07864 609913**



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for children**

Making Sense of Big Feelings

Workshop for parents and carers

Understand emotions, de-escalate meltdowns, and connect with your child

Big emotions can lead to challenging moments for the whole family. This relaxed, neuro-inclusive, one-off workshop offers practical, science-based strategies to help you understand your child's emotions, calmly de-escalate meltdowns, and ensure they feel heard and validated. An individual workshop, suitable for families with children of any age.



Tuesday 6th October

12.30pm – 2.30pm

Barnes Children's Centre

67b Lower Richmond Road 45 The Avenue

SW14 7HJ

Monday 9th November

10.00am – 12.00pm

The White House Family Hub

TW12 3RN

To book your place on to this course, please scan the [QR code](https://forms.gle/zd9v3NCdkXen7x6Q8) or visit <https://forms.gle/zd9v3NCdkXen7x6Q8>.

To find out more, contact Tom Maybey, Richmond Parenting Lead.
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AUTUMN 2026

Orleans Primary School

DATE CARD

OCTOBER

Thursday 1st	Year 6 Junior Citizens
Thursday 8th	Year 4 Tate Britain trip
Friday 9th	Year 2 Windsor Castle trip
Friday 16th	Perform drama workshops for Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3
Friday 16th	OPPTA Quiz Night 7pm
26th-30th	Half Term

NOVEMBER

Monday 2nd	Autumn 2 term starts and children return to school
Friday 6th	Reception Family Reading and phonics workshop 9.10am
Friday 6th	OPPTA Year 1 and Reception Disco 'Spooks and Sparkles' 3.30-4pm
Thursday 12th	Reception Walk to MHP; Year 4 Buddhapadipa Temple trip; Year 1-6 Family Reading Workshop 4pm
Friday 13th	Children in Need; OPPTA Used uniform sale
Tuesday 17th	3B to Orleans House Gallery
Wednesday 18th	3D to Orleans House Gallery
Friday 20th	Year 6 Richmond Synagogue trip; Anti Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day
Monday 23rd	Family Consultations (no clubs, early pick up) 1.45-5pm; Year 3 Safer Walking (23rd-27th)
Tuesday 24th	Family Consultations 3.40-6pm
Wednesday 25th	1M Richmond Museum
Thursday 26th	1P Richmond Museum; Family Workshop Secondary Schools Year 4 and 5 (in person and online) 6pm
Friday 27th	Inset day

DECEMBER

Thursday 3rd	Year 4 MTC Workshop 4pm
Wednesday 9th	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Celebration in the Main Hall (1M & 2K 9.20am; 1P & 2P 2pm)
Thursday 10th	EYFS Christmas celebration in the Main Hall (Morning & Full time Nursery & Reception C 9.20am, and Afternoon Nursery & Reception B 2pm)
Friday 11th	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch; OPPTA Christmas Market (day for children, 3.30-5.30pm for families)
Monday 14th	Year 3 and 4 Concert at St Stephen's Church 6-7pm
Tuesday 15th	Year 5 and 6 Concert at St Stephen's Church 6-7pm
Friday 18th	Whole School Pantomime; Last day of Autumn Term 1.45pm

JANUARY

Tuesday 5th	First day of Spring Term. Children return to school.
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PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ANY REVISIONS OR ADDITIONS WILL BE COMMUNICATED AS AND WHEN NECESSARY.

NB: TBC- Year 5 Trip to Hampton Court Palace