



Oxhey Wood Weekly Newsletter

Friday 21st September 2018

Fundraising this term:

Macmillan coffee morning for children will be held on Friday 28th September- children can bring in £1 to join in
Christmas Fair Friday 7th December
Film Club Monday 24th September

This week

In assembly this week we thought about making the right and wrong choices and how being a good friend means helping a child not make the wrong choice and show them how to make the right choice.

I reminded children that our new soft start means coming straight into school in the morning rather than playing football in the playground. Year 5 children that enjoy playing football have spent time with Mrs Kent agreeing rules and how to referee the games to ensure everyone enjoys the game. The children also agreed a red card system for children that forgot the rules.

In all schools children will have fall outs and some children may need more support than others to follow our school rules. If you are ever concerned or would like to discuss something that has happened in school please come in and talk to us. There is always someone that can listen and look into your concerns if we don't have the answer right away. I am really grateful for the support parents have shown by coming in or emailing us we will always take your concerns/questions seriously. Please support this by not talking directly to a parent as this has caused upset to parents and children.

Collection of children

If you have arranged for someone else to collect your children from school, can you please let the teacher know in the morning or call the school office if it is arranged during the school day.

School Uniform- no trainers

Please can you support your child by ensuring that they wear black shoes to school and not trainers. It is important that all children feel part of our school community. If your child has long hair please ensure their hair is tied back as this prevents head lice and ensures your child's safety. If your child would like to wear a bow in their hair please make sure it is either the school colour blue or plain black.

Some reminders to make sure we have another successful year- we value your support in all aspects of school.

Safeguarding and health and safety

We have some children in school with severe allergies. Please do not bring dogs onto school grounds. If your child has a home packed lunch please do not make them peanut butter sandwiches as we have children with nut allergies which could be life threatening.

We take safeguarding very seriously in school as we want every child to feel safe in school. If you need to come into school for any reason please come in via the school office so that you have signed in. We have updated our child protection policy and new safeguarding guidelines expect schools to have at least 2 contact numbers for every child in school. Please can you make sure you have given 2 phone numbers to the school and update these if you change your number.

If your child is in Years 1-6 please remember the gates to the playground are open at 8.40am and doors to classroom areas are opened by staff at 8.45am. Children go straight into class and start a short activity straight away to settle them gently into the day. Please can you avoid going in with your child as it upsets other children whose parents have left them at the door. Staff will take any messages for teachers from you or if needed please walk to the school office and leave a message there.

We have changed the end of the day collection points for Years 3-5. We want to make sure that we see children out in the safest way possible and when we spoke to staff they raised concerns that it wasn't always easy to make eye contact with parents when they saw children out as the playground is so busy with so many children and parents. To improve on this it made sense as classrooms have another exit for the children to be shown out from their own classroom where they can sit in comfort until they leave.

Please remember not to drive your car into the school car park in case children have forgotten to use the path.

If you are concerned about the safety of any children we have 4 designated safeguarding leads in school: Jules Riding, Mrs Morley, Mrs Caplan and Miss Douglas-Law-please share any concerns with them or please ring 0300 1234043

Pencil Cases

Teachers have spoken to the children this week and have explained that they do not need pencil cases in school. We provide all the equipment the children need. We have found pencil cases can cause some disruption in the classroom and upset to children if they lose something or someone wants to borrow a pen. It is great if your child does have a pencil case as they will have everything they need for homework.

Smoking

Can parents please refrain from smoking around the school gates and be mindful where they dispose their cigarettes.



Punctuality

Please could you support your child by making sure they arrive on time. It is unsettling for them if they arrive after the lesson has started. This will also be monitored by the Local Authority attendance officer



Attendance

The attendance of some children continues to be extremely concerning. This is reviewed regularly with the local authority attendance officer. If, despite informing you of low attendance and offering support your child's attendance continues to be of concern you will receive a letter to each parent stating that you are at risk of a penalty notice being applied. Due to these ongoing concerns I have now been left with no alternative but to issue further penalty notices to some parents.

