



Oughton Primary & Nursery School

September 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to everyone! The summer flew by. Welcome to our new children, Parents and Carers. I am sure that you will all be very happy at Oughton. Thank you for ensuring your child is wearing a full school uniform, including black shoes. I must say, the children look incredibly smart this year.

Staffing News

Welcome to our new members of staff: Mrs Colver (Deputy Head), Mrs Channa (Office Manager) and Mr Lewis (Teacher).

If you have any problems or issues, please pop in or ring the office and make an appointment to see either the class teachers, the Phase Leaders, Mrs Colver or myself.

The Phase Leaders are:

- Mrs Albon (Early Years - Nursery and Reception)
- Mrs Stephenson (Year 1 and 2)
- Mrs Carroll (Year 3 and 4)
- Mrs Colver (Year 5 and 6)

We would rather discuss any concerns that you have. If we are unaware, we can not help or improve the school.

PE Kit

Please ensure that your child brings in their full PE kit: plain white t-shirt, black shorts and trainers (black plimsolls for KS 1 and Early Years). Jogging bottoms may be worn in the winter months for all outside lessons. This PE kit should stay in school and will be returned for a wash at half term.

Please ensure you name all items belonging to your child. Remember jumpers, shoes and shirts all look the same!

Events

We have our Harvest Festival and Annual Scarecrow competition in October. Please join us at the end of the school day and judge our Scarecrows with your child.



Yours sincerely

Lisa Clayton Headteacher

Diary Dates

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

Please note that there was an incorrect date on the diary dates that was sent home at the end of last term.

Children will return to school on **Monday 22nd February 2016** after half term, not 24th as was written.

23rd Sept - Year 6 Information evening for Parents 6pm

6th Oct - Pupil and family photographs

12th Oct - Reception Phonics Workshop 2.30pm

13th Oct - Scarecrow Festival 3.15pm

14th - 16th Oct - Year 6 Residential Trip

19th Oct - Reception Maths Workshop 2.30pm

20th Oct - Year 4 Let's Celebrate 2.45pm

21st Oct - Parent/Teacher Consultations 4 - 6pm

22nd Oct - Parent/Teacher Consultations 6 - 8pm

26th - 30th Oct - Half Term

Parentmail

We have responded to our Parents' suggestions to improve our communication regarding letters. We will be changing our Parentmail system this term to allow you to reply to letters electronically via computers and mobile phones. We will be reducing the paper copies of letters so all Parents must sign up for this, to ensure there is a full and efficient communication between home and school.

There will be further details to follow later this term.

School Improvement Update / INSET Training Days

We have started a Speech and Language Programme called The Talk of The Town this year. As part of this project, we will have a Speech and Language Therapist joining us for one day a week. Our focus is to develop the children's language skills, which in turn should improve their reading and writing. Last week in our INSET day, we started this training.

A key focus this year is spelling. We had some training regarding strategies to support children with their spelling. Please help us and work with your child to improve their spelling knowledge in their home learning tasks.

Pet News

Congratulations to Lavender who has had a litter of kittens, baby rabbits. It is very early days so they will be looked after by Mrs Banton until they are old enough to visit us. We will keep you up to date with their progress.



Priscilla has joined Oughton. Mrs Lewis bought Priscilla, our newest Guinea Pig for the school as a leaving present. Priscilla and Nibbles are now back in school, carefully being looked after by Year 4 and KS 2.

Our Oughton Pets are: 2 rabbits - Lavender and Martin with babies and 2 Guinea Pigs - Nibbles and Priscilla.

Dinner Money

If your child is in Year 3, 4, 5 or 6 and would like to have a school dinner, please ensure that you pay in advance.

Reception, Year 1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal following Government policy. If you are entitled to a Free School Meal due to family circumstances you need to apply online:

www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals.

Governor Update

We have a Parent vacancy this year. If you would like to be a member of our hardworking team of Governors, please let either Reverend Jane Mainwaring (St Marks Church) or Mrs Clayton know by the end of September.

We were very pleased with the judgment that the Governors were given in our recent Ofsted. Our report was very positive.

Remember, if you would like to get in touch with a school Governor they can be emailed on:

governors@oughton.herts.sch.uk



ICT Corner

There has been a lot in the news lately regarding issues with children using social media sites.

Please ensure that your child is not using sites such as Instagram or Facebook. Both of these sites have an age restriction which is not primary school age.

We are updating our website at the moment so please look out for the updated pages.

www.oughton.herts.sch.uk

