



# Oughton Primary & Nursery School

## October 2018

### Dear Parents and Carers,

Well I can not believe one half term is already completed! This term is speeding past.

I hope you have a lovely half term next week. **Remember, we have training on Monday 5th November and so the school is shut for children.** Staff are having training on STEPS, our Positive Behaviour Policy, Word Aware and SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar).

Our Scarecrow Festival was a success. Thank you to the families who took part. It was fantastic to see the Scarecrows made by individual children and siblings. Thank you for your donations for The Food Bank and our soup. It was great to see Mrs Dovey back in the kitchen helping us with this event. We raised £76.27 — thank you.

Well done to each year group, it was lovely to look at the Scarecrow and link it to a book. We are continually promoting reading and the importance of this life skill. The results were as follows. Well done to:

**1st Place:** Beech (Year 4) Cat in the Hat!

**2nd Place:** Super Potato Silver Birch (Year 6)

**3rd Place:** Where's Wally? Oak (Year 2)

**Children's Choice Winner for the second year running:**

Well done to Shea (Year 5) 'Go Green and Recycle' reading a leaflet about the importance of recycling — a key message to everyone.



### Attendance

Our whole school target is 96%. We are currently below this figure. We sent out an Attendance newsletter which highlights the importance of regular attendance and impact on children's learning. Please remember, you need to send a letter explaining why a child is absent from school. If your child's attendance is below 90%, medical evidence must be provided in order for their absence to be authorised. Holidays are unauthorised. We use penalty fines. Registration is at 9am and lates contribute to overall attendance.

Yours sincerely

**Lisa Clayton Headteacher**

### Diary Dates

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

**Dates:** Please note

**Half term 29th Oct –2nd Nov**

**Mon 5th Nov Inset day—no children in school on this day.**

Wed 7th / Thurs 8th Nov: Open Evening

Tues 13th Nov: Year 6 Let's Celebrate Assembly

Tues 13th Nov: Year 4 visit to West Stow  
Wed 14th Nov: Year 6 visit to RAF Hendon

Thurs 15th Nov: KS 2 Reading and Writing workshop for Parents—details to follow

Fri 16th Nov: Children in Need Day—wear Spots!

Tues 20th Nov: KS 1 Reading and Writing workshop for Parents—details to follow

Tues 20th Nov: Year 5 Let's Celebrate Assembly

Tues 27th Nov: Year 4 Let's Celebrate Assembly

Fri 30th Nov: Donation day for our Christmas Fair

Tues 4th Dec: Christmas Fair

Tues 11th Dec pm & 12th Dec am: KS 1 Christmas Performance

Wed 12th Dec: School Christmas dinner

Thurs 13th Dec: Early Years Nativity (Reception and Nursery)

Fri 14th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day (wear your festive jumper all day) and Christmas Tree Festival after school

Tues 18th Dec: Year 3 to 6 Carol Concert pm

Thurs 20th Dec: Last day of term finish at 2pm

**Mon 7th Jan: Inset day no children in school**

### Friends of Oughton

Thank you to the small, dedicated committee who are busy working on events for the children, to raise money to benefit everyone. They are currently working on the Smartie Challenge which has been successful in many schools; Christmas sale during Open Evening; a disco and the Christmas Fair. If you have any spare time and would like to help develop further plans, please contact Mrs Channa or Mrs Jones.

## Complaints and issues

If you have an issue regarding your child, please let us know. If we know about an issue, then we can work with Parents to resolve any problems.

If you need to see your child's class teacher, please arrange a time to come and speak with them. Please phone and make an appointment or see them at the classroom door. Please be aware, first thing in the morning, the staff are working and supervising children and so this is not a good time for a talk. Supervision must be their priority. However, staff are happy to contact you later on in the day or if it is urgent, a message can be given to them via the front office.

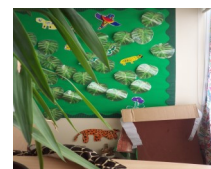
Part of Mrs Woollon's role is working alongside Parents, so feel free to make an appointment to see her. She is our Pastoral Lead.

Just to remind you, Facebook is **not** the avenue to vent complaints. Parents should not be putting complaints regarding the school on Facebook; we are hearing about comments on issues that have not even been raised with staff. Remember, we have Open Evening straight after half term.

## Events

### Reading Corners

Our School Council has been walking around classrooms today judging the Reading Corner competition. They were impressed with the variety of corners to promote reading. The Winner was Oak ED class, well done. They have been rewarded with £50 to buy some new books for their class.



### Genes for Jeans Day

Thank you for your donation for Jeans for Genes Day. We raised £202.26 for this charity.

### Children in Need Day

This year, the theme is Spots! I am hoping that next term we may have a visit from the main Ted himself: Pudsey. He visited us a while ago; fingers crossed! We will be taking part in this event and children may dress up in spotty clothes and donate £1 or more to this charity. Spotty socks, top etc be creative. Please do not go out and buy something for this. If you have not got any clothes with spots on them, non-school uniform is fine or Pudsey related. Please ensure that your child does not wear jewellery, heels or sliders. Their clothes must be suitable for school.

### Community Project in Westmill

A Community Garden is being created in Westmill for residents, following the theme of Remembrance. We were lucky enough to take part in this event with some other Hitchin Schools. We invited children to take part in a competition to design a slab and 8 winners were chosen to create the Remembrance Slab with Miss Ward. Well done to: Year 1 Sophia, Year 2 Sam, Year 3 Leon and Alicia, Year 4 Courtney and Rachel, Year 5 Safayah and Year 6 Layla. We understand that the slabs are being laid today and so we look forward to seeing the finished results.

### Governor Update

I would like to warmly welcome Rachel Hayzen to our Governing Body as a Parent Governor. Her expertise in Finance fills a gap in the Governing Body. We look forward to working closely with her.



