



ORTON WISTOW  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

A FOUNDING MEMBER  
OF THE

WISTOW WAYS



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MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome back to a new school year and a new look newsletter.

I hope that you have all had a restful summer and that your children have returned to school with their batteries fully recharged and excited about the year ahead. It was lovely to see them all looking so eager this morning and it was great to see so many children come into school without an adult. What a great start to the school year!

I always take time during the summer holidays to reflect on my work and realised that I am about to start my thirtieth year in teaching. I suddenly feel very old. I am grateful that I get to do it at Orton Wistow!

We are always looking for how we can improve what we do and take time to plan changes carefully. The start of a new school year is always very exciting and you will see in this edition that there are some new initiatives. We hope that you will agree that they are all positive changes. In the next few weeks we will send out further information and we also have our Curriculum Evening coming up on Tuesday 1 October.

This is a longer than normal newsletter as we have a lot to tell you about!

Simon Eardley - Headteacher

This Morning's Assembly Theme:

An introduction to our new positive behaviour system.

Polite • Respect • Independent • Do your best • Everybody matters



# Positive Behaviour Management

By Mr Eardley and Mr Marks

Promoting positive behaviour and good choices by the pupils at OWPS has always been a focus for us and each year we review the behaviour policy and adapt it to suit the needs of our school. In this year's Parent Questionnaire, 98% of parents said that they felt we ensured pupils were well behaved. In our staff questionnaire, 96% of staff said they felt that pupil behaviour was good. With results this positive, it would be easy to argue that we didn't need to make any changes. However, as a staff we felt that some of the existing systems had run their course and needed refreshing.

Last year we decided to carry out a more in-depth review of the current systems. We looked at international research on behaviour management, employed a specialist to lead staff training and we trialled new systems in some classes. The result of all this work is that we have created a new 'Positive Behaviour Policy' ready for the start of this academic year.

Our new policy has been introduced to the children today, so they may come home and talk to you about these changes. Although we will send you the new policy on Thursday, we wanted to give you a 'heads up' about the main changes.

There were some elements of practise that we were all keen to see remain, such as the PRIDE code, Learning Toolkit and the core principle that children need to be taught to make the right choice because it is 'the right thing to do' rather than for a reward.

However, there were other parts of the policy that we have decided to change or rebrand. These include the ABCD system and the Stage Forms as they had become less effective (particularly for certain year groups).

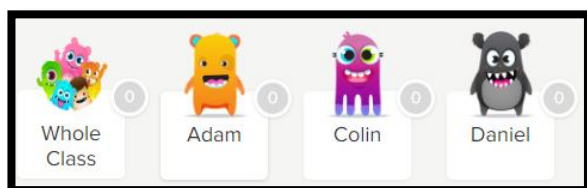
As it says in its title, the policy focuses heavily on 'Positive Behaviour' and we have always wanted to have a greater emphasis on this rather than the sanctions for making poor choices. The philosophy remains very much the same:

*'We encourage children to be responsible for their own behaviour and the choices they make. We encourage them to make the right choice in all situations in school and when they make the wrong choice we use these incidents as a learning opportunity. The children reflect on their behaviour and consider how it could be improved.'*

The new policy outlines the responsibilities of children, staff and the parents/carers to promote positive behaviour and there is a clear explanation of how good choices and going 'above and beyond' expectations are recognised in school.

We will continue to use many of the existing recognitions for positive behaviour, such as Shining Star certificates, PRIDE postcards and Honours Awards.

However, from today, all classes in Years 1-6 will now use the DoJo points system to promote good choices in school.



This is a web-based points system where individuals, groups or classes can be awarded a dojo point for a number of reasons by the adults in the school. The system was trialled very successfully by a few teachers already and you can find out more information at:

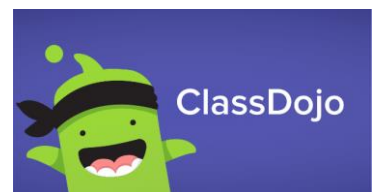
<https://www.classdojo.com/>

Alongside this there will be a 'Recognition Board' in every classroom.

Again, this is an idea that had been tested by a few teachers last year and is a very positive way of focusing on good choices and allowing the classes to choose targets related to things they need to improve.

The target is written on the board and the children will work together to try and achieve it. Once the target has been met, it can be changed for something else.

There is a marble jar on each display.



## Marbles will be awarded for:

- reaching the target
- when an individual receives a Golden Ticket by midday staff for good choices made at lunch time
- for the class being rewarded a certain amount of Dojo points,
- for the class achieving the 'number of times read at home' target, for a Shining Star/Honours Award.



One of the main ideas is that good choices benefit the individual but also the class as a whole. One of the strengths of the Recognition Board is that it is a target for all and it helps to promote children supporting and encouraging each other.

