



Oxhey Wood Weekly Newsletter

Friday 19th October 2018



Fundraising this term:

Halloween Party/Disco Friday 26th October

Christmas Fair Friday 7th December

This week

Year 1 had a great time at Odds Farm this week. Year 2 visited our local church as part of their RE work. The children in years 1-6 have spent time individually with their class teacher to talk about their learning and targets for next half term. Year 1 held a stay and learn session for parents this week; thank you if you were able to come.

In assembly I read the story of Mr Big and the children thought about the meaning behind the story. We talked about how great it is that everyone is unique and that we include and respect everyone.

We have already had a fire drill this term and in assembly I spoke to the children about another type of drill called a lockdown drill. I explained that sometimes for lots of different reasons we may need to lock all the doors in school including the classroom doors and that we will also carry out a drill so that children know what to do.

Donations

We are asking for donations of any toys you may not want anymore, we are looking for constructions toys i.e Lego, Play Mobil, Stickle Bricks, Play People and Animal Toys (not plush) these donations will be used in our Thrive room and will help us in supporting the children.

Pick up time

We are working to extend the paving area outside the classes of years 3-5 to make the area better for the change in weather.

Parents Evening

If you have not yet signed up for your parent evening meeting please email or speak to your child's class teacher to arrange a convenient time. The teachers have been meeting every child individually in Years 1-6 to agree targets and review learning behaviours. This will then be shared with you at the end of every half term so that you are kept informed about your child's progress and learning behaviours.

After school and Breakfast club

Just a reminder that all sessions for after school and breakfast club must be paid in advance. This is a important for our schools financial management and something audit check on.

Tasty Tuck

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

Tesco Grant

I applied for some funding from Tesco to further develop the outdoor environment. From 1st November in our local Tesco, the main Tesco in Watford and other local Tesco branches you will be able to vote for school by putting a blue token in our school slot. Please support us with this as the project with the most coins will receive a £4000 grant.

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.

Safeguarding and health and safety including online 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.

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

Smoking

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



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.

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;

6MJ – 100%

RDL – 98.3%

5AL – 98%

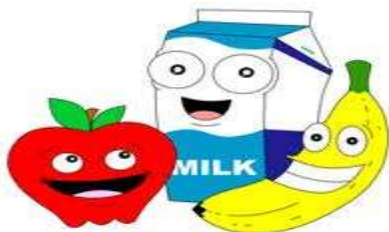
3/4AM – 95.5%

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 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.

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

Parents Evening

Tues 23rd and Weds 24th October

Harvest Celebration Year 1-6

Thursday 25th October 9.15am

Half term

Year 3 /4JB Reading Breakfast

Monday 29th Oct-2nd November

9.15am

Wednesday 7th November 8.45-

Year 3 /4 AM Reading Breakfast

Thursday 8th November 8.45-

9.15am

Year 3 /4 KK Reading Breakfast

Friday 9th November 8.45-9.15am

Christmas Fair

Friday 7th December

KS2 Dress Rehearsal

Friday 14th December 2pm

KS1 Dress Rehearsal

Friday 14th December 9.30am

FS Dress Rehearsal

Friday 14th December 11am

KS1 Christmas performance

Monday 17th December 9.15am

FS Christmas performance

Monday 17th December 11am

KS2 Christmas performance

Monday 17th December 1.45pm

End of term Friday 21st December 2pm

Children return on Tuesday 8th 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