 **Overdale C.P Primary School**

**March - Newsletter 2024 ‘Respect, Responsibility, Resilience’**

Ofsted Thank You

A huge thank you for your support with the recent Ofsted inspection. As highlighted in a number of news articles, this process can be a stressful and difficult time for both leadership and teachers. You’re support and messages of encouragement were greatly appreciated. The report will be available to read shortly but the inspector was impressed with the calm and purposeful school environment and the learning that was taking place. He was also very impressed with the number of positive comments on the parent surveys. Thank you to our parents and families that took time out of their lives to leave positive comments.

**Diary Dates**

**See our exciting term information for important dates**

**INSET DAYS**

Mon 8th Apr 2024

Monday 22nd July

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**Term dates**

[**https://overdalecps.co.uk/w3/termdates.php**](https://overdalecps.co.uk/w3/termdates.php)

 **World book day**

**This Thursday 7th March we celebrate World Book Day. A day where the children and staff can share their love for reading by dressing as their favourite character or bringing in their favourite book and wearing casual clothes. There will be a range of activities throughout the day and Mr Lawton, our reading for enjoyment lead, will update all families and carers with pictures and events from the day. All staff are working hard to find out which books spark our pupil’s interests and parents are invited in at the end of the day to support their child in sharing their interests.**

**Red Nose Day**

**On Friday 15th March we celebrate Red Nose Day. Red Nose Day is an annual fundraising campaign created by** [**Comic Relief**](https://www.twinkl.co.uk/event/comic-relief-uk-2024)**to help raise awareness of and put an end to child poverty. If possible, could your child wear something red and bring a £1 into school. School will hopefully be sent some Red Nose day merchandise to sell to the children. Once we know, we will inform parents and carers. If we are not sent them this year, Red Noses and other official merchandise can also be bought from the**[**Red Nose Day website**](https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday)**.**



**Easter Bingo**

Overdale is running its very first Easter Bingo evening. To continue to fundraise for our pupils trips and visits, the school will be hosting a bingo event. We will be holding a casual clothes day on the 18th March and instead of bringing a monetary donation, they are to bring an Easter Egg, large or small. These will then act as prizes later in the night. A game of bingo will cost £2 and 6 games will cost £10. A link will be placed on Dojo for you to inform us of your attendance. We will then look at numbers before deciding whether to split the bingo evening into two hour sessions or one for the whole school.

School uniform

We seem to have an increasing number of children wearing hoodies or jumpers that are not part of our school uniform. Please can we ensure that children are in the school uniform that is stated on the school website and relevant policy. If you are struggling with purchasing school uniform please let us know. We will soon be doing a school drive for parents to bring in any uniform that their children have outgrown etc and we also aim to have some reserves that your child can wear.



**Parents Evening**

Parents Evening will be held on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March. In this Parents Evening, teachers will be making all of your children’s books available to view and will be passing on detailed information about where they are at with their learning, behaviour and social skills. Miss Cammish at the office will be setting up the booking system for this. A Dojo message and a text will be sent when this is live for booking. If you have any difficulties making bookings please contact the school office where they will be able to do this for you.

**Attendance**

**Well done**

We are currently at 93.5% for our attendance this term. This is a big improvement on where we were at this time last Year, however has decreased since the last newsletter. The decrease is due to the winter bug season and hopefully now that is gone we can get back to aiming for 96%. We thank all our families for following our new attendance policy and guidance. Keep your eyes peeled for more updates on our ClassDojo page for more guidance and information around attendance.

**Inform school**

Please inform school as soon as possible if your child is ill and is therefore going to be absent from school. This will allow us to place this on the register and not need to conduct a house visit if we have any concerns. We know that at this time of year there are lots of illnesses going around. Please refer to the NHS guidance ‘is my child too ill for school?’ <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> if you have concerns as to whether your child is well enough to attend or not.

**Punctuality**

Being late can also impact your child’s attendance, please remember that the gates open at 8.40am, and registers close at 8.50am, after this your child will be marked as late and after 9am will be unauthorised late. This can then lead to a decrease in attendance. Please ensure your child arrives to school on time!

**Nurture award**

Mrs McWilliams will soon be starting up the Nurture sessions again to support our children who have been assessed as being low in a number of key areas such as Attention and Listening, social difficulties and low emotional resilience. If your child has been identified as needing some support, you will receive a Dojo to inform you and be given an opportunity to talk to Mrs McWilliams about any concerns you may have.

**Time to say goodbye**

We have two longstanding members of staff leaving us this half term. The amazing Mrs Mills will be leaving at the end of the half term to spend more time with her beautiful family. Mr Fox will be making his semi-retirement a full retirement. Both of these members of staff will very much be missed. They have gone above and beyond to help our school and we are very grateful. With the departure of Mrs Mills, we welcome back the wonderful Mrs Kirby who will take over Mrs Mills’ role as year 4 co-teacher with Mrs Livingstone. Mr Bowman will be the new caretaker. I know what you are thinking… Mr Bowman, the headteacher is not branching out into the upkeep of our site but his father is. Mr Geoffrey Bowman has 2 years experience of caretaking in another primary school and we are looking forward to welcoming him to our school to bring his skills and expertise.



**Medication in school**

Please can I remind parents that if your child requires medicine in school this needs to be organised through the office. If it is a prescription, you will need to sign a medical form and your child will need to self-administer or an agreed family member will need to pop in to administer.



**School parking**

Please can I remind you again not to park on our double yellow lines outside the school gates. This is a crossing point for a large number of our parents and it blocks the view of approaching cars for children to safely cross the road. We have a number of parking spaces available and we would encourage you to start to walk now that we are heading into lighter nights and better weather.



