



# Oxhey Wood Weekly Newsletter

## Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018

### **This week**

During assembly this week I shared the children's views with them that are in this week's newsletter. I explained why some things wouldn't be possible but that we would look into some of their ideas and that I would be sharing this with our Academy Governing Board.. I also explained that next Thursday they will be spending time with their new teacher and a letter will be going home on that day too.

Reception enjoyed a trip to the fire station today. We had a careers day today where all children enjoyed an assembly led by an engineer who builds schools. The children were able to listen to visitors talk about their jobs and children in KS2 had an afternoon thinking about jobs they might like to do in the future. An e-safety workshop was held for parents but unfortunately this was not well attended. If you need any advice or help in ensuring your child is safe online please ask your child's class teacher or at the office.

### **Race for Life**

The children completed the Race for Life, if you have not brought your sponsor money into school can you please do before next Wednesday.



### **Next week**

Next Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July school will be open from 3.30-5pm for you to come and look at the great work your child has completed this year.

### **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



## Children's views

### What's good about Oxhey Wood:

general		Lesson time		Outside of lesson time	
Good teachers/ friendly/helpful/caring	33	Learning/ learn something everyday /gain knowledge	34	Lunch	3
Teaching assistants	11	Everyone works hard	1	Class assembly	1
Office staff	4	art	14	Playing/breaks	30
Jules	4	music	1	Tyre park	1
All staff / staff help us/keep us safe	5	PE/ different sports	16	Playground has fun things to do	2
Head teacher	1	maths	30	School trips	20
Amazing friends/ easy to make friends/lots of friends	36	Golden time	1	Tasty tuck	4
Dinner ladies	2	Topic learning/ new topics	9	Movie night	1
We are good listeners	1	science	8	Summer fair	1
Everyone is kind/ good manners/happy	3	Fun/great lessons/ challenging lessons	14	Visiting old peoples home	2
School is welcoming	1	ICT/computing	6	choir	1
We learn to make the right choice	1	English	5	STEM club	1
Everyone is friendly	2	New equipment	2	visitors	3
School is safe	3	Reading stories	2	Science fair	1
everything	3	Learning about dinosaurs	1	Enjoy eating outside in the hot weather	1
Amazing school/wonderful	1	Seaside trip	18	Sports day	1
No bullying	3	Display help me	1	playleading	2
		swimming	6	Outside gym	2
		SATs	3	Getting awards	2
				Phasels Wood	2

Even Better if....

Playground/ out of lessons		
More play equipment e.g Zipline, slide, more monkey bars, climbing wall, swings, trampoline	8	We will look into more equipment but it needs to be safe to use and walk past
Longer playtime/afternoon break	2	We will look into an afternoon break
Cooking club	2	We do have cooking club at the moment , but will look into more
Vending machine/snack bar/ Sweets and fruit on Friday	3	We sell tasty tuck every day
Nicer lunch/ more lunch options	3	We will arrange for school council to meet with Herts Catering to look at options
Football every day/no rota	5	Football can cause a lot of friendship issues in school so a no football day is a day to reflect on previous days while having a break
Have a chocolate fountain	1	This would not be hygienic
More football goals	4	We will look into this
Fish tank	1	Some classes have a fish tank, I will talk to staff
Year 6 go to France/ Spain on a plane	1	This would be very expensive, but we will ask parents about a day trip possibly but we wouldn't want anyone to miss out
Theme park trip	7	Some classes do go, but these days are expensive and we need all parents to pay towards the trip
Talent show	1	We will look into this
Paddling pools	3	It would be too difficult to have these in school
Astro turf	1	We are looking to see if we can get a grant for this
Pond for observing animals	1	We are currently developing the outside area so will look into this
Air conditioning	1	It has been very hot, we will buy some fans
Longer school hours	2	We have many after school clubs so if you would like to stay at school longer you could join some of these
Sit on chairs in assembly	3	We are looking into changing some of our chairs so will look into this
Gaming room	1	Many children spend a lot of time on their games consoles at home so it would not be a good idea to have this in school too
Writing workshop after school	1	We will look into this
Every class has a pet	3	Pets needs lots of looking after but we will discuss this with staff
Phones in school	6	Teachers are not allowed to have phones out in the classroom for safeguarding reasons and this would be the same for children
Toys allowed in school	1	We would not want any toys to get broken or lost
Computer club	1	We will look into this
Water fountain	4	Our water fountains were leaking and it is more hygienic for everyone to have their own water bottle
More sports clubs	1	We have lots of clubs
Extra golden time	1	Some classes do earn this
Phone on playground	1	Some staff now have walkie talkies
To have a rest room	1	We have the soft seating area outside year 4

