



OAKGROVE INTEGRATED COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to this edition of the Oakgrove Integrated College Newsletter! We are delighted to share another round of inspiring achievements, memorable experiences, and community highlights from across our school. These range from outstanding creativity and talent to remarkable dedication inside and outside the classroom. This issue celebrates the many ways our students continue to shine. We hope you enjoy catching up on all that's been happening at Oakgrove and feel as proud as we do of our incredible Integrated school community.

Celebrating the Winners of the Foyle Schools Poetry Awards

Year 10 students entered the Foyle Schools Poetry competition this year and we are delighted that three of our students are now published poets. Vesile and Mikolaj were both highly commended, and Havilah was awarded joint third place in the key stage 3 category. Havilah attended the presentation ceremony with Mr McDonnell and all three of our winners were presented with their certificates at Junior assembly. Congratulations to these fantastic young writers. We are incredibly proud of your accomplishments.



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Celebrating Outstanding Attendance!

Today we celebrated all the students who have achieved 100% attendance since September, some of whom are in the picture. We know that sometimes it isn't always possible to attend school every day for a variety of reasons; life happens! But that's what makes this accomplishment so impressive. Well done to every student who hasn't missed a single day. Your dedication, resilience, and commitment to learning are truly something to be proud of. Keep up the amazing effort!



Alumni Highlights!

“I attended Oakgrove in its very early days. When I first started, we were still in the old building, surrounded by an ever-growing collection of mobile classrooms. The physical environment didn't matter to us then; what mattered was the unwavering focus on why Oakgrove existed as an integrated school. We were continually taught that integration matters, inclusion matters, and equality matters. Those values have stayed with me throughout my adult life and have shaped my entire career. I began as a primary school teacher and, within a few years, became an Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Special Educational Needs and Inclusion. Since then, I have worked for several Local Authorities across Greater Manchester supporting schools on their inclusion journeys. I now work for a Multi Academy Trust as a Specialist Lead for Inclusion. My commitment to inclusion and meaningful integration remains as strong as ever—something I attribute directly to my education at Oakgrove”. Rosaleen Eustace



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Friday Night Lights with Year 8!

Our students had an incredible time at Kingspan Stadium watching Ulster Rugby take on Connacht Rugby. The energy was electric, the rugby was top-tier, and the highlight of the night was getting a cheeky selfie with the legend himself, Sparky! Memories made and a few new rugby fans created. Thanks for having us, Ulster Rugby!



Go GREAT JOB! Job!

Congratulations to Noah and James, who both achieved distinctions in their recent drumming grades. We are so proud of you both!



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Celebrating Culture Through Art!

Over the past four weeks, our students have been exploring culture in all its vibrant forms, music, food, dress, language and art. They learned how shapes and colours can express identity, meaning and tradition.

To bring their learning to life, students created their own ceramic culture tiles, each one inspired by something important to them.

Here's what the students said about their work:

"We did an art project about culture."

"We made ceramic tiles."

"I included ideas about food in my culture."

"I wrote 'Kabo,' which means 'welcome' and is respectful."

"I enjoyed working with other students and learning about their culture."

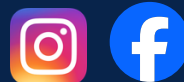
We are so proud of how thoughtfully and creatively each student represented their heritage and learned from one another. Check out our social media pages for some pictures.

We were delighted to attend the North West Learning City Region Relaunch at UU Magee. It was wonderful to be present with those who worked long and hard for connected learning for all, including our past governor Paul Haslam. We heard the inspirational stories of success achieved, and loved the future plans for even more connected, life-long learning opportunities, where nothing limits learning.



Dates for the Diary:

Easter Break 30th March -10th April
4th & 5th May, Bank Holiday and
staff training
1st May GCSE/Alevel exam season
25th May Spring Bank Holiday
26th May Summer exams



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