



Overdale C.P Primary School

May 2022– Newsletter 10 'Respect, Responsibility, Resilience'

Term 3

This is the Term where we finally get to OFFICIALLY open our new school. On Tuesday 24th May, we will be joining the opening of our school with a celebration of the Queens Jubilee.

The morning in classes we will be doing activities about our new school: poems, written accounts, crafts, making and putting up bunting etc.

At lunchtime a 'cream tea' style lunchbox for every child to have their lunch on the field in class groups.

1.30pm - Dignitaries will arrive and be shown around our school by Year 6. Press arrive to take pictures of the event.

2pm - Classes are on the car park to watch the cutting of the ribbon, parents are welcome on the path at the front of school to hear the speeches and watch the cutting of the ribbon. Children will be singing the school song alongside songs from each of the teaching phases.

The official 'Ribbon' to be cut by our Chair of Governors and a child from every class Y1 to Y6 (7 children) who may read a poem or say a sentence on behalf of their class about the new school.

3pm children leave at the end of the school day

We will also be inviting staff from the past so this will be a lovely time to say 'hello'.

Communication

We are now very close to becoming a paperless school, which is wonderful for the environment. Please ensure you are connected to Dojo's as this is the main way we communicate with Parents, the App is easy to set up and the school office staff will support you with this if you have an issues.

The Newsletter is always posted on the website and text alerts are sent to notify you of new information when it is posted on the website. Texts are also used for short messages; detailed messages have to be on Dojo's as this system can carry more text.

Diary Dates



Official opening of school

Tues 24th May
2pm for parents to view

Winning Ruby team trip to Bowling

Wed 25th May

Sports Day

Wed 22nd June

INSET DAYS

Mon 6th June
Mon 25th July

May Half Term

Monday 30th May –
Friday 3rd June

School re-opens

Tuesday 7th June

Written Reports home

Wed 20th July

School Year Ends

Fri 22nd July



Health and Safety

Bikes / scooters

We are thrilled that some children have chosen to come to school on their bike or scooter. It is important that all riders wear a helmet when arriving at school on a bike / scooter, going forward we will only store bikes / scooters for children wearing safety helmets.

We recognise that coming into school with bikes is a challenge so, from Monday 16th May we will be directing children to walk around the KS2 classrooms to their class, after dropping off their bikes, and a member of staff will be at the gate to ensure children do not return to the exit path.

New entry / exit routines

Thank you for your patience and for sharing your ideas about how to make the process the best it can be for everyone. We know change can be a challenge, especially when it involves managing over 200 children and the 200 parents.

On reflection of the system we are changing the KS1 home time child collection practice from Monday 16th May to enable a smoother handover to parents. Parents will come through the gate and onto the playground at 2.55pm approx. when the gate is opened and wait outside their child's classroom for the staff to hand over the child directly to parents at 3pm. KS2 children will be crossing the playground at 3.05pm, by which time KS1 children will have left the school site.

Post Covid updates

We are operating school as we were in pre-lockdown. Additional cleaning has ceased, but we remain careful about classroom hygiene going forward.

We will not be able to authorise holidays that moved to the school year 2022 / 2023 due to Covid. When a child is absent due to Covid this will now be a part of their overall school absence.

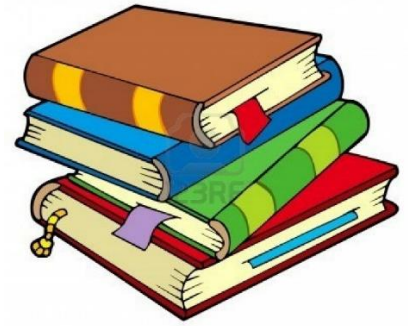
Attendance

Our attendance for Term 3 is **92.63%** and this is now mainly due to holidays and the return of some of the germs we have always had to deal with: chicken pox, sickness bug, etc.

Please report your child's absence correctly, we have had children talking to us about their holidays when returning to school when parents have reported that their child is absent because they have covid. It is important we record the correct reason for pupil absence. It is also important for children to know that telling the truth is the correct thing to do at all times. Please telephone the school office to report an absence, and not on DOJO, as the teachers sometimes do not pick the message up before class starts on a morning. Thank you for your support.

After school provision (Wrap around Care)

We have a few vacant places in our after school provision which started after February half term. The sessions need to be booked one week in advance so that we can staff the sessions in line with guidance. The cost of the sessions is £5 per day and payment needs to be made on Parentpay each week. The class will not have more than 15 children in to the end of the year, with 2 staff responsible for the provision.