All children will still belong to one of the four Houses and House Points will now be awarded to children who receive a 'Did Great' stamp in their work. The number of DoJo points scored by each House each week will be converted into a set number of House Points and included in the weekly count. The House with the most House Points will receive the House Cup in Monday's assembly.

### Difficult Behaviour and Sanctions

Making mistakes in the way we behave is a natural part of the learning process; each mistake being an opportunity to learn and grow. However, repeating mistakes, especially when this is wilful, is not acceptable. In order to reinforce the

learning of good behaviour, it is sometimes necessary to apply sanctions or take other action to emphasise its importance.

Sanctions should be viewed as reinforcement of learning rather than in terms of retribution. Sanctions can also be a deterrent and a means of showing that our code of behaviour is important and needs to be followed.

To replace the ABCD system we are introducing the 'OWPS Steps'.

This system sets out clearly what positive behaviour is expected and what will happen if children make poor choices in school.

- The **Golden Step** is similar to the old Level D. It is something for all children to aim for, children will reach this when they go above and beyond the normal expectations of their behaviour.
- The **PRIDE Code Step** is like the old Level C. It is where most children at OWPS are most of the time:- following the PRIDE code, making good choices and helping to make our school a safe and happy place to learn and play.
- **Steps 1 – 5** set out the types of negative behaviour children may display in school and most importantly, it clearly states what will happen if they do.

For several years, our policy required children to be involved in choosing an appropriate sanction if they made poor behaviour choices. Although this was effective for many years, we began to find that some children would be harsher on themselves than necessary, whilst others were not bothered about sanctions. Under the new Steps system, children will not be asked to choose a consequence as it is already apparent what it will be.

One common sanction will be **Break POT** or **Lunch POT** (Place Of Thought).

If a child has behaved at Steps 2, 3 or 4 this will result in them having to spend a break time, a lunchtime or multiple lunchtimes in the POT. During the 15-minute break in the morning or for 30 minutes at lunchtime (half of lunchtime) they will be in the Break/Lunch POT space.

There will **always** be appropriate adult supervision and the children will spend the time reflecting on the choices they have made. They will be allowed to read or they could be asked to complete a letter of apology if necessary.

A STEPs Form will be completed with the child for any STEP 2, 3 or 4 incidents. The paper copy will be sent home with the child. When possible, the teacher will meet with the child's parent at the end of the day to inform them of the incident. When this is not possible, they will ring the parent.

Unlike the old Stage forms, these records are quick to complete by the adult dealing with the incident. The child will still have the opportunity to reflect on their choice through a discussion with the adult and often with time to think during a Break or Lunch POT session.

Step 2 - Behaviour	Consequence
Repeated incidence of Step 1 behaviour in the same session	<b>EYFS</b>
Unwillingness to co-operate/follow instructions	Reflective Time Out: 5 minutes
Minor challenge to authority	
Deliberate disruption of lesson	<b>KS1/2</b>
Rudeness to any pupil in school	Child attends next available
Use of inappropriate language	Break POT (Place of Thought)
Persistently breaking the same rule	where they will read quietly or
Impulsive fighting/hurting others	write a letter of apology
Spitting e.g. on the floor	
Telling lies	
Deliberate misuse of property/resources incl IT equipment*	*Removal of items
<b>Has been discussed with an adult</b>	
Adult:	Child:

It is important for us to recognise that, with 420 children in our school, there is no single behavior system that is going to work for every child. There will be times when we may choose a different approach to support an individual child and many of strategies are included in the new policy. When this is the case, we will always discuss these choices with the parents of the child.

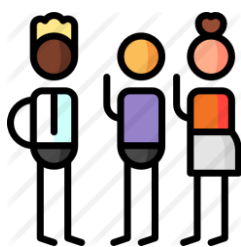
We also have children in our school with more complex needs and the way we deal with their behavior is bespoke to them. However, we do not ignore bad behavior and poor choices and using approaches such as 'Restorative Justice' and circle time sessions we ensure all children feel safe and are happy that incidents have been dealt with fairly and appropriately.

The full policy is on the school website and will be emailed to you on Letters Thursday.

## Staffing Update

By Mr Eardley

There were some staffing changes at the very end of last term and during the summer holidays.



Mrs Byrne was appointed as a Class TA and she will be working in the Armadillos Class.

Mrs Campbell resigned during the summer break and has been replaced by Miss Marchant, who will be the Class TA in the Flamingoes Class.

We have a vacancy for a Cleaner (3.00 – 6.00 each day) and details can be found on our website.

## Summer Holiday Projects

By Mr Eardley

During the summer, two new interactive iBoards were installed in the Foundations Stage classrooms. These new boards can be raised and lowered so that they can be used by the staff and children. We are looking forward to seeing them in action when the new FS children start next week.

