



Overdale C.P Primary School

April 2022– Newsletter 9 ‘Respect, Responsibility, Resilience’

Term 2

It has been a more challenging half term than expected due to staff absence, just when we thought we were moving on with the virus impacts, it has returned to cause issues all over again. Also, the virus has left many of us, staff and children susceptible to picking up the annual viruses that come into school: colds, sore throats and upset tummies not to mention chicken pox. However, we continue to be vigilant in our practices to avoid the spread of all infections and this is all we can do.

Safeguarding

The school was inspected on Wednesday 30th March by the Local Authority with a focus on Safeguarding. We are thrilled to report that the schools review had a very positive outcome with the advisor stating:

It is clear to see that safeguarding is a high priority within the culture of Overdale school.

Covid updates

We are very unsure about provision in school going forward, and guidance for schools can be a challenge to interpret.

There is no longer a requirement for staff to test weekly for covid and school is not able to provide the free tests for staff. This means we could have asymptomatic cases in school. Staff can return to school after 5 days absence without needing a negative test.

Children are only required to stay at home for 3 days.

We are grateful to parents for informing us of positive cases and for keeping infected children at home.

We are continuing to observe the guidance as it is sent to us by North Yorkshire and the Government, which came into action on 1 April.

Presently we are continuing to:

Hand washing regularly, children, staff and visitors into school, having key touch points and toilets cleaned at midday.

Working on 5 days isolation after virus infection.

Wiping down class tables when groups change activity

Diary Dates



Bank Holiday in term time

Monday 2nd May

INSET DAYS

Mon 6th June

Mon 25th July

Easter Half Term

Monday 11th April-
Friday 22nd April

School re-opens

Monday 25th April

Attendance

Our attendance for mid year is 94.9% We have honoured requests for holidays in term time which have had to be taken after cancellations due to Covid19, with the exception of Year 6, where the children are studying for their end of year SAT's and hence it is very important for them to be in school every day.

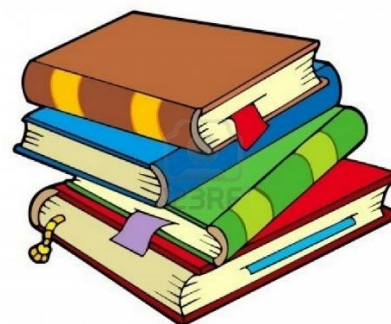
All children (and staff!) are expected to attend school on their birthdays, a birthday in school is a day children will enjoy sharing with their peers, please set appropriate lifelong expectations with your child and send them to school on their birthday. Absence for a birthday is an unauthorised absence and will appear on your child's report.

After school provision

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. The class will not have more than 15 children in the end of the year, with 2 staff responsible for the provision, if the sessions need to expand this will happen in September.

Homework Club

This is an ideal way for children to access support to complete their homework. The sessions are on every Wednesday 3pm to 4pm for Key Stage 2 children, with Miss Quinn and Mrs Meads. New members are welcome to join, please contact the school office and request a permission slip, if you would like your child to join.

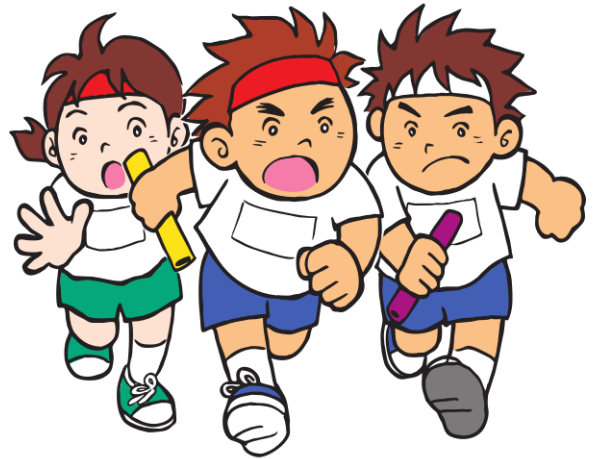


Breakfast club

Breakfast club will be closed on the last day of term, Friday 8th April 2022.

PE kit

Please ensure your child has kit in school every week from Monday to Friday. Senior leaders have been around school teaching classes where staff have been absent and we are shocked at the number of children who do not PE kits in school. This 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 left out on those days.



Healthy Schools
North Yorkshire

Parent Consultations

We still hope to host these Face to Face, but we must wait until the number of virus infections across the staff team reduces.

As soon as we are able to go ahead with them we will notify you by text and Dojo's. This is planned for the second week into the new term. If this is not possible before the end of term, we will make the appointments by telephone, booked at an agreed time with you.

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.

If you would like to end in something to recognise your child's birthday we recommend that you choose a book and sign it inside the cover with a reference to who donated it and the birthday date and child's age. Thank you for your support.

Staffing in Term 3

Unfortunately we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Welford-Hall as Parent Support Advisor, at the end of term as she moves onto pastures new. We wish Mrs Welford-Hall the very best of luck with her new adventure.

We have advertised for a 'Health and Wellbeing Officer' to join our team in Term 3. This a new role for Overdale and we are introducing this role as we have many children demonstrating low levels of emotional resilience since the lockdown. This shows as struggling to make choices, becoming emotional more frequently than usual, struggling to explain their actions and feelings.

Children are participating in NURTURE sessions with Mrs McWilliams and this is supporting them well. Some children are struggling to come into school telling us simply, I'd rather be at home, and we need to work support them to understand that attending school is for their benefit and success. This is a post lockdown symptom that we will address by strengthening resilience in our Overdale school family through changes in our curriculum and our new Relationships and Behaviour Policy.



