



OULTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the new half term. It was lovely to welcome the children back, albeit at an extremely upsetting time. We are extremely proud of the way that the children have coped and how they have supported each other over the last 2 weeks. We have also been touched by the kind words and lovely memories of Alex they have shared. I would like to thank the staff for the support that they have provided for pupils and each other. Although we feel pupils are generally doing well, the council is still on hand to provide any support necessary.

We have been heartened by the community events being held over the last few weeks to remember Alex and support his family. As a school, we are going to plan our own events for the school community to remember Alex and say goodbye. This will be planned for an appropriate time, ensuring that pupils' well-being is at the forefront of our thinking. Details of events will be provided nearer the time and once fully discussed and agreed with Alex's family. Thank you for your continued support. Mr Horton

Staff Changes

Many congratulations to Miss Machin who has secured a new role at another school. She will leave Oulton at the end of this term, 29th March. I know that Barracuda class will be extremely sad to see Miss Machin leave but I am sure that they will join me in wishing her the best of luck in her new role. I am pleased to announce that we have appointed a new teacher to replace Miss Machin when she leaves at Easter. Mr Daniel Murtagh will join the team on Monday 16th April and have teaching responsibility for Barracuda Class.

I am also pleased to announce that we have appointed a new teacher to replace Mr Scott when he leaves Oulton at Easter. Miss Kelly Hetherington will join the team on Monday 16th April and have teaching responsibility for Sailfish Class.

Mr Libers, one of our HLTAs, leaves us today to start a new role at another Leeds school. I would like to thank Mr Libers for his contribution to school life and we wish him the best of luck in his new role. Mr Horton

Snow closures and Rescheduled World Book Day

Many apologies for having to close on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 1st March. On Wednesday, we did intend to remain open during the day and many pupils were dropped at breakfast club when the roads were relatively clear. However, due to the sudden deterioration at the busiest time of travel, the roads in the local area became very dangerous and this unfortunately led to the closure of the school. On Thursday, additional and varying accumulations across the region resulted in very difficult driving conditions and we tried to make an earlier decision about closing. I would like to apologise for the inconvenience caused and thank you for your understanding (Hurry up Spring!).

We are planning to reschedule World Book Day for Thursday 8th March. Miss Brown will contact parents separately about a new date for the POPs Disco. Mr Horton

Parents' Evenings and Mid-Year Reports

We are looking forward to welcoming parents to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss their progress.

Parents' Evenings will be held on 13th and 14th March. Letters and reply slips will be sent out on Monday. We are also providing a Mid-Year report for each pupil in Years 1-6, these will be sent out with the Parents' Evening letters. This is the first time that we have produced these reports and we hope that they help you to have an overview before your meeting with your child's teacher. Please use the report to inform the questions that you would like to ask during your consultation. The report will show if your child is currently 'on track' to achieve the end of year standard for their year group, their attitude to learning, details of any interventions they have received and a target for them to work on at home. It is important to note that even if your child is not thought to be 'on track' to reach the expected standard for their year group, they may have still made good progress from their individual starting point. Children in EYFS (Nursery and Reception) will be also provided with a summary of their learning across each Area of Learning. We will also be inviting parents to complete or annual parent survey during the upcoming Parents' Evenings. Feedback about our new Mid-Year reports would be much appreciated. Mr Horton

Dinner money

Unfortunately, we are finding it increasingly difficult to collect dinner money from some parents. We are unable to carry forward arrears for longer than 2 weeks. The debt must then be referred to our Finance Section for collection if those arrears are not paid. We are therefore unable to supply school meals to children after that period. Dinner money should be placed in a sealed envelope or purse showing your child's name, class teacher, the amount enclosed and be sent into school on a Monday morning please.

Parking

A polite reminder about parking carefully on the surrounding roads. Unfortunately, there have still been some occasions where inconsiderate parking has caused issues. West Yorkshire Police are continuing to support the local community to address these issues. If a car journey is necessary, please park legally and courteously. Mr Horton

Jane Tomlinson Canal Run - Fun Run (1.5miles)

Come along to the annual race organised by Mr Westmoreland on 3rd July 2018 at 6.30pm.