Breakfast club

Advanced notice

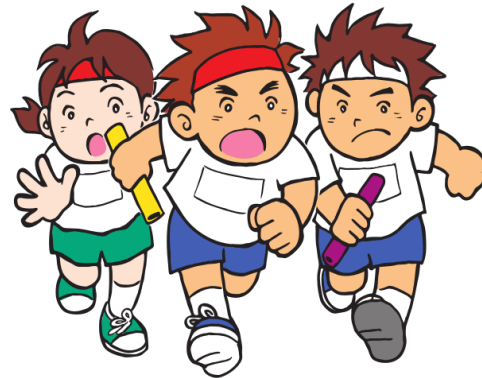
Breakfast club will be closed on the last day of term, Friday 22nd July 2022.

PE kit

Please ensure your child has kit in school every week from Monday to Friday.

PE is a statutory requirement within the curriculum and we need children to have their kits in school, every week. Teachers will post changes of days on Dojo's to enable earrings to be left out on those days. **We are now preparing for Sports Day – this is not possible if children do not have kit. The date for this is Wednesday 22nd June, a timetable for classes will follow after half term holidays. Children cannot take part in Sports Day if they are unable to take their earrings out on the day.**

Please wait to have piercings done until the Summer holidays when they can heal and not impact on PE lessons.



Choir Club

This has not happened this half term due to low take up of places. The club was requested by the children, so we will try one more time to run the club every Monday 3pm to 3.45pm starting 13th June to the end of the school year. Your child needs to request a permission slip letter from their teacher or the school office.





Healthy schools status.

As a healthy school may we remind you that we do not accept sweets on school site, including sweets in lunch boxes, **or drinks other than milk or water.**

Respect water day – TUESDAY 17th May.

We will be having a sponsored event to raise money for the Ghana Outlook project and we hope this event will promote the value of easily accessible clean water that we are so lucky to have. The children will learn about how the Ghanaian children walk miles to a well of dirty water to collect water for their families to drink and cook with. We will ask them to walk around the school field carrying a small bucket of water and talk about how lucky we are not to have to do this in our modern lives. By doing this we hope that children will realise what a privilege it is to have clean drinking water 'on tap' and the value of drinking water regularly for 'good health'. Please support this event by making a donation on Parent Pay, our target is £500, so please support us if you can.

Staffing in Term 3

We welcome Miss Jordan to our team to support safeguarding our children and supporting families. Miss Jordan will be making FIRST calls to parents if their children are not in school. Miss Jordan will be responsible for progressing absences through the legal process when a child's absence from school reaches levels of concern.



Parent Consultations

We have sent out a survey for parents to complete regarding the recent consultation event. These are the findings from the 26 responses we received:

Successes

- Went well- Informative.
- Good to speak face to face and ask questions
- Good to have telephone option

Requests for change.

- Child care to be available – this will be available in Oct 2022
 - Increased communication prior to the event
 - One very specific ones which are to be reviewed individually with the teacher.
- Thank you to everyone who attended, our teachers enjoyed meeting many of you face to face for the first time



Parent Parking.

We have now opened the car park at the Community Hub end of the school for parent parking. Please use the facility and please park only within the allocated parking bays. Also note there is no access to school from the car park, please use the school path below the car park or the gates at the front of school. We hope to have additional parking available to the top end of the car park soon.

Winning Dojo Team Trip

Ruby team has won the special trip for the most Dojo's this term. They will be going bowling to Olympia leisure centre and having a buffet lunch there with special ice creams for pudding. This will be on Wednesday 25th May. Look out on class DOJO for more information.

Swimming

Year 6 are very much on track to achieve in line with past years swimming success. We would like to give Y6 parents the opportunity to watch the swimming session on Monday 23rd May. We can offer some seats on the school bus, but parents can also go to the pool by their own method of transport and join us at the pool. Please call the school office if you would like a seat on the bus to attend the session. This is for Year 6 only; Year 5 parents will be offered this later in the programme when the children have achieved swimming awards. Year 5 have just started the programme and they are already settled into 3 groups and enthusiastic about swimming. After a reluctant start to the programme, the majority of them are now keen to take part in the swim session and are beginning to show they will achieve well. We know this is going to be another great swimming group.



Y6 SAT's

The Y6 children have been amazing, we are so very proud of them. They have managed their assessments with maturity and a sensible attitude. THANK YOU YEAR 6
We look forward to your end of year performance and seeing you prepare for Key Stage 3

Y2 SAT's

We are proud of our Year 2 children too. They have completed their assessments as part of their daily teaching and we are very impressed with their attitude and sensible approach. You have shown us you are ready for the challenges of Key Stage 2. WELL DONE.

Year 1 Phonic screening will be happening after the half term holiday.

Thank you for your ongoing support in the last 2 terms, despite the virus challenges we have managed to stay open. We will progress through to the end of Term 3 hoping to reinstate 'normal' provision by the end of the year.

All Staff at Overdale School

