

Newsletter

19th November 2021



Oakington
C of E Primary School

Message from the Headteacher:

Dear Parents/Carers,

Although Coronavirus case numbers are low at our school, we will be keeping existing measures in place over the coming weeks while Cambridgeshire continues to be under the restrictions of the Enhanced Response Area. Therefore, although we are planning to have the Nativity play and Christmas Fayre 'in-person', we may have to make a last minute decision to cancel the fayre and record the Christmas play instead.

On November 11th, the whole school paused for the two minutes silence. For Key Stage 2, this had been preceded by collective worship around the theme PEACE and the history of Armistice Day. The Last Post was heard and Ben Phillips closed the service with a Remembrance prayer.

As part of Anti-bullying Week, children have been doing PSHE discussions and activities around kindness and standing up to bullies.

It has been lovely to see children taking part in Children In Need today, dressing up in yellow or spots with excellent effort and donating money to this very worthy cause.

Our next Governor Day is taking place on Thursday 25th November when our hardworking and dedicated governors come into school to experience the learning and talk to pupils about what they are doing.

Christmas Jumper Day is on Friday, 10th December. If your child would like to join in, please can they come to school dressed in their Festive Christmas Jumper. The suggested £1 donation will go towards the Save The Children charity.

Kind regards,

Nathan Clark - Headteacher

Oakington Diary Dates:

Tuesdays: Years 5 & 6 swimming

Mon 29 Nov: deadline for Christmas Hamper gifts

Fri 3 Dec: Christmas Present Room

Fri 3 Dec: deadline for wine donations

1-10 Dec: Hamper raffle tickets available

Fri 10 Dec: Christmas Jumper Day

Fri 10 Dec: deadline for Christmas Bells orders

Fri 10 Dec: Chestnut – Christmas themed Cake Sale

Fri 10 Dec: Christmas Fair

Wed 15 Dec: Christmas Lunch

Fri 17 Dec: 9.30am Church Service at St Andrew's Church

Fri 17 Dec: Last day of term

Tues 4 Jan: Inset Day

Wed 5 Jan: School re-opens

Thurs 10 Feb: Birch - Cake Sale

w/c 14 Feb: Half Term Holiday

Thurs 31 Mar: Sycamore – cake Sale

Fri 1 Apr: Last day of term

Co-op Fundraising

We are delighted to advise that thanks to Stephanie Hall and her work behind the scenes,

we have been successful in securing a place in the Histon Co-op Local Community Fund. This means that when Co-op members purchase Co-op branded products, we receive a percentage of the fund. Please can we encourage you to [become Co-op members](#). The fundraising event will last up to October 2022. All monies raised will be going towards supporting a pupil and staff wellbeing programme.

We will focus on communication skills, emotional resilience, goal setting, anxiety and self-worth, empowering pupils, staff and families to thrive now and in the future.



"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them..." Romans 12: 4-6



Autumn – Collective Worship



The theme for our assembly this half term

Peace

Morning Drop-Off

Please can we remind parents/carers that they need to remain in the playground with their child until the children are called into class by their teacher.

Birch Class Update

Birch Class have taken their learning outdoors recently, even in this chilly weather. We have been learning about the Ancient Greeks; the pictures show our Maze Day as Theseus attempts to complete the maze and slay the minotaur. In Science, we have been collecting information about living things, especially invertebrates.

Mr Bailey



Phonics Screening



You may be aware the DfE have requested Phonics Screening for all Year 2 pupils in the 2021/2022 academic year, who due to the cancellation of the phonics screening check in June 2021, did not take the check in Year 1.

We have started to conduct these checks and years 2 pupils who do not meet the expected standards will be expected to take the statutory check in June 2022 when the year 1 Phonics Screening check takes place. The test is designed to see if pupils have learnt phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.

What happens during the Phonics Screening Check?

Each test contains 40 words. The test is carried out one-to-one between teacher and pupil and the pupil must read out each word to their teacher. The 40 words contain 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (alien or nonsense words). The test usually takes around 10 minutes for each child and they will be given a score of between 0 and 40.