You can enter online at: <https://secure/nochex.com/CanalRaceApplication>

All proceeds go to Janes' Appeal. As part of the event, we are also running a school competition. Come on Oulton, let's win! There is also a 5k race for the adults. Mr Westmoreland

Contact number

Please note that our texting in to school contact number has now changed to 07786 201172. The previous number is now out of use, so be sure to update the contact number in your telephone or we won't receive your messages.

Email Address

We are trying to send as many of our letters as possible by Email. If you would like to be added to our email list or you need to update your address, please complete and return the list at the bottom of this letter. You can opt out at anytime by informing the office.

Uniform and Winter Wear

Unfortunately, we are seeing a variety of different colour footwear appearing across the school. Please ensure that your child wears only black shoes or trainers to school.

As a school, we can support families who might be struggling with providing uniform for their children. If you feel this could help, please contact one of our Learning Mentor Team to discuss.

Please ensure that children are sent with appropriate winter wear during colder periods as pupils do go out in all weathers.

Playground Development: Multi Use Game Area (MUGA)

Many thanks to Mr James for arranging for a MUGA to be installed on the KS2 playground. This will happen over the Easter break and provide a valuable space for PE lessons. Pupils will also be able to use it during break and lunch times. The project is mainly being funded by the school's Sports Premium Grant, but POPs are also contributing to the cost of the project. Many thanks to POPs for their continued support. The illustration below shows they type of MUGA that we are installing.



Attendance

School End of Year Target	96 %
Whole School Figure to Date	96 %

Below are some reminders on how to support your child's attendance in school.

If your child is not attending school, it is extremely important that you contact school to advise us of the reason for the absence. In line with our safeguarding policy we have a duty of care to our children to ensure that they are safe. We become increasingly concerned when we do not receive communication from parents/carers. This can result in time being spent phoning/sending texts/leaving voicemails and carrying out home visits.

- We ask that you phone school on **0113 2821344** or text on **07786 201172** (this is a free service) before 9am. Please programme these numbers into your phones. If you change your contact details, please advise the office immediately.
- Please inform the school office rather than sending a message via the classroom staff.
- If your child just says they are not feeling too well, but show no sign of sickness, upset stomach or fever then give medicine where appropriate, bring to school and advise the teacher. School will monitor the child and if their health deteriorates we will contact you.
- School starts at 8.50am; please ensure that your child arrives before this time. Being late causes disruption to the class and upset to the child.
- If you are required to take your child out of school during term time, you must complete a leave of absence request form, available from the school office. Although holidays during term time WILL NOT be authorised, a form must still be submitted. REMEMBER if you take your child out of school for a holiday you will run the risk of receiving a fixed penalty notice for the family.
- If your child has a medical appointment, please bring a copy of the letter or appointment card to school, it will be copied for your child's records. If we do not receive this the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. For mid morning/afternoon appointments please try and enable the children to get their registration marks before being collected, this will avoid appointments impacting their attendance. (See Ms Ritson for further information)
- If your child's attendance starts to cause concern you will be contacted to attend a meeting in school to discuss.
- If you have any concerns regarding your child's attendance, please contact school.

Thank you for your support

Ms M Ritson (Learning Mentor)



28 th February	World Book Day lunch
1 st March	World Book Day dress up
1 st March	Evening of Elegance 7pm – 9pm
5 th March	Smartie Tube Challenge – Send out (further info to follow)
6 th March	Ingleborough Hall parents meeting 3.15pm
7 th March	Class Photographs (Including Nursery)
13 th /14 th March	Parents' Evenings
19 th March	Smartie Tube Challenge - Return
29 th March	Easter Holiday - School Closes
16 th April	School opens

 Email Request Slip- Please add me to the school's email list for Newsletters and other letters.

Child's Name/s

Class

Email Address

Please return this slip to the office or send in with your child.

You can opt out at any time by informing the school office.