



Oughton Primary & Nursery School

November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can not believe it is November already! It seems that this term is flying by, it has been a very busy term.

Mrs Brand and Miss Ward have both started their maternity leave and we wish them both well. We look forward to some baby news at the end of this term. Welcome to Mrs Murray who is now teaching Nursery and Miss Harvey who is now teaching Alder RB.

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual Scarecrow Festival. Our winning Scarecrow was: Oak, with Pip the Penguin from Antarctica.



Well done to Alder RB, who came second place and Beech, who came third. Well done to our Family Scarecrow made by Shea and family.

Thank you to Shea as I borrowed his Scarecrow as part of my Remembrance Assembly on 11th November.

Reminders:

- Our school uniform is black shoes and burgundy school jumpers, no other colours please. Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform.
- Please ensure that you book in advance your child's place at Breakfast Club and pay at the same time. We must ensure that we are compliant with staff / child ratios which are dependent upon the age of the child as well as ensuring we have the right amount of food available.
- Earrings must be removed for all PE lessons. We follow our PE health and safety guidance.
- Please make sure that your child is on time for school. If they are late, please inform the office of the reason for their lateness.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Clayton Headteacher

Diary Dates

Please ensure you look at the school calendar for key dates across 2019 / 2020 on our website and dates which have been sent to you via Parentmail.

School Dinners

We are still having some school dinner debts building up. School dinners must be paid for in advance via Parentmail. Our school budget does not cover dinners debts.

Payment for lunches on ParentMail needs a minimum of £5 as there is a cost to the school each time the service is used. Any money left will remain on your child's account until they leave Oughton and then it would then be reimbursed. Remember, Christmas dinners will be organised soon, so money on your account will be useful.

Packed Lunch

We are concerned about some of the items which are appearing in home packed lunches. Chocolate bars should not be given. Remember, no nut products as we have children in school with nut allergies. Please ensure you provide a healthy, well balanced packed lunch as this aids concentration so the children are ready to learn in the afternoons.

Our Talking Discussion points at lunchtime are popular with children discussing countries, animals, art work and a whole host of topics. This is extending their vocabulary and thinking. Ask your child each week about the focus.

Contact with Staff

If you have any queries or concerns about school at all, please talk to your child's class teacher in the first instance. Please contact them for a chat after school and all conversations must occur after the children have been dismissed to their Parents / Carers. First thing in the morning is not a good time to talk to staff as they are busy with the children and Safeguarding / child safety is their priority.

If you have something urgent to inform us about, please pop into the office and a message will be passed to staff and they will call you or make an appointment to meet with you.

Some Parents are sending emails to our office: admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk however, please bear in mind, these will not be read or responded to out of school hours. Also, Office staff have other work to do as well as dealing with email correspondence, so they may not see emails straight away. Office staff do not work at weekends or evenings and our office closes between 4 and 4:30pm. Written correspondence follows the same principles as a letter and you will receive a response, but not immediately. Remember messages may be left on the school answer phone.

We also ask that you speak to staff politely and with respect. Thank you for your continued support. We were delighted with the number of Parents who attended our Parent Consultation Evening earlier this month.

Children in Need

We had a very special visitor last Wednesday....yes, you've guessed it....Pudsey!

Pudsey joined us at lunchtime, which was very exciting, as you can imagine! Sadly, Year 6 missed him as they were having fun at RAF Hendon Museum, however, we have shared our news with them.

We had a special assembly on Friday and talked about the need to help others. Thank you so much for your generosity last week when the children dressed in non-school uniform on Friday. We raised £212.80.

Last week we were focusing on being kind to others. Our Anti-Bullying theme for the week was **Change Starts with Us**. We enjoyed wearing odd socks on Tuesday to celebrate our uniqueness. Each class followed up the theme in their classes.



Internet / Gaming Update

Please limit the time you allow your child to be on the internet or play games using technology at home as this is having an impact on many children's ability to socialise and concentrate in school. Gaming impacts on health and often results in tiredness. Please be aware of the age restrictions of games and follow the guidance.

Governor Update

I am delighted to announce that Roz Brown offered her services once more to be a Parent Governor. This is superb as it allows Roz to continue the valuable work she provides to the Governing Body as link PE Governor and Health and Safety, plus gives continuity for the role. Thank you Roz.

