



Overdale C.P Primary School

October - Newsletter 2023 'Respect, Responsibility, Resilience'

Thank you!

A huge thank you for the support of our parents this half term. You have supported us by completing our school improvement survey, visiting our school for our meet our child's teacher week and by giving us lots of feedback around key aspects of our school life such as our entry procedure. I hope you had a chance to look at our 'You said, We Did' poster which demonstrates how we are listening to our families to ensure that our school continues to be an enjoyable place for our children to learn, grow and make lots of amazing memories. Finally, a huge thank you for partaking in our Therapy Dog selection and name choosing process. This will help the children to feel that our new addition is a part of the Overdale family.

An Exciting Term Planned

Parents Evening

18th and 19th October 2023 – You should now have received booking details for this – if you require any assistance with this please contact Miss Cammish in the office to help. Please come to the office to sign in, you will then be taken to the SEMH room where you will be able to wait for your child's appointment. Wit this being the first parents evening books will not be available.

EYFS Open Evening

8th November – A chance for us to showcase our Early Years to any prospective parents.

Anti Bullying Week

13th-17th November – We will send further communication about an odd socks day and lots of other ideas to support anti-bullying in school

Children in Need Day

17th November 2023 – Wear something SPOTacular – information to follow

EYFS Xmas Performance

14th December 2023 – More information to follow

KS1 Xmas performance

19th December 2023 - More information to follow

Christmas Dinner

20th December 2023 - More information to follow

Christmas party and fair

Thursday 21st December – EYFS 4-5pm, KS1 – 5-6pm KS2 – 6-7pm

Diary Dates

See our exciting term information for important dates

INSET DAYS

Mon 6th Nov 2023
Mon 8th Jan 2024
Mon 8th Apr 2024
Monday 22nd July

Bonfire Night Dinner

We will be doing a special bonfire night dinner on Friday 27th October. Keep your eyes peeled for the menu coming soon!



Term dates

<https://overdalecps.co.uk/w3/termdates>

Attendance

Well done

We are currently at 95.2% for our attendance this term. This is a big improvement on where we were at this time last Year. This is down to our family following our new attendance policy and ensuring they are following the guidance. Keep your eyes peeled for more updates on our ClassDojo page for more guidance and information around attendance.

COVID/Holidays

We have a number of children returning from supposed COVID/ long-term illness and telling us that they have in fact gone on a holiday. Can I please request that parents are honest with why their children are absent from school? As a school, we have a legal responsibility to follow up on reported illnesses and this can lead to our pastoral lead, SLT or office manager needing to conduct a home visit. This is valuable time and also can lead to us needing to report to the police if the child is not present. This can be prevented with honesty. Any families that have been on holiday but have stated it as an illness may still be fined which would have been the case in the first place. Thank you.

Meetings

We will be holding meetings in the last week of this half term for those children who have low attendance or have been persistently late. You will be invited to this via a letter if your child is one who has low attendance/ persistently late.

You may also receive a DOJO message from your child's class teacher regarding attendance and lateness to see if there is anything else that we can do to help with this.

Travel to school

I would encourage all parents and children to walk to school where possible. Where we are lucky to have a number of car parking spaces, these can soon be taken up.

Our neighbours are Jazz Court and they have a car park but it states that it is a PRIVATE CAR PARK and for the use of JAZZ COURT STAFF and RESIDENTS ONLY. Please observe these requests as we have a positive relationship with the staff there and wish to continue this into the future. Please do not park on the yellow lines on the turning circle. This prevents children crossing the road from seeing oncoming traffic. SLT will be available to keep our children safe and remind parents of our requests around parking.



Cycle/ scooter helmets

Again, a huge thank you for children and families for purchasing and bringing their helmets to school. It was made clear on Dojo that any pupils that were not bringing their helmets with a scooter or bicycle would not be able to access the bike shed. This will remain in place for the foreseeable. I still have some local residents and families reporting that children are not wearing them on the way to school. As a school, we hope that children decide to them wear them to prevent the risk of harm if a child is to fall off their bike or scooter.

Website

We seem to be having an issue with Google and our website being easily accessible. Here is the link to the website www.overdalecps.co.uk/w3 Here you will find information around term dates, our curriculum, all of our newsletters and much more. Please access via the link and I am told that this will push our website up the list on Google



Therapy Dog

You may have seen on ClassDojo that school will be purchasing a therapy dog. There are a number of benefits to a therapy dog for all children but particularly children with anxiety, autism, ADHD, behavioural and SEMH issues. The Cockapoo, whose name will be announced in this week's assembly will be brought up around the children and staff of Overdale. A risk assessment, insurance, training and slow introduction to the dog will ensure that it is a successful process. Shortly, school will be asking for donations to support the upbringing of our new addition. We have already had an offer from a parent for free grooming and for this we are extremely grateful. Any additional support would be greatly appreciated.

To ensure all runs smoothly, once old enough, our new pet will stay mainly in the Head teacher, Admin or SEMH office. Families will be consulted to ensure opportunity is given for parents to inform us of any fears or serious allergies. Regular risk assessments will then be conducted to ensure that the dog is then not exposed to these pupils without due care. The dog will be on a lead at all times in school and children will be informed of how to behave around the dog and to remain calm and sensible around it. The dog will at no point be walked around the school and into classes unplanned or at random as we do not want to distract our children from their work



Allergens in school.

If your child has a food allergen and a meeting has not been conducted previously, we will be contacting you to attend a meeting with Mrs Campbell (SENCO), and the catering services to review the food options and menu provisions we can offer in school. North Yorkshire County Caterers have reviewed their provision for children with allergies to ensure as many food options are made available to each child as is possible.

Medicines

If your child uses an inhaler, they **MUST** bring it into school with them and you must complete an asthma form at the office. If your child has an epi pen or any other medical requirements, they will need to be in place for child ASAP.



2 year old provision

Our application to become a 2 year old provision is going well. We aim to have this open in January to allow us time to ensure we are adequately staffed and have a high quality setting to welcome this age group. Further updates will be coming soon in relation to places etc. I know some have put their children's names forward already.

Christmas Party and Fayre - Friends and Family of Overdale

On the 21st December I would like for Overdale children and family to celebrate Christmas and celebrate being a part of this amazing school. A number of parents have approached me to support with the planning and preparation for this event and I would love to meet to begin to plan a celebration for all. I am hoping to have Christmas stalls, a DJ, face paint and a Santa's Grotto. Money raised from this event will go straight back into the school and fund school trips for children. I will be approaching parents in the coming weeks to begin to put a plan together. The EYFS party will be on 4-5pm, KS1 5-6pm and KS2 6-7pm

