



Oxhey Wood Weekly Newsletter

Friday 5th October 2018

Fundraising this term:

Halloween Party/Disco Friday 26th October

Christmas Fair Friday 7th December

Communication

I am always grateful when parents take the time to email, pop in or stop and speak to me to share ideas or make suggestions. It is important that you feel listened to and that your ideas are valued.

We are now opening the gates at 8.40am so that there is not a long queue to come into school. For years 3-5 we are going to monitor the door in the morning and if needed we will open another door. We are also looking at solutions for the end of the day. Picking up outside the classrooms is working well but it may become trickier once the weather is not as good so Mick our caretaker is currently looking at ways we can deal with this.

I have emailed Hertfordshire County Council and Three Rivers about the lack of parking and illegal parking that is putting our children at risk and have also met a local councillor this week to discuss how dangerous this is becoming. I will keep you updated on this.

This week

Many classes took part in 'No Pens Wednesday' where they took part in practical learning that didn't involve the use of pens or pencils.

Some children also enjoyed film night this week. Thank you for your support with this as all fundraising helps with enrichment activities and resources for all children.

In assembly this week we talked about different feelings and how all feelings are normal but it is how we deal with them that can sometimes cause problems. After reading a story where a child had a worry but didn't want to tell anyone as they thought someone might laugh the children were able to share who they would go to if they had a worry both in school and at home.

Tasty Tuck

The suppliers we use for our Tuck Shop have gone into liquidation, after Monday next week we will not be selling Tuck until further notice.

Stay and Learn and Reading Breakfasts

Over the school year classes in Years 1-6 will be holding stay and learn and reading breakfasts where you are invited to join in practical activities for stay and learn and for reading breakfasts to enjoy a book with your child over a light breakfast.

Year 1 would like parents and carers to join their child on Thursday 18th October from 2-3pm

Safeguarding and health and safety including online safety

I have been made aware of an online game some children are playing 'Doki Doki Literature Club'. The game includes some inappropriate clips including showing children how to self harm. Please check your children are not playing this game.

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.

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

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.

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 following classes have achieved 95% and above attendance this week;

6LH – 99.1%

3/4AM – 98%

5JL – 98%

2HW – 97.9%

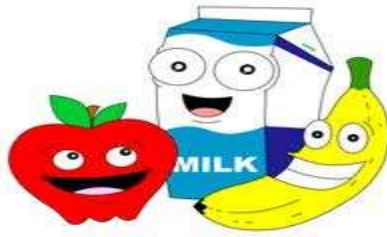
6MJ – 97%

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 3. 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 this term

Year 1 Stay and Learn

Parents Evening

Harvest Celebration Year 1-6

Thursday 18th October 2-3pm

Tues 23rd and Weds 24th October

Thursday 25th October 9.15am

Half term

Year 3 /4JB Reading Breakfast

9.15am

Year 3 /4 AM Reading Breakfast

9.15am

Year 3 /4 KK Reading Breakfast

Christmas Fair

KS2 Dress Rehearsal

KS1 Dress Rehearsal

FS Dress Rehearsal

KS1 Christmas performance

FS Christmas performance

KS2 Christmas performance

End of term Friday 21st December 2pm

Children return on Tuesday 8th January 2019

Monday 29th Oct-2nd November

Wednesday 7th November 8.45-

Thursday 8th November 8.45-

Friday 9th November 8.45-9.15am

Friday 7th December

Friday 14th December 2pm

Friday 14th December 9.30am

Friday 14th December 11am

Monday 17th December 9.15am

Monday 17th December 11am

Monday 17th December 1.45pm

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