Issue 4

Feb 2017

Oxford Road Community School Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

We pride ourselves on our school attendance. It is a real strength and we are proud that our children want to come to school. Did you know, if your child's attendance is at 90% they are missing half a day a week, and if it falls to 80% they are missing a day of learning **every** week. Last year we lost 321 days of learning just through families taking holidays (more than 1 child absent every day of the year). Please support the school by not taking your holidays during term time. Every day is a new learning opportunity and we want to make the most of them. Many thanks Claire Hurst

Parent Pay

As you know, we have recently made a decision to use Parent Pay to take payment for all trips, clubs, sports activities and school uniform, as well as for school meals. This has been a real success.

Mrs Callard, Mrs Tulloch and Mrs Wardle would like to express a huge 'thank you' to all our families for using the system so quickly and efficiently. It has made a significant difference to money collection and organisation within the school and we hope it has made a positive difference to you as well, not having to send in small amounts of cash for different school activities. Thank you

Homework

We have introduced a new approach to homework after the holidays.

- *The teachers are giving the children 9 activities they can complete over a term.*
- *There are three maths activities, three literacy activities and three topic activities.*
- *Each activity has a mild, spicy and HHH challenge, with dojo points awarded for each level of challenge.*
- *We expect children to complete one of the activities a week over the term.*
- *At the end of each term, each class will have an open afternoon for parents to come in and see all the children's homework contribution.*

We hope parents will enjoy our new approach to homework and would appreciate any feedback over the next few weeks. Please come and join us on **Wednesday 8th February at 2.30pm** to come and see all the wonderful examples of homework that has been completed this term and to speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

Come Dine With Us!

A huge thank you to all the families who supported our healthy eating day and booked a dinner for their child. We had 208 children eating in the Global Café on Thursday, along with the staff, which was amazing! There were many positive and enthusiastic comments from the children about the meal, especially those who don't normally have a school dinner. Please have a conversation with your child about their meal and see whether they would like to have a school dinner everyday. They are always healthy, nutritional and tasty.

Don't forget, if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 they are entitled to a free school meal every day!

After School Club

After school club is a great facility in school and we are thrilled we have so many children attending. Can we please remind parents that sessions must be booked in advance and not on the day. We have to ensure our staffing ratios are right which needs planning in advance. Many thanks for your support with this.

Blood Donation

Caversham Road Fire Station
Reading, RG1 8AA
Monday 6th March 2017
10:30-13:00 & 14:15-17:15
0300 123 2323
Or visit blood.co.uk

Just 1 extra appointment following this advert, that you may be able to provide, could go on to save or improve the life of 3 people - so your help is greatly appreciated!

www.oxfordroad.reading.sch.uk for copies of our newsletter – Claire Hurst, Headteacher.

Dates For Your Diary	
February 2017	
Friday 3rd	Year 1 Assembly 2.30pm Parents Welcome
Tuesday 7th	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 8th	Governors Day Homework Celebration Afternoon 2.30pm All parents welcome.
Friday 10th	End of term
HALF TERM - Monday 13th Feb – Friday 17th Feb	
Monday 20th	Children back to school
Tuesday 21st	Bcyberwise Esafety Sessions Year 4, 5,& 6
Thursday 23rd	Chartwells Cooking Event – Ready, Steady, Cook and Wok Challenge
March 2017	
Thursday 2nd	World Book Day
Friday 3rd	Year 2 Assembly
Tuesday 7th	Year 3 Kwick Cricket Festival Parents Evening 3.30pm – 7pm
Wednesday 8th	Parents Evening 3.30pm – 5pm
Wednesday 15th	KS2 to Salvation Army
Thursday 16th	Chartwells Taster Session – Global Café 2.30pm – 3.30pm
Friday 17th	Year 5 Assembly 2.30pm Parents Welcome
Friday 24th	Red Nose Day!
Tuesday 28th	Year 6 Football Festival
April 2017	
Wednesday 5th	Year 3 & 4 Production 2.00pm
Friday 7th	End of Term School closes 1.30pm
HOLIDAY - Monday 10TH April – Monday 24TH April	
Tuesday 25th	Children back to school
May 2017	
Monday 8th	KS2 SAT's Week
Friday 12th	Year 4 Assembly (Hawthorn 1) 2.30pm Parents Welcome

Reminder – If your child attends a club that does not start at 3pm you are expected to collect them and bring them back at the start time. If you are unable to do this then please ask about using our short sessions at After School Club. Thank you

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