



Oxhey Wood Weekly Newsletter

Friday 7th September 2018

Welcome back! I hope you had a good summer break.

Fundraising this term:

Macmillan coffee morning for children will be held during the week of 24th September-children can bring in £1 to join in Christmas Fair Friday 7th December

This week

It has been great to see how well the children have settled back into school this week, they all look as if they have grown!

This week the three days have focused on building relationships within the classroom with their friends and adults and they have enjoyed some teambuilding activities. Teachers have also spent time with the children agreeing expectations for work and behaviour for this term and school year.

As a school we are proud of our inclusive nature and it is important that children learn to celebrate their uniqueness and begin to understand that children might need different support or help at different times for learning or to remember our school rules. Our school ethos of 'fair isn't equal fair is when everyone gets what they need'; is something that the children have also thought about this week.

During our two INSET days staff completed training on our new whole school initiative to support every child develop socially and emotionally called the Thrive approach. We have three Thrive Practitioners in school; Jules Riding, Miss Douglas-Law and Miss Burn. They may at different times support groups or individual children who may need some additional support to develop their social skills, cope with how they are feeling and to develop strategies to manage how they are feeling

Next week:

Homework Club-starts Tuesday 11th September

We are going to trial a free homework club supported by some of our Teaching Assistants every Tuesday straight after school until 4.15pm. There is no need to book a place but please let your child's class teacher know if they will be attending. Please pick your child up from the main entrance.

Meet the teacher

Next week if your child is in Years 1-6 please come and meet your child's teacher to find out about the learning for this term. If your child is in Year 6 we will also talk about applying for Secondary School.

Years 1 and 2 Monday 10th September 9am

Years 3 and 4 Tuesday 11th September 9am

Years 5 and 6 Thursday 13th September 9am

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 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

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.

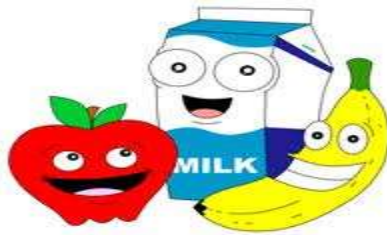
It has been disappointing to see that some children have missed the start of the new school year where relationships have been a focus and expectations have been set for the year.

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 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

Information session Years 1 and 2	Monday 10 th September 9am
Information session Years 3 and 4	Tuesday 11 th September 9am
Information session Years 5 and 6	Thursday 13 th September 9am
Anxiety coffee morning at Warren Dell	Tuesday 18 th September 9-11am
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