<b>Behaviour</b>		
People remembering not to be mean, being kind	2	We remind children all the time and we do support some children who may need help with this
Help so I learn how to be a good friend	1	We have increased our pastoral team to help children
No bullying	1	If children are unkind it is dealt with quickly, if anyone is ever bullied we speak to parents and make sure the children learn about the impact of their behaviour and actions
<b>Learning</b>		
More art	8	Teachers will look into this, our new creative curriculum will help with this
More trips	17	We do go on lots of trips and we make sure the cost of them is subsidised by school. We can't afford to keep going on trips unless all parents pay something towards them
More music	2	Teachers will look into this
More maths	8	Teachers will look into this, our new creative curriculum will help with this
More topic learning	1	Teachers will look into this, our new creative curriculum will help with this
More computing	3	All classes now have some computers in the classroom so that you can use them across all subjects
More learning linked to budgets	1	We had enterprise week and our Christmas Fair but teachers will think about this
More whole school trips	5	We will try and have a whole school trip every year
Go to the beach again	2	We will go to the beach but this maybe every 2/3 years
Year 6 helping in year 1 and 2	2	We will talk to teachers
Do gardening	1	We are currently developing our outside area and there will be opportunities for gardening
More cooking	5	We will think about including this in learning
More drama	6	We are trying to link with a college to do this
More learning about dinosaurs	2	KS1 learn about dinosaurs
More classic books	1	We will look at what we have in the library and buy some more
More sports days	1	We have our school sports day every year but we often join up for sporting events with other schools
More displays	1	We have many displays in school, but teachers will ask you what other displays you would like
Learn Spanish	1	In KS2 you learn French but we will look into the possibility of a language club
More PE	2	We have 2 lessons every week of PE and many clubs to choose from
More visitors, telling us about their job	1	We have a careers day on 6 <sup>th</sup> July and aim to do this every year

## Parents views

Thank you if you filled out some post-its during sports day. These were the views collected which I will share with our Academy Governing Board.

## What is Good about Oxhey Wood?

- It is fun
- The schools works well with children that need extra help
- Well done, everything
- Staff are great
- The teachers
- Events like sports day include families
- My child is happy
- Lovely school trips
- The office staff
- Great learning in school
- Fun teachers and fun lessons
- The fund raising events
- Family BBQ
- Great sports day

## Even Better if...

Comment	Actions/ explanations from school
More trips	Every class tries to arrange local and other trips linked to the children's learning. We do subsidise all trips greatly but unless we do receive some contributions from everyone we may not be able to arrange more trips
To have all children involved in sports day	We involve all children in sports day as we have the round robin to start both KS1 and KS2 sports day so that all children are involved. We will ensure next year all children that want to then take part in the races after this
Safer field for sports day, gates were open	The gates on the back field have to be open for the children centre and the pre-school, we will look at the KS2 field next year to see if we can hold sports day on it.
Bigger school field	We are very lucky in the amount of outdoor space we have. I have just applied and been offered a grant of £5000 to help further develop different outdoor areas around school
Parents modelled best behaviour to children and are not rude to school staff	I regularly ask for parents support in the newsletter; to remember not to swear in front of children. There may be times when parents are not happy with something but we have an open door policy and again I would ask that parents remember how important it is to stay calm as it is not fair on staff that work very hard if parents shout or are rude to them.

## **Swearing**

We have a zero tolerance for swearing in school, please could you reinforce this at home to support your child. Please avoid swearing in front of children especially on the school premises. We have explained to the children that there is never an excuse for swearing in school and they will miss their next break if they do swear.

## **Holiday Clubs during the summer break**

If you need child care or something for your children to do during the 6 week break the following clubs are available

w/c 23<sup>rd</sup> July Apex at Warren Dell

w/c 30<sup>th</sup> July and 6<sup>th</sup> August Junior Playmakers at Warren Dell

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> –Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August Junior Playmakers at Oxhey Wood

You can book these on line on the providers website.

## **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.

## **Safeguarding**

To ensure the safety of the children, we ask that parents do not attempt to access the school office through any entrances near the classrooms. Should you need to visit the school office you need to use the main entrance.

If you are not able to collect your child and you have arranged for another adult to collect them please either let the class teacher or the office know.

Even if it is another parent we must have your permission for them to collect your child.



## **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.

## **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 Bland, Miss Jennings, Mrs Kent, Miss Aitbenmoussa, Miss Douglas-Law or myself.

### **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 2. 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.

### **Attendance**

It is really important that all children attend school every day. If you need any support in improving your child's attendance please come in and speak to Jules or a member of the senior leadership team.

Please do not book a holiday in term time.

Every half term children with 95% and above and 100% attendance will receive certificates.

This week's classes with attendance over 95% are:

2LA – 98.4%

3EN – 98.4%

6MJ – 97.2%

1MH – 96.7%

4LS – 95.2%

5JB – 95%

### **Term dates September 2017- July 2018**

I have set all term dates for this year including INSET days so that if you need to book a holiday you can make sure you do not book them during school time:

Term ends for children Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 2pm

### **Dates for this term**

Secondary transfer day

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July

KS2 performance and BBQ

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 6pm

**End of term**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2pm**

### **Term dates for 2018-19**

**Below are the term dates from next September onwards. They have been set early so that you have no need to book holidays in term time. Thank you for your support.**

Start of new school year: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 for children

Half term Monday 29<sup>th</sup>-Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018

School term ends Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 2pm

Children return Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Half term Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February-Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019

Term ends Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Children return Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

Half term Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May-Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Term ends Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019