'Don't be a bully, always show respect'

Anti bullying week

This was a successful week across school. All classes agreed a class slogan and these were voted on in the school council. Examples of the taught sessions are on class Dojo.

The winning slogan for the whole school is: 'Don't be a bully, always show respect' this was created by Year 4 and the poster design came from Year 6 and Year 2 have set the actions.



Easter concerts for Year 5 Parents

This is an opportunity for Year 5 parents to hear their children sing the song they wrote and see them perform our school song. We will also invite the parents of the children who are playing recorders and ringing bells. This will happen early in Term 3. An invitation will be posted on Dojo's.

School Song

We are very proud of our **NEW OVERDALE SONG** This has been written by Year 5 and this again is on the Dojo site for you to listen to. The school is all about the school's values and how the 3 R's in our motto display across school. The song has 3 verses, a chorus (sang in 2 parts) as well as an instrumental verse where the recorders and bell ringers play. We sing this song every Friday in our Celebration assembly, when we celebrate with the children have been chosen for the Respect Awards and the Resilience Awards.

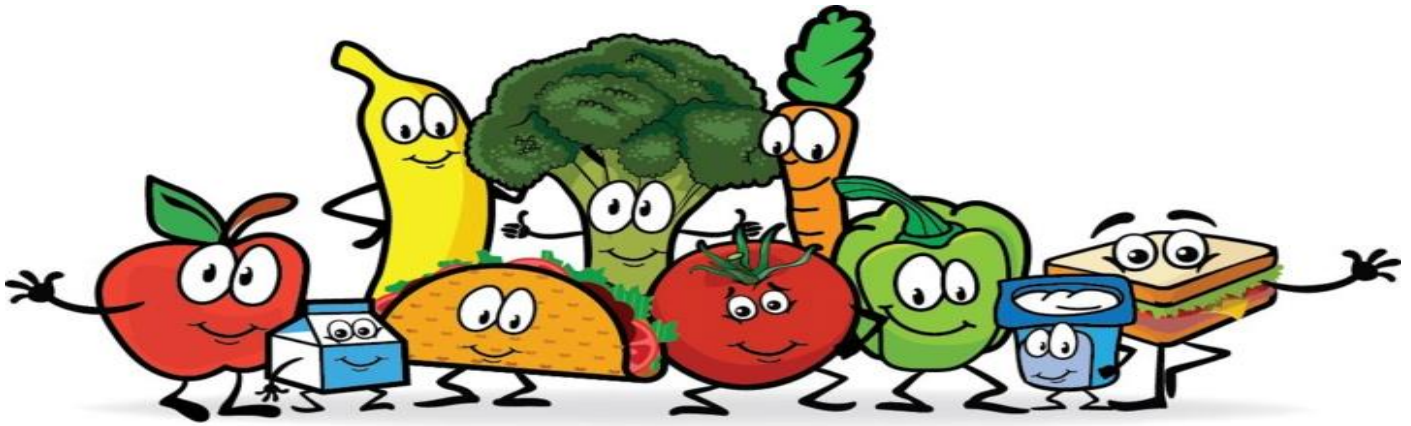


Swimming

Year 5 and Year 6 are now swimming every Monday morning and we hope to catch up with the programme we have fallen behind with during covid.

Year 6 are very much on track to achieve in line with past years pre-covid, which is credit to them. Our target is 25 children out of 29 children (86%) to be swimming at National Curriculum expectations by the end of the school year with 8 children (31%) achieving the Mastery standard for school swimming. This will be a great achievement for Year 6 and we are very proud of them for their resilient approach to swimming.

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.



Important visitors to school

Stuart Carlton, Director for Education visited the school on Friday 4th March, to look at our school meal provision and see our new building. Mr Carlton was very impressed with the school meal provision and gave many complements to the children and the staff across all areas of the school. He has published his report and this can be seen through the link below. A huge thank you to the parents and our Y6 pupils who gave their time and energy to support the school with this campaign.

Official opening of the school

A date has been set for this- 24th May 2022. We are unsure of the programme as yet, but we will give more details when we have them.

Parent Parking.

This has been seen by Stuart Carlton (director of Education) when he visited the school on Friday 4th March. Mr Carlton will support the school to improve the parking provision and address the unsafe parent parking that is presently putting the safety of our children at risk. We will be sending letters to the minority of parents who continue to park and drive inappropriately.

We have been informed that the safe access path will be open after Easter and the body of water that presently causes us concerns will be safely fenced off. When the access path is open we will send out the new expectations for entry and exiting school, using the path. This will reduce the need for children or parents to be at the front of the school at these times.

We are very grateful to all the parents who now park away from the turning circle as this has enabled safety around school start and finishing times to be much better

Y6 SAT's

The dates for these are Monday 9th May concluding on Thursday 16th May. Please ensure your child does not have any appointments during this week. We also ask that you ensure they have a restful weekend prior to the event and that they arrive in school calm and positive about the assessments. There is no reason to worry about the test, this is a standard practise for end of KS2 pupils, and we very much want every child do their best, but we do not want any child to be concerned about them.

We will provide a special breakfast on these days and the children will have Yoga / calming sessions prior to the tests with Mrs Logan.

We are hoping to plan a residential visit for the children after the SAT's, as they have missed this during the lockdown. We will send dates, plans and costs when we have them finalised.



Time
for
Exams

classroomclipart.com
http://classroomclipart.com



Thank you for your ongoing support in the last term, despite the virus challenges we have managed to stay open.

We wish you a happy and healthy Easter.

All Staff at Overdale School

