



Oughton Primary & Nursery School

Week beginning 5th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our new children and their families who have joined us this year, both in Nursery and across the school.

Staff News

We welcome to our team Mrs Prosser who is teaching in Nursery, Mrs Orchard who is teaching across the school, Mrs Burke and Mrs Hibbs who have both joined our Teaching Assistant team.

Covid-19 Update

We are now living with Covid and we will continue to ensure that hand washing, ventilation and good hygiene are taught.

Government guidelines are as follows: Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

Good attendance is key to learning and it is vital that children come to school regularly. We aim for all children to attend 96%+. Please read our Attendance Matters! Newsletter this week which explains our expectation and the rules around attendance. Our Attendance Policy is being updated and will be on our website once it has been ratified by our Governors.

Communication

If you need to speak to your child's Class Teacher or another member of staff, please ring the Office 01462 450716 or email admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk to book a convenient time to talk. Please be aware that it is not possible to talk at the classroom door when the staff are supervising or dismissing children.

Please do not ask members of staff who are standing near the gates to pass messages on. If you have a concern which relates to the class, please contact your child's class Teacher.

If you wish to talk about Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) or Mental Health please contact Mrs Phillipson, our Assistant Headteacher who is our SENCO and Mental Health Lead. If you need some pastoral support, please contact Mrs Woollon, our Pastoral Manager and Deputy Mental Health Lead.

Following on from Parental feedback at the end of last term, we will be sending all Parents an Information Handbook for their child's year group. This will contain information regarding their curriculum as well as key dates. I hope that you will find these useful.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 30th September at 9am in Lime (first classroom through the green gate by Moss Way). Please join us to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to everyone who took part in our Oughton Summer challenge! So far, 52 children have returned this challenge - this is fantastic. We will be celebrating this in our Assembly this week. Thank you to those Parents who supported this initiative.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Clayton

Headteacher

Dates will be published on our school website:

www.oughton.herts.sch.uk

Dates for upcoming half term

Parental Meetings for Parents:

Mon 19th Sept 3:30pm Year 3
Tues 20th Sept 3:30pm Year 2
Wed 21st Sept 9:00am Reception
Wed 21st Sept 2:45pm Year 5
Wed 21st Sept 3:30pm Year 1
Thurs 22nd Sept 3:30pm Year 4
Thurs 22nd Sept 5:00pm Year 6
Wed 28th Sept 9:00am Nursery
Fri 30th Sept 9am Macmillan Coffee Morning for Parents
Thursday 6th Oct 9am Year 1 Phonics Workshop for Parents
Tues 11th Oct 3:15pm Scarecrow Festival
Thurs 13th Oct Year 4 Multiplication Test Parental Meeting
Tues 18th Oct Wow Day: Year 3 Stone Age & Year 6 WWII
Tues 18th Oct Year 5 Trip to the Cambridge Science Museum
Wed 19th Oct Year 2 Wow Day Antarctica
Fri 21st Oct 9am Parent Coffee Morning
Fri 21st Oct Nursery and Reception Marvellous Me Wow Day.
Half term 24th- 28th October
Year 6 Boosters Monday and Tuesday 9:30-12:00pm during half term



Governors

Our Governors have been busy over the holidays reading updated policies.

This term, Governors will be meeting Subject Leaders to discuss the curriculum. Each Subject Leader links with a Governor to keep them up to date with curriculum developments.

Results of Annual Questionnaire/ Survey

As mentioned overleaf, following the annual questionnaire to Parents, we will be sharing information about different areas of Oughton Primary and Nursery School over the next few newsletters.

Communication

Results from the questionnaire showed that 99% of those who responded, agreed / strongly agreed or were satisfied that the school communicated well to Parents. This is a pleasing result as communication is an area which can be difficult to get right, as we try to navigate what could be seen as too much information shared with not enough by different Parents! We will continue to focus on ensuring communication is good and in a number of different ways, please see further details below. To kick start this, we hope your child enjoyed receiving their welcome letter during the summer holiday.

- An Information Handbook will be sent to you this week. This aims to give you an overview of what your child will be learning over the term as well as to support any home research on the areas you may wish to undertake as a family together.
- Within this Information Handbook there is a date for a 'Meet the Teacher and Curriculum' session which will take place before the end of September - see overleaf on Diary Dates. This gives you an invaluable opportunity to meet your child's new Teacher and ask any questions you may have regarding the curriculum.
- If you have any questions or concerns about your child or their learning, please either speak to their class Teacher at the end of the day to book an appointment to meet them at a mutually convenient time; please note teachers are not available to speak at morning drop-off as they are busy welcoming and settling their class. Alternatively, please ring the office and our office staff will speak to the Teacher to book a time for you. Some Parents also find emailing the Teacher via our admin email account (admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk) is also a useful way to get any immediate information to the Teacher which could impact their child's day. Please be aware that Teachers are not able to respond immediately but messages will be passed on.
- Parent consultations are an invaluable opportunity to discuss your child's attainment and progress as well as future targets for your child; these have been booked into the diary for 19th / 20th October 2022 and 8th / 9th February 2023. Annual pupil progress reports will be sent out in July; these include assessment information as well as any statutory assessment/ SATs results as appropriate.
- I aim to share the school newsletter more frequently which will provide more general information to our whole school community. As you will have seen from this newsletter, we are hoping to embellish future newsletters with lots of photos too.
- Whiteboards outside classrooms will be updated by classroom staff daily/ weekly as the need arises; these are particularly useful as reminders of events coming up, equipment needed etc. specific to that class.
- We will send out fliers/ letters with specific information about events in plenty of time to give you notice, with reminders closer to the date of the event. We have tried to include many dates in the Parental Handbook.
- Our school website will be updated regularly to include dates, class information including about the curriculum as well as photos.
- Mrs Phillipson and Mrs Woollon will again host monthly coffee mornings on Tuesdays and Fridays, which are an opportunity to ask any general questions about school, make suggestions as well as to chat. Look out for the fliers.
- Friends at Oughton will be organising events across the year in the near future. These events are an ideal opportunity to chat to staff in a more informal way.
- Whilst we welcome your general feedbacks and suggestions, we recognise that not everyone is able to come up to school. Our feedback/ suggestion box can be found on the shelf in the main reception area if you wish to jot anything down and post it there. The box is checked regularly and your thoughts are reviewed with staff / Governors as appropriate.

