



Oxhey Wood Weekly Newsletter

Friday 28th February 2020

Fundraising

Friday Sweet Shop – weekly

Mother's Day Gifts – 20th March

Easter Egg Hunt – 3rd April

Circus – 22nd April



Happy's Circus -Wednesday 22nd April at Oxhey Wood, doors open 5.30pm for a 6pm start - this is a joint fundraiser between Oxhey Wood and Warren Dell. Tickets are £8 and are selling fast.

This week

This week, the children have settled back into school really well and have started their new topics. They have recorded what they already know and what they would like to find out. It would be great if you could help your child find out more about their topics at home:

Early Years-Do Zebras have Stripes? Learning about different animals.

Year 1 –Dinosaurs

Years 3 and 4-Tribal Tales: finding out about the Stone Age and iron AGE

Year 5-Tudor Britain including King Henry V111

Year 6-Frozen Kingdom-learning about the Arctic Explorers.

Year 3 /4 KK shared a great assembly this week; a fantastic start to this half term.

Coronavirus

We would like to clarify that we have not had any confirmed or potential cases of Coronavirus and we have not been made aware that any children in school have been tested. We have guidelines to follow in school should we have any reported cases or if children are tested and we will act accordingly.

Should you have any concerns, please contact the school to discuss this. We are aware that some very inaccurate information has been posted on social media which we understand could cause you to worry.

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 County Council who will include any updates on their website. If it has snowed or if the playground is very icy then we tend to open the main doors or the breakfast club doors at the front of school, staff will be at the doors to direct you.



Application for Nursery Places

If you would like your child to join our school Nursery in September, please apply via the school office.

If you would like any help with this, please ask at the office.

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.

Parent views

Thank you for sharing your views at the parent meetings. Below is a summary:

Oxhey Wood Parent Views February 2020

What is good about Oxhey Wood?

Very good communication with all the teachers	Various after school clubs	I feel listened to
Everything about the school is excellent	Nursery is amazing	Good support for my child
Lunches	School office staff are always helpful	Learning is made fun
Break times	Everyone helps when needed	Information about what my child is learning is good
School trips	Great staff	

Even better if:

Better meals	This was mentioned on 3 post-its. I am meeting with the catering company, Chartwells next week to discuss this along with other Trust schools
Cleaner grounds	Our site staff do a litter pick weekly, we have reminded children about ensuring peel from fruit, milk cartons must be put in the bins
Cleaner toilets	We now have more cleaners in school with all toilet areas cleaned at the end of every school day. These are also checked after lunch too.
More after school clubs	We have some external clubs, a free homework clubs as well as clubs teachers and other staff run in their own time. More clubs are being offered this half term.
Spanish lessons	Some children have Spanish lessons in school linked to our Erasmus project- we will look at how we could extend the lessons across school.
Nicer teachers/cooperating staff	We have a great team at Oxhey Wood, we have an open door policy-if you ever have any concerns please come and speak to us.
More equipment	We regularly purchase new equipment and children are involved in choosing this too

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.

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.

Books for schools-tokens

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

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.



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 affect 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 will not 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 do not miss out.

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

1 Sharman – 96.9%

5 Shakespeare – 96.2%

2 Windsor – 95.7%

3/4 Hamilton – 95.2%

3/4 Simmonds – 96.9%

5 Rosen – 96%

2 Tudor – 95.2%

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.



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.

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 for Spring term 2020

Year 6MJ class assembly- Change of date

Thursday 12th March 9am

Year 3 /4 AM class assembly

Wednesday 4th March 9am

World Book Day

Thursday 5th March

Year 3 / 4 AK class assembly

Wednesday 11th March 9am

Year 2MH class assembly

Wednesday 18th March 9am

Mother's Day Gifts (£1)

Friday 20th March

Year 2LK class assembly

Wednesday 25th March 9am

Easter Egg Hunt (£1)

Friday 3rd April

Term ends 2pm Friday 3rd April

Term starts Monday 20th April

Year 1 and Reception assemblies in Summer term

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