Attendance Matters

Every Day Counts



The Department for Education tracks attendance carefully and we are monitored closely by the School Attendance Officers within Cambridgeshire CC. The aim is to have school attendance figures in excess of the national average of 96%.

Our attendance figure for the year to date is 95.7% and we extend a huge well done and thank you to the 48 children who have 100% attendance for the academic year to date. This is quite an achievement in today's climate.

We have 65% of our pupils with Good Attendance and this is where attendance falls above 96%.

We are mindful that at this time of year attendance levels can be affected by illness such as coughs and colds. We would however, encourage all parents to send their children into school wherever possible. If they have been ill with sickness and/or diarrhoea, please keep them off school until they have been symptom free for a minimum of 48 hours to prevent the bug spreading throughout the school community as this has a significant, adverse effect on attendance levels of both children and staff. Please know that absence due to Covid related self-isolation will not affect your child's attendance figure.



Reporting an absence

If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact the school office by email or telephone before 9.10am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms.

If we do not hear from you, we will ring you to find out why your child is not in school. We would like to say a huge thank you regarding this as the majority of our families always let us know if their child is unable to attend school and this is very much appreciated.

Start Times & Lateness

The bell rings at 8.45am for EYFS & KS1 and 8.50am for KS2. Arriving on time for school is important as late arrivals are disruptive for the class and can be embarrassing for the child who is late. Children can also miss important information during registration including the plan for the day.



Thank you for your support in helping to raise our school attendance. If you would like any support or advice on attendance or punctuality, please speak to your child's class teacher or the Headteacher.



Children In Need

Thank you for supporting Children In Need today. We raised £86 which will be forwarded to the Charity.





Behaviour Policy

We have updated some aspects of our Behaviour Policy and I would also like to remind you of existing systems in place. When a child is not showing the correct behaviour, we first give a polite reminder as to what they should be doing. If the behaviour does not change, a warning is then given. The next stage is Time-out A where the child spends 5-10 minutes at the time-out table. If they receive another warning, they go to Time-out B. This involves working at a time-out table in a different classroom for the remainder of the lesson. If the correct behaviour is still not shown after this, the child is given a Time-out C where they work at a table near the headteacher for the remainder of the day. For both Time-out B and C, a message will be sent home to parents/carers to inform them of this consequence.

We have also introduced some acronyms to help children remember how behave, engage and conduct themselves around school.

SLANT - To make sure we use every opportunity to learn.		STEPS - To show respect to members of our school community and speak politely.		SLANT - To make sure we communicate clearly and confidently.	
S	Sit Up	S	Smile	S	Full Sentences
L	Listen	T	Thank You	H	Hand Away From Mouth
A	Ask/Answer Questions	E	Excuse Me	A	Articulate
N	Never Interrupt	P	Please	P	Project Our Voice
T	Track the Speaker	S	Sorry	E	Eye Contact

We are always mindful of recognising and encouraging positive behaviour in our pupils. For rewards, children earn house points which they collect as stickers and can complete bronze, silver then gold charts. Two children have already completed their silver chart this year. They will be having hot chocolate with the headteacher! Going forward, this is something that will be taking place towards the end of each half term. In addition, staff give verbal praise in recognition of good behaviour and Headteacher stickers can be issued to help complement the positive behaviour that is encouraged at home.

Newsletter

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Oakington
C of E Primary School

Thank you for your support at our recent Harvest Festival.



THANK YOU
OAKINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

9th November 2021

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Jimmy's Cambridge and our residents we would like to say a huge thank you for the kind donation we have received from Oakington Primary School. We very much value all your support.

The last year has been busier than ever, with ongoing help provided by Jimmy's to those experiencing homelessness in Cambridge through accommodation and food, hands-on support with mental health or addiction difficulties, and workshops and training to build skills and confidence amongst our community. We have expanded our services this year, and now run 22 Modular Homes across Cambridge – offering 22 individuals a semi-independent life as they transition away from homelessness – and have hired an in-house Mental Health Support Worker who provides vital wellbeing services to our residents.

Your Harvest donation helps us to cook more than 28,000 meals a year for those who are experiencing homelessness, as well as to provide food parcels, clothes, and essential products to those staying at Jimmy's.