Please support your child by ensuring your child comes to school every day not just for their learning but also for their social development. If there is any support you need or would like to discuss how to improve your child's attendance please don't hesitate to contact me.

It has been disappointing to see that some children have missed the start of the new school year where relationships have been a focus and expectations have been set for the year.

The classes below have achieved 95% and above attendance this week;

RDL – 99.1%

5JL – 98.8%

5AL – 97.6%

1MH – 97.4%

2HW – 96.3%

3/4JB – 96.3%

REN – 95.9%

3/4AM – 95.7%

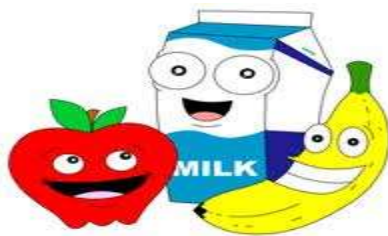
6MJ – 95%

Open Door Policy

Please remember we have an open door policy; teachers are happy to meet with parents before and after school, please email the teacher or ask them at the end of the day. I am always happy to meet with parents or talk on the phone as it is important that you feel listened to and sometimes events shared are slightly different to what has happened in school. We do have some parents that work in school but please avoid putting them in a difficult position by asking them about information within school. It is important that staff and parents trust each other and I take confidentiality very seriously. If you have a concern please speak to your child's class teacher or a member of leadership team; Mrs Caplan, Miss Jennings, Mrs Kent, Miss Douglas-Law or myself.

After School and Breakfast Club

To ensure our financial system aligns with all other MAT schools all sessions for breakfast and after school club must be made in advance before a child can attend. Please ask at the school office for information.



School Uniform and Ordering

We are now set up online for school uniform ordering. There is a link on the school uniform page on the school website that takes you to the site, we also sent instructions out to you on an email. If you would like a hard copy please contact the school office. We do still have some stock in school but have limited sizes.

Please make sure your child wears the correct school uniform to school including black shoes not trainers and school blue or plain black hair bows. This helps children have a sense of belonging in school.



Nut Allergy

We have children in the school with serious nut allergies; we ask that you do not send your child into school with any kind of nuts in their packed lunch boxes.

School Lunches

Next week is week 1. If your child brings in a packed lunch please make sure they do not bring in peanut butter sandwiches or Nutella as we have children with severe allergies. Children in Years Reception to Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals and can have a free school lunch every day.

Break time Snacks

We endeavour to promote healthy eating at break times, we have noticed that some children are bringing in packets of crisps and chocolate bars. We ask that you do not send your child into school with unhealthy snacks and swap them for fruit, raisins, rice cakes, fruit bars or send them in with 50p to purchase from our Tuck Shop.

Safety

Please can you support the safety of all children by not stopping and waiting for children on either side of the road just outside of school.

Dates for next term

Parents Evening	Tues 23 rd and Weds 24 th October
Harvest Celebration Year 1-6	Thursday 25 th October 9.15am
Half term	Monday 29 th Oct-2 nd November
Christmas Fair	Friday 7 th December
KS2 Dress Rehearsal	Friday 14 th December 2pm
KS1 Dress Rehearsal	Friday 14 th December 9.30am
FS Dress Rehearsal	Friday 14 th December 11am
KS1 Christmas performance	Monday 17 th December 9.15am
FS Christmas performance	Monday 17 th December 11am
KS2 Christmas performance	Monday 17 th December 1.45pm
End of term	Friday 21 st December 2pm
Children return on	Tuesday 8 th January 2019

Term dates for 2018-19

Below are the term dates for this school year. They have been set early so that you have no need to book holidays in term time. Thank you for your support.

Half term Monday 29th-Friday 2nd November 2018

School term ends Friday 21st December 2018 2pm

Children return Tuesday 8th January 2019

Half term Monday 18th February-Friday 22nd February 2019

Term ends Friday 5th April 2019

Children return Tuesday 23rd April 2019

Half term Monday 27th May-Friday 31st May 2019

Term ends Friday 19th July 2019