



Newsletter 1 Autumn Term

11 September 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

The children have settled well into their new classes and are working hard-it's as if they've never been away! Over the next few weeks after school clubs and extra-curricular activities will be arranged, so please look out for e-mails with the details of them.

You will already have received a flyer from Musical Box, who teach more contemporary music in school. We are really lucky as we are the only school the company comes to, but unfortunately, they have informed us that unless they get more students (now that last year's very musical Year 6s have moved on) they won't be able to continue.

Health and Safety

Just a reminder that we ask you **not** to take your children into the cloakrooms in the morning, mainly for health and safety reasons-there just isn't room for adults and children in the small spaces and children can very easily be hurt on the cloakroom pegs if they end up being squashed against them. It also helps develop the children's independence and organisational skills if they are encouraged to bring their own belongings into school, say "Goodbye" at the door and deal with their own coat, book bag and lunch box.

Free School Meals

Can I remind you that if your child is in EYFS or Key Stage 1 they are entitled to a free school meal? However, if you receive any financial help from the government e.g. housing benefit, whichever class your child is in, please let us know, as we can get extra money to support their education (even if you don't take up the free school meal).

Attendance

Thank you so much for your support last year, where attendance is concerned. We had a whole school attendance figure of 97.15% over the year and an unauthorised absence figure of 0.46%, which is fantastic. Obviously, we can always do better, so please can I remind you that we are able to administer **prescribed medicines** in school and that research has shown that low attendance does affect a child's progress. It is part of my role to monitor attendance and lateness weekly and to report persistent absence and lateness to the County Welfare Officer. Lessons begin at 8:50am and classes are always set a morning activity, so latecomers are missing out on vital learning.

Volunteer Readers

We are looking for a few more volunteer readers for the coming year. If you are interested in coming into school every week to hear children read, please let me know. It benefits our children greatly!

Documents

In the next week you will be receiving a series of documents from the School Office, which we have to send annually. I would ask you to return the completed forms as soon as possible, so that Mrs Yeomans can complete our records. If you have any problems printing any of the forms, please let us know. Thank you for your help.

New Secondary School Bicester

A new secondary school is planned in Bicester, on the Kingsmere development. There is a period of consultation to plan the school and to try and find out what parents would like. Below is the link to the consultation. There will be a drop in evening scheduled in due course.

<https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult.ti/SecSWBic/consultationHome>

FOFS

We held our annual Meet the Teacher evening on Monday, and sandwiched the FOFS AGM in between the sets of meetings. I felt this proved to be quite successful, as we had quite a good turnout-many thanks to all of you who attended. A new committee was elected at the time, however we are still without a chairman. If you would like to take on the role (it's not as scary as it might seem and we're all here to offer support) please let a member of staff know. Having done the role myself, when my children were at school, I know what a fulfilling job it can be.

Can I take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to the out-going committee, who have worked tirelessly to raise much needed funds for the school? The children have benefitted greatly from all their hard work, with trips and curriculum visits having been paid for or subsidised, and money towards our new i-pads (coming soon!) having been raised. Thank you to Angus, Linda, Paul, Chris and Jo for the past few years, and also to Kate, Stephanie, Petra and Sam who are staying on the committee.

Cycling Proficiency

Thank you very much to Mrs Potter, who has offered to assist Mrs Palmer with the cycling proficiency. Courses will be arranged in due course.

School Development

At the beginning of every academic year I have to write a School Development Plan to show what we plan to do to improve outcomes (standards and ethos) of our school. If you have any suggestions as to how we can achieve our vision, please let me know.

Syria

Finally, once again a big thank you for supporting the children in their fund-raising efforts. The response to their appeal for dried and tinned foods for the Syrian Refugee Appeal was amazing. Thank you too, to Ms Leaver for taking everything to the collection point.

Have a great weekend.

Regards

Debbie McLeod
Headteacher

SCHOOL DIARY

14 September-Life Education Bus
15 September-Life Education Bus
8 October- Library Van
16th October- INSET
26 October- Half Term
2 November- Back to School
2 November- Year 6 Residential at Yenworthy All Week
12 November- Library Van
2 December- KS1 Trip to the Pantomime
10 December- Library Van
18 December 3.15pm –End of Term

St Olave's invites you to

Messy Church!

13th September, 4.00-5.30

(And 2nd Sunday of every month, same time and place)

taking place at St Olave's Church, North
Street, Fritwell

Theme: Our World



All ages are welcome for a time of craft, stories, celebration and food. Children need to bring an adult!

Everyone welcome - just come along!

(Admission Free – Donations Welcome)

For any enquiries, please contact Grace on 07908227625