



Oughton Primary & Nursery School

May 2014

Diary Dates

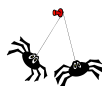
Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to see everyone come back refreshed from their Easter holidays. Even though this is a short half term we have been very busy.

Ofsted update: Our Inset day training focused on Quality of Teaching, feedback / marking and maths: calculation policy. (This will be on the website shortly). We have updated our marking policy and we are trialing using a variety of pens within the children's book to highlight different aspects. You may notice the children writing in red pen to show their responses to teacher comments. The children also self-assess their work using a black pen. The staff mark in green pen. We continue to highlight the next steps for children so they know their next focus in their learning.

We have been monitoring the children's progress carefully and ensuring that interventions are in place if needed. We are currently focusing on maths and literacy within the curriculum. Local Authority Advisors have been working with staff across the school: subject leaders in maths and literacy, plus KS 2 teachers and Early Years staff. We are working closely with a local school to share good practice.

Other News: The whole school had their class photos taken; Nursery had a visit from ZooLab (the children loved seeing creepy crawlies) and thank you to all those who helped with the 'Fair in the Square' on Saturday.



SATS: Year 6 have been working very hard in school and many have attended extra booster sessions in the holidays and before & afterschool over the past few months in preparation for their SATS. On behalf of myself, Mrs Carroll and the whole staff I would like to wish them all the best of luck for their SATS this week.



Parental Support

Reading skills are vital to all areas of children's learning. Oughton is calling out to anyone who has any spare time and would be willing to volunteer in school to hear children read. If you would like to volunteer please contact the school office.



Yours sincerely

Lisa Clayton Headteacher

Tues 13th May: Pear A Let's Celebrate Assembly at 2:45pm.

Tues 20th May: Pear B Let's Celebrate Assembly at 2:45pm.

Thurs 22nd May: Friends of Oughton Disco: to be confirmed

26th—30th May: Half Term

Tues 3rd June: Year 3 and 4 trip to Celtic Harmony (Topic based trip)

Tues 10th June: Nursery Let's Celebrate Assembly at 11am.

Week beg 9th June: Year 1/2 trip to the Bee Garden (Topic based trip)

Wed 11th June: Year 3 and 6 Trip to Whipsnade funded by Rotary Club.

Week beg 16th June: Enterprise visitors and activity morning in school for Year 5 and 6 (funded by school and Councillor Nigel Brooks)

Tues 17th June: Elm O Let's Celebrate Assembly at 2:45pm

Fri 20th June: Reception visit to Knebworth (Topic based trip)

23rd June-27th June: National Sports Week: Sports activities / focus on health across the school

Wed 25th June: Nursery/ Reception Sports morning

Thurs 26th June: KS 1 & 2 Sports afternoon.

Thurs 10th July: Transition Day

Sat 19th July: Summer Fair

Wed 23rd July: Last day of term.

(End of Year 6 Performances / celebrations to be confirmed).

Friends of Oughton



Would you like to be more involved with the exciting events that take place at Oughton? Summer Fair is coming up! Help needed please! If so why don't you enquire how you could become a part of our Parent Teachers Association. For more details please see the school office or even speak to Mrs Lewis!



Remember: Spot the mistake!! Win a prize!!

Please read this newsletter carefully and see if you can spot the deliberate mistake. First parent to the office to tell uswins a prize!

Beavers & Cubs



The 8th Hitchin Scout Group holds meetings for Beavers and Cubs at our school on a Wednesday evening. Beavers are 6-8 yrs old and Cubs are age 8 to 10.5. Beaver and Cub Scouts earn badges, play games, make things, make friends and learn about the world and themselves. Beavers sometimes have sleepovers and Cubs go hiking and camping. Recently the Beavers have been learning first aid and the Cubs have been learning map reading and also went on a night hike which they all thoroughly enjoyed. If your son/daughter is interested in being a Beaver or Cub Scout please contact Pippa Lally on dcs.hitchin scouts@gmail.com or 01462 387879, or you can leave a message at the school office and they will pass it to the leaders.

Attendance Winners for last half term:

1st: Alder Class (Year 3), 2nd: Pear A Class (Reception)
3rd: Oak Class (Year 2) Well done!

School Dinners

Please ensure that you pay for school dinners **prior** to the day ordered. No school dinners will be given unless payment has been received and packed lunches will need to be provided from home. **The school does not have the funds to supplement dinner money debts.**



If circumstances change and children are entitled to Free School Meals then you must apply for this by calling 03001234048 or visiting the hertsdirect website at www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals

Governor Update



The Governors have started an external review, following a recommendation from Ofsted. We have training booked for this term and Governors are busy visiting the school and meeting with staff to discuss the curriculum and standards. We welcome some new Governors joining us this term: Helen Matthews (Parent), Peter Watson (Community) and Dan Nearney (Community). Dan is the Assistant Headteacher of The Priory. A few Governors have stepped down from their positions and we would like to thank Gerry Robertson (Community), Christine Stockbridge (Community) and Roz Brown (Parent) for their hard work and support of Oughton, especially Gerry Robertson who has been a long serving member of our Governing Body. We have a Parent vacancy at the moment. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Schools Governing Body, please see Mrs Clayton.

Persistent Late Arrivals and Collections

Arrivals

Please note that the Policy on lates has changed. If your child arrives in school later than 9.10am they will incur an unauthorised late mark for the whole morning session. This unauthorised absence will be included in the total of unauthorised absences which can lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Collections

The school day finishes at 3.15pm. Please ensure that you arrive in time to collect your child, unless they have been previously booked into an after school activity. On each occasion your child is collected late it will be logged and a slip will be given to you. If you are persistently late to collect your child a formal meeting will be made to discuss this matter.



School Website

We are currently updating our website to make it more user friendly for parents and children. Alison Drakes (Parent Governor) and Mrs Lewis have been working on this. You will be able to see changes soon.

IT eSafety Production **'Where are you Johnny James?'**

On Monday 7th July Oughton Primary & Nursery School will be hosting the IT eSafety production of 'Where are you Johnny James?' which will be performed by Firehorse Productions. This is encourage further awareness of the importance of eSafety.