

Newsletter

October 2018



Message from the Head Teacher

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for supporting our harvest festival events. The separate assemblies were a success and gave each phase more time for their own songs and readings. As always, the children gave a good performance and they enjoyed showing parents and carers what they can do. I was especially impressed with the confidence of our individual speakers to read their poems to the audience. KS1's performance of the 'Little Red Hen Rap' was another highlight. Again, a huge thank you for your generosity donating food items and contributing to our collection in aid of St George's Crypt. Verity from the Crypt has emailed Mrs Thorpe to express her thanks to the school community. We are planning further events with St George's Crypt and we are intending to arrange for the school council to visit soon.

I hope that you all have a safe and enjoyable half term and we look forward to welcoming you back after the break. The next half term is one of my favourites with many Christmas events and performances. I look forward to welcoming you into school over the coming half term.

Staffing changes

We are pleased to welcome some new members of staff after the half term holidays. Mrs Lynda Duxbury will join the KS1 team as teaching assistant. Mrs Sharon Asher joins the Reception team as a 1-1 support worker. Mrs Asher is taking over from Mrs Nevett who leaves Oulton at the end of the half term- we wish her the best of luck in her future endeavours.

We are also pleased to welcome Mr Kevin Pearson who is temporarily joining our Reception team to cover Mrs Hoskin's maternity leave. Mr Pearson will be with us until the end of February when Mrs Harrison returns from maternity leave. Mrs Hoskins will commence her maternity leave in the middle of November and we wish her the best of luck as she starts her new family.

Prince William Award Sessions

A selection of Year 6 students have been participating in the PWA since the beginning of the year. The programme encourages experiential learning with the aim of developing key character qualities.

The group have developed key qualities such as **Listening, Trust and Self-Control**, which has helped the group to develop their ability to work positively as a team. The group have been able to record their progress so far in their reflective journals. A huge well done to the PWA students this half term!

Sheryl Punter, Skills Force



Congratulations- Sports Hall Athletics

We are very proud of the children who took part in the Sports Hall Athletics heat on the 15th October. The children were a credit to the school and showed excellent sportsmanship as they stormed into the next round. Our team finished first in the heat and have progressed to the quarter-finals. This event will take place a Leeds Trinity University, a separate letter will be sent to the team with further details. Well done all!

Results: 1st Oulton (198 points); 2nd Middleton St Marys (156 points); 3rd St Francis (142 points); 4th Westwood (126 points); 5th St Philips (102 points)



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Parking issues

Unfortunately, the school has received complaints from residents about parking on the roads around the site, especially on Parkways. Please do not block residents' drives or park on them. If a car journey is necessary, please park legally and courteously. If there are no legal places to park towards school, please find another space a little further away and walk up. Thank you.

Shoe box appeal

As is in previous years, we are supporting the Samaritan's Purse 'Operation Christmas Child'. For this worthy cause, we collect filled shoe boxes to send to less fortunate children across the world at Christmas time. Last year, we collected nearly 100 boxes. Mr Westmoreland is keen to beat our 2015 total of 161 boxes. There are plain, empty boxes that you can Christmas wrap or printed boxes for 50p at the school office. For further details about the scheme visit: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child>. Mr Westmoreland has already launched the campaign with the children in a recent assembly. The deadline for the Shoeboxes is Thursday 22nd November.

Poppy appeal

We have a selection of poppy merchandise and traditional paper poppies on sale in the school office in aid of the Royal British Legion.

Website update

Our new website is due to go live over the half term break. We will continue to add new content over the coming weeks and welcome suggestions for further things you would like to have on the website. We hope that you enjoy using our new website.

Attendance reminder

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. If we are unable to contact you about an absence, we will carry out a home visit. We ask that you phone school on 0113 2821344 or text on 07797 801419 (this is a free service) before 9am. If your child's attendance starts to cause concern, you will be contacted to attend a meeting in school to discuss.

Our current attendance figure for this year is: 96.3%

Data sheets

If you have not already done so, please return your child's data collection sheet. Please check them carefully and update any details as necessary. Please ensure that you provide more than one contact for your child. If you change your details during the year, please inform the office.

