



Oxhey Wood Weekly Newsletter

Friday 6th December

Friday Sweet Shop – Coming soon



This week

This week, all classes have been busy making goodies for the Christmas Fair and have had great fun. The children had an amazing time spending their money and practicing their skills of spending money. The children have started rehearsing for the Christmas performances, which I hope you will be able to come and see. Year 5 had an exciting visit from a space scientist workshop that supported their topic learning. Some children went to Tesco's in Watford and sang Christmas Carols for customers, they managed to raise £275 in donations!.

Next week

Our children in Early Years will be going to see the Santa Show at Watford Colosseum and KS1 and 2 are going to the theatre to see a pantomime. We have the dress rehearsals for the Christmas performances on Friday; if you have younger children please come to the dress rehearsal if you would like them to see it. There will be a crèche for younger children on the main performances on 16th December. Please avoid coming to both the rehearsal and the main show to ensure all parents are able to see their children perform.

Christmas Jumper day

Children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers on Christmas lunch day, which is Wednesday 18th December.

Parking

Please can you not move our road signs and then park dangerously on Northwick Road- thank you for supporting the safety of all children.

Reception Place School Application

If your child is in Nursery you must apply for their reception school place by 15th January 2019. Please apply online at www.hertsdirect.org/admissions. If you would like any help applying please ask at the school office.

Snow

We try as far as possible to keep the school open when it snows. Many parents work and are still expected to go to work and many countries have far more snow than us and unless really extreme weather, the children go to school. We will keep the school website updated. We do send text messages if school were to close but often there is a delay as so many schools are sending messages at the same time. We will also notify Hertfordshire who will include any updates on their website.

If it has snowed or if the playground is very icy then we tend to just open the main doors or the breakfast club doors at the front of school. Staff will be at the doors to direct you.

Books for schools-tokens

I have registered Oxhey Wood with the Sun books for schools- please send any tokens in with your child.

May bank holiday

Due to celebrating the anniversary of VE day the first bank holiday in May is not a Monday it is Friday 8th May.

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.

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 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.

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. We currently use parent mail for payments as this offered best value for money. Please so let me know if you have any problems with using this and I will look into it.



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.

Communication

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.

Attendance

It is great to see the majority of children in school have great attendance. The attendance of some children continues to be of concern, low attendance is reviewed regularly with the local authority attendance officer as low attendance will impact on your child's learning and friendship groups. If, despite informing you of low attendance and offering support your child's attendance continues to be of concern, you may be at risk of a letter being sent to you stating that you are at risk of a penalty notice being applied. Please remember you must ring school ideally by 9am to let us know that your child won't be in. If we do not hear from you, we will keep trying to contact you to ensure that everything is ok.

Please remember you should not book holidays in term time: this will affect your child's learning. It has been sad to see a number of children missing days this week due to a holiday as this could affect how they settle back into school.

At this time of year children may get colds, but to build their immunity please encourage them to come in to school. Learning continues until the end of term as well as exciting activities; I know you will support your child in coming to school so that they don't miss out.

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

3/4 Simmonds – 97.3%

5 Shakespeare – 97.1%

2 Windsor – 96.8%

3/4 Holmes – 96.2%

6 Elton – 95.2%

3/4 Hamilton – 97.2%

Rec Walliams – 97%

6 Glennie – 96.4%

1 Sharman – 96%

Water Bottles

Please remember that children should only have water in their bottles they drink from in class; this is not a school rule but follows the nutrition expectations by the Department for Education with the aim of preventing tooth decay. Please make sure your child has a water bottle in school. Thank you for your support with this.



School Lunches- school meals cost £2.40

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.

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.



Dates for this term

KS2 Dress Rehearsal

KS1 Dress rehearsal

FS dress rehearsal

KS2 Christmas concert (crèche available)

FS Christmas concert (crèche available)

KS1 Christmas concert (crèche available)

Christmas Lunch day

Christmas party day

Term ends

Children return on Tuesday 7th January

Friday 13th December 2pm

Friday 13th December 9.30am

Friday 13th December 11am

Monday 16th December 1.45pm

Monday 16th December 11am

Monday 16th December 9.15

Wednesday 18th December

Thursday 19th December

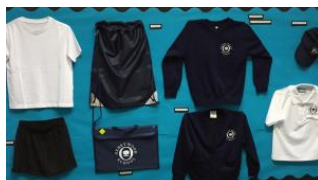
Friday 20th December 2pm

School Uniform and Ordering

We 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.

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.

School uniform is trousers, shorts, skirts, pinafores, please do not send your child to school wearing leggings.



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 28th October-1st November 2019

End of term Friday 20th December 2pm

6th January 2020 INSET day

7th January 2020 children return to school

Half term 17th-21st February

End of term 3rd April 2020 at 2pm

Children return Monday 20th April

May bank holiday Friday 8th May 2020

Half term 25th-29th May 2020

Inset day Monday 1st June

Break up Friday 17th July at 2pm

Dates have now been set for the school year 2020-2021.

Please do not book any holidays during term time

Children return on Monday 7th September, to support your child please make sure they return on this day to help them settle back into school routines.

2nd September 2020-occasional day-school closed

3rd September INSET

4th September-INSET

Children return 7th September 2020

Half term 26-30th October 2020

End of term 18th December 2pm

INSET 4th January 2021

Children return 5th January 2021

Half term 15-19 February 2021

End of term 26th March 2021 2pm

Children return 12th April 2021

Half term 31st May-4th June 2021

INSET 7th June 2021

Term ends for children 21st July 2021 2pm

INSET 22nd July 2021