



Oughton Primary & Nursery School

May 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break this year.

Thank you and well done to the Year 6 children who came in during this holiday for some revision work towards their SATS. This reflected their fantastic attitude towards their learning.

Staff Update

Miss Savage started her maternity leave this week. Her class threw her a surprise party last Friday to celebrate this. Mrs Strange and Miss Lincoln have stepped into her shoes and are teaching Year 1. We await to hear her baby news and will let you know when we find out more.

Super Seraph Hero Day



Thank you to everyone who gave a donation to help Seraph, a local boy whose family and friends are raising money for his cancer treatment. We raised £299.49 through our dressing up as a Super Hero / non-school uniform day and Fun Run!

Thank you to everyone who joined in!

Uniform Reminders

As we move into the summer term, please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform:

- Burgundy jumpers (not grey or red) / grey or black trousers / grey skirts or pinafores / red summer dresses / black school shoes.
- PE kits consist of a plain white t-shirt, plain black shorts and trainers. All PE kits should be kept in school. PE, which includes swimming is not an optional activity. All children must participate.
- Please ensure that school skirts and dresses are knee length. Some skirts are becoming too short.
- Please ensure that if your child has hair long enough to be tied back, it is tied back. This helps reduce the spread of head lice.
- Earrings must be removed for PE lessons. Only plain studs are permitted in ears (one stud only in each ear). If ears have been recently pierced, please cover ears with tape. Precautions need to be taken within lessons to ensure safety of all pupils.
- Bracelets or necklaces are not permitted in school.
- Nail varnish is not permitted. Please remove after a weekend.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Clayton
Headteacher

Diary Dates

Please ensure you look at the school calendar for key dates across 2018 / 19 on our website.

Sat 11th May: Fair in the Square in Hitchin Town Centre.

Mon 13th May - Thurs 16th May: Year 6 SATS week.

Wed 22nd May: Parents Coffee Morning in Lime room.

Fri 24th May: INSET Day - no children in school.

Mon 27th May - 31st May - HALF TERM.

Mon 3rd June: Ash Dickenson (Poet) visit

Wed 19th June: EYFS (Nursery and Reception) Sports Morning (Reserve 26th June)

Thurs 20th June: KS 1/KS 2 (Year 1 to Year 6) Sports Afternoon (Reserve 27th June)

Tues 25th June: Body Percussion visit: Assembly for all children, then KS 2 workshops

Thurs 27th June: Nursery Let's Celebrate 9am

Thurs 11th July: Transfer Day

Wed 24th July: Last day of term finish at 2pm.

Please note, some teachers are organising trips for their classes to enhance their curriculum topics and learning so details will follow this term. Year 6 staff will be organising end of year performances and other events for the children.

Concerns

If you have any concerns regarding your child, please talk to their class teacher.

Please remember:

Teachers are there to supervise the children first thing in the morning, so please book an appointment via the office or wait until the end of the school day after they have released all of the children in their class. Mrs Woollon, our Pastoral Lead is also on hand to liaise with Parents.

Emergency Procedures

Following an incident yesterday which occurred outside of school grounds, I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that the safety and care of the children in our school and in the immediate community is always our first priority; this includes Early Days Playgroup and the Family Centre. Please note that in any such emergency situations:

- We will keep you updated via Parentmail so you must ensure that your details are up to date.
- Please do **NOT** phone us as this blocks our phone lines, which are needed for us to liaise with emergency services.
- Please let staff undertake their roles in following emergency procedures and do not hinder them.

We have plans in place for lockdown and school evacuation. When there is a incident of a serious nature, we follow the direction of the Police. Yesterday morning, we were hindered by a number of Parents confronting staff, many phone calls from Parents and the high number of children arriving late to school. **Please ensure your child is on time for school.**

I am pleased to report that the majority of the children across the school were completely unaware of the situation and were deeply focused in their learning. Staff were closely monitoring the situation and we were in direct contact with the Police. I am delighted to add that the Police personally thanked us by email for our prompt handing of the situation, having managed to divert our pupils quickly and efficiently, enabling them to be safe and not unduly frightened by the events. The Police appreciated our assistance to their team, the ambulance service and the fire brigade.

As always, our first priority is the children. Thank you for your continued support.

Attendance

As the summer term has begun, please remember that holidays are not authorised during school time. Please book your holiday during the holiday period. Learning is greatly impacted when a child does not attend school regularly and children who miss time off school, always find it difficult to catch up with the work they have missed.

Well done to the **106** children who attended 100% last term; their names are displayed in the main 'Railway Children Tunnel' corridor on board their class train. A fantastic achievement.

ICT and Gaming

Please monitor your child's use of ICT, in particular their use of phones and iPads. We have been made aware of a number of children who are uploading videos of themselves onto social media sites such as Tik Tok. Tik Tok is rated 12+ on the Apple app store and "teen maturity" on Google Play. However, there is no system in place to verify a user's age, so anyone can download it. Due to the access to inappropriate content, including music that may contain explicit language, this is not an app for Primary age children.

Please check the games children are playing and what they are doing on the internet, including videos on YouTube.

Governor Update

Governors have been meeting this term, focusing on the attainment and progress of the children across the school. Mrs Drakes has been working with our Year 6 children in her capacity of Maths Link Governor. Rev. Jane Mainwaring (Chair of Governors) has been meeting with Mrs Clayton regularly to discuss aspects of the school, including Attendance and Safeguarding.

