



Oughton Primary & Nursery School

November 2014

Diary Dates

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, as part of the Centenary Remembrance, we are creating our own poppy tribute in the library. All children are making their own poppy using different materials and skills. The children are learning about World War I in particular. We will be having a special assembly **tomorrow** just before 11 o'clock and will hold a 2 minute silence. We have asked the children and staff to wear red for the day (it can be an item of clothing) as a sign of respect and remembrance for the day (no football shirts or trainers please).



School Improvement Update

Inset day, last Monday, focused on an update of where we are now—the progress that we have made since Ofsted. We undertook Big Maths Training, work scrutiny and creative curriculum work. Last half term, the staff received further training on Grammar and Guided Reading and SEN (Special Educational Needs) Asperger's Syndrome. Please help your child with their spelling, reading and multiplication facts.

New Curriculum—Parents in Partnership

At Open Evening, there was a sheet informing Parents of the changes from September to the national curriculum. We are holding a Parental Workshop to tell you more about the changes. If your child is in Year 1 to Year 5, this will be relevant to you. (Year 6 and Year 2, due to SATS are currently working on the old National Curriculum, although Year 2 will be undertaking changes next year). Please join us on Monday 24th November at 3.15pm.

Christmas Pantomime Trip

Fantastic News: We know how difficult it has been for parents to pay for this annual trip. I am please to tell you that **this year** the *Hitchin Youth Trust* have donated over £3000 to fund this trip for Reception to Year 6 children to see the Stevenage Pantomime. The trip has been booked for the first week in January. We are very grateful for this very generous act of kindness. **Thank you Hitchin Youth Trust!**

Yours sincerely **Lisa Clayton Headteacher**

Please ensure you look at the school calendar for full dates across the year.

Wed 12th Nov : Y6 trip to Hendon

Thurs 13th Nov: Y3 and Y4 visit in Hitchin

Tues 18th Nov: Y4 Beech class Let's Celebrate Assembly

Thurs 20th Nov: Y2 Both Oak classes Let's Celebrate Assembly

25th Nov: Nursery and Reception Stay and Play

Tues 2nd Dec: Christmas Tree Festival and Christmas Fayre after school

Fri 12th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day



Tues 16th Dec: KS 1 Christmas Production pm

Wed 17th Dec KS 1 Christmas Production am

Wed 17th Dec : KS 2 Carol Concert at school 2pm

Thurs 18th Dec: pm class parties



Last day Thursday 18th Dec—collection time is 2pm

Cubs and Scouts

A big thank you to Hazel Beadle, Mrs Lewis and the Cubs and Beavers, plus Parents who helped over half term to weed our beds in the allotment. It was a difficult and muddy job. They were all fantastic and their achievement was noted in our Golden Book.

Well done and thank you.



Scarecrow Festival Results

Thank you to everyone who voted for their favourite scarecrow and I must say the soup was delicious. Our Harvest celebration was well attended. Thank you

The winner was...Reverend Jane Mainwaring, our Chair of Governors, made by Alder class (Y), currently in our front foyer. You could be mistaken in thinking it's the real person standing there!



I was second place! (Mrs Clayton). Made by Willow class (Y5). I would like to point out that I do not own a pink pair of boots like that...yet!

3rd Place was Miss Daniels by Beech class (Y)

Reading Corner Competition

When you visit our classrooms, have a look at our reading areas. Our Governors decided on the winners last week. The winner was...Oak HS (Y2) with their Cat in the Hat focus. In second place was Beech (Y4) with their pirate ship focus and in 3rd place was Pear (Reception) with their Under the Sea focus. Well done to everyone for their hard work. **Please help us to promote the love of reading at home too. Hear your child read each day and don't forget to read to your child too. It is still very important for children to be read to even in Years 3 to 6 so they can talk about language and plots with an adult. If you need some advice regarding suitable books or would like to borrow some books, please pop in and talk to the class teachers.**

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please remember the school receives extra money for children who are entitled to Free School Meals. This is regardless of the entitlement of all in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. **However, unless you register for this, the school will not receive extra money that we can use to support your child.** You can apply for this by calling 03001234048 or visiting the hertsdirect website at

www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals

We have noticed a drop in the applications for this, so please come and ask us for more information if you are unsure. Many children are entitled to receive this extra money, so please ensure they do not lose out.

Governor Update

Governors have received training on assessment this term. This term, they are focusing on the curriculum and progress and attainment across the school. They will be analysing data from last years results and overseeing plans to improve further. Remember if you would like to get in touch with a school Governor they can be emailed on: governors@ohjm.herts.sch.uk



PTA Up-date



Thank you to everyone who made cakes for our Halloween Cake sale or bought cakes! We raised **over £100.**

Many thanks to the parents who attended a meeting last week to discuss our Christmas Fayre.



ICT Corner

We are currently trialing a maths program in Year 4 : RM maths, which will enable children to log on at home and work on topics to support their learning at school. We will be sending information out soon.