It is a privilege for Jimmy's to see the best of our community through donations and offers of support from the community. Your donations will allow us to continue to support those facing homelessness as we enter the colder months, and hopefully leave the worst impacts of Covid-19 behind us. Thank you again.

Best wishes from us all at Jimmy's,

Yours sincerely

Sara Dunn
Communications Officer

Jimmy's Cambridge, 1 East Road, Cambridge CB1 1BD ■ 01223 576085
info@jimmyscambridge.org.uk ■ www.jimmyscambridge.org.uk Registered Company No 3259904
■ Registered Charity No 1058737

Christmas Post

On 1st December we will see the arrival of our Christmas Post Box outside Mr Clark's office. This will be available for all the children to post their Christmas Cards to their friends in all of the classes.

Please can you ensure the recipient's name and class are clearly marked on the envelope to help when sorting.

Post will be quarantined for 48 hours before it is sorted and delivered.



Christmas Lunch



This year's Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday 15th December and Dolce have asked that all **orders are placed prior to 8th December** to help with ordering. The Live Kitchen portal is currently being updated to reflect the new menu choice. Our Christmas lunch menu will be:

Roast Turkey
Roasted Vegetable & Stuffing Tart
Carrots, Peas, Brussel Sprouts
Chipolata Sausage
Gravy & Roast Potatoes

Gingerbread Snowman
Chocolate & Orange Pudding
Fruit
Yoghurt

Lord, keep us safe this night,
Secure from all our fears;
May angels guard us while
we sleep,
Till morning light appears.
Amen



C.A.R.E. is at the heart of our school

CONFIDENCE

ACHIEVEMENT

RESPECT

ENVIRONMENT



COVID UPDATE: September 2021

What do I do if a member of my family has symptoms of COVID? – if a pupil, parent or staff member has symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive with a lateral flow test, they must arrange to have a PCR test and isolate at home until they receive the results. Symptoms of COVID include high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

What do I do if the PCR is positive? – The person with the positive PCR test will need to self-isolate for 10 days. If it is negative, that person can return to their normal day to day activities. NHS Test and Trace will advise what course of action to take.

Do I need to self-isolate if I am a close contact? As per Step 4 of the Government's road map, from 16th August the guidelines are as follows:

- Those adults not fully vaccinated will still need to isolate if they are contacts.
- Children under 18 years old will no longer need to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. However, they will be requested to take a PCR test.
- Adults who have received full vaccination (from 14 days after the second dose for two-dose vaccine) will not be required to self-isolate. However, NHS Test and Trace will advise adults to take a PCR test as soon as possible.

Anyone who tests positive or develops symptoms will still need to self-isolate, regardless of their vaccination status. In all cases, NHS Test and Trace will advise what course of action to take.

Will my child still have access to remote learning if they are self-isolating?

If your child has tested positive for Coronavirus and are therefore self-isolating, they are categorised as been absent through illness. Therefore, there is no expectation for them to complete school work. However, if you feel your child is well enough and you would like them to access learning, please contact the class teacher who will provide work for English and maths.

We will continue to update our risk assessments and keep you up to date as further information is released by the Government. If you have any concerns or wish to talk something over relating to this, we are always happy to help.

Safeguarding at Oakington

Mr Nathan Clark and Mrs Alicia Lloyd are the designated safeguarding leads at Oakington.

If you have a concern about a child, be it around their health, physical safety or emotional wellbeing, please inform **any** member of staff.

If you think a child is at immediate risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/safeguarding-children-and-child-protection/>

Contact Us!

Telephone: 01223 232328
Email: office@oakington.cambs.sch.uk
www.oakingtonprimary.co.uk
Follow us on Twitter: @OakPrimary
#OakingtonPrimary

Privacy Notice: For more information on GDPR and data held by the school please visit - demat.org.uk/gdpr

Attendance

We are continuing to monitor attendance closely and writing to parents of children with attendance below 96% (classed as persistent absenteeism).

Please do get in touch if you are having particular difficulties in getting your child to school and would like to discuss this.