



# Oughton Primary & Nursery School

## January 2021 Newsletter

### Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, it has definitely been a challenging start to the spring term for everyone—staff, children and Parents. However, we all rose to the challenge and I am sure that you agree, we are all going the extra mile!

Luckily, the staff were prepared and we actioned Teams with speed. I am pleased that we had put home learning tasks on this platform in the autumn term, it hopefully made it much easier for everyone. Last term, training was in place for staff and this paid off. It has been a tricky time for us, juggling children at home and providing remote learning, whilst running classes at school for those children who are eligible for a place.

I have been very impressed with the commitment of the children. Many children have been superb and the quality of work submitted has been good. Many children have been awarded in The Golden Book or as their class Superstar. Make sure your child attends our Awards Assemblies which are held on Fridays at 2:45pm via Oughton School Team channel.

I would like to thank the many Parents who have worked hard with their children in their home learning tasks. We know it is not easy and many Parents are working from home at the same time or working with more than one child at home. We know that your homes are a different environment now from Monday to Friday. Thank you for your kind emails and positive feedback. It means a great deal to us. We all need to do our part in the circumstances and I am proud of the staff, children and Parents at Oughton. Thank you everyone.

### Attendance Remotely

Please ensure that your child is on Teams at their Register time am and pm, this is being logged and this is the time that the Teachers are giving feedback and setting their classes up for the planned activities. As normal, Parents need to contact us if their child is ill. This will be recorded as an illness. If we do not hear from Parents and their child is not accessing Teams, we will be contacting them and in some cases, visiting homes or seeking advice from external agencies. Please keep us up to date. If you are experiencing any difficulties, let us know - we understand and we will see what we can do to help you.

### Lateral Flow Tests

I am pleased to inform you all that staff have started to use Lateral Flow Tests to monitor Covid-19. If a member of staff is positive, at this point, we will close a bubble as a precautionary measure if the member of staff has been in close contact with children. The member of staff will then have a PRU Covid-19 test to confirm the result. If this is negative, the bubble will return to school, if not, the bubble will be sent home for the full isolation period of 10 days.

If your child is in school, I urge you to keep following all of the Government guidelines and ensure that you are not putting the staff at Oughton and other families at risk. Remember, some of our staff have vulnerable family members.

### Well-being Wednesdays

Thank you for the positive feedback regarding these afternoons. Our aim is to reduce the screen time for all children and have fun, trialing different challenges. Please try to limit your child (those at home and those at school) playing games online during the working week as they are using technology a great deal. I hope that you like the brightly coloured envelopes!

Take care and thank you everyone for your support

Yours sincerely

**Lisa Clayton - Headteacher**

### Health and Safety

**Please make sure we always have up to date mobile numbers and email addresses so that we are able to get hold of Parents in an emergency. Please check ParentMail and read all messages sent out.**

### Calendar

The school term dates for 2020/2021 are on our website, showing Inset Days.

With the Lockdown, many of our dates are now changed but we are looking at different methods to carry out elements of our curriculum so the children still have exciting, rich experiences. We are just adapting as much as we can.

### 8th March 2021

Obviously you have heard as much as we have regarding the return to normal school. We all need to see what happens and I hope that we will be back as normal on this date. Fingers crossed everyone. We all need some normality and we do miss seeing all of the children.

### Important

Please read all ParentMail messages.

Please do not put private messages to Teachers on the Teams chat channels as this can be seen by everyone in the class. Please email messages to [admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk) and staff will respond to you.

If you have limited data, fill in the ParentMail form and we can apply for you to have a top up to support remote education.

If you are struggling with anything, we are here for you. Please give us a ring 01462 450716.