We have also installed new lockers in the Year 3/4 cloakrooms and they look amazing. We hope that the lockers will help the children to keep the cloakrooms clean and tidy.

We have also installed new Hall Curtains at the end of the Hall to replace the blinds which had been damaged through wear and tear.



# Sports Development

By Mr Marks

All schools receive additional funding to develop sports.

This year we have signed up to a new provider, **Allison Consultancy**, who will be working with each of the three schools in the OWN Trust. We are very excited about this new change as it includes the following:



- (1) PE Co-ordinator Central Development and Networking Days for the PE Leads from each school
- (2) The introduction of Young Leaders – (pupil PE Ambassadors). This will include training for the Young Leaders so that they can play a part in creating and leading 'OWN Inter-Academy Competition Days'
- (3) MOT – Move Off & Think - Whole-Staff Training (Strategies to get children moving and simple approaches to planning for differentiation for children of all abilities)
- (4) Assessment - Implementing the PE Assessment Pack (support for PE Subject Lead and whole-staff)
  
- (5) Supporting teachers to plan and deliver high quality PE Lessons – includes a day of modelled lessons with our children and Whole-Staff training, including a day on Outdoor and Adventurous Activities and a day on Gymnastics.
- (6) 30 Minutes a Day – Whole-Staff and PE Lead Training including implementation of new e-tracker
- (7) Active Science Day - Whole-school teaching and learning strategies in Science that get children engaged in active, healthy learning
- (8) Active Playground – Young Leader and Lunchtime Supervisor Training

We have also been thinking about how we can develop sporting activities at lunchtimes and have enlisted the help of **Key Sports** who will provide a sports coach to run activities EVERY lunchtime! (Starting next Monday)

We anticipate that this will be organised in the following way:

- (1) We will split the lunchtime in half and run sports games with one year group from 12.10 - 12.40 and then another from 12.40 - 1.05 (lunch finishes at 1.10)
- (2) There will be a rota so each year group knows when it is their turn.
- (3) The session will be for 20 children at a time on a first come first served basis. We may move to a more formal register later on if necessary.
- (4) We will showcase lots of different sports other than football




Key Sports will also offer some new after school clubs, including a Year 3/4 football club. There will be a charge to join these clubs.



We are keen to develop the children's competitive sporting skills and will access competitions led by Allison Consultancy and Key Sports.

We will also be launching **'The Golden Mile'** – a safe, simple and measurable health and physical activity initiative accessible to all age groups regardless of ability. A route will be mapped around the school site and every pupil can get involved by walking, jogging or running around their Golden Mile track within the safety of the school grounds. The Golden Mile is all about encouraging everyone to lead a healthy and active lifestyle, not about who is the sportiest or crosses the finish line first. We hope that you agree that these are very exciting changes!

Working Parties	Curriculum Update	New Arrival
<p><b>By Mr Marks</b></p> <p>Last year, teachers worked together in three Working Parties to research and pilot different strategies in school. Our three Working Parties looked at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌀 STEM learning</li> <li>🌀 Gender/Behaviour</li> <li>🌀 Home Learning</li> </ul> <p>The projects worked so well that we have decided to continue with the Working Party model.</p> <p>This year we will look at the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌀 STEM – the story continues!</li> <li>🌀 Outdoor Learning</li> <li>🌀 Staff/Pupil Wellbeing</li> </ul> <p>We will write to you after our first meetings to let you know what we have planned.</p>	<p><b>By Mr Eardley</b></p> <p>As you know, we have revamped our topics and introduced some new topics in each year group.</p> <p>We know that it is important that you know what your children are studying so that you can take an active interest and support them.</p> <p>To help you do this we will do the following:</p> <p>Each term we will send you a detailed overview of what your children will be learning in each subject. This will be called <b>'Topic Maps'</b>.</p> <p>Each half term we will send you a <b>'Curriculum Update'</b> detailing what changes to we are making and what is on the horizon for each subject.</p> <p>The first of these will be sent home in the next two weeks.</p>	<p><b>By Mr Eardley</b></p>  <p>I am delighted to announce that Mr Newton has welcomed a new member of their family.</p> <p>During the summer they adopted a seven-month old daughter, named Anya. We wish them every happiness at this magical time.</p> <p>Mr Newton will take his paternity leave in the coming weeks to support his wife as Anya settles into her new home.</p>

## Dinner Money

**By Mr Eardley**

We last increased the cost of a child's meal in September 2016. Since then, we have seen increases in the costs of: energy, food and staffing (pay scales were increased without extra funding for schools).

Despite these increases, we have managed to maintain the high quality of our meals. We have exciting plans for school meals in the coming year, but recognize that to keep our standards high, it is now necessary to add a small increase. The governors have agreed to increase the cost of a KS2 meal to **£2.50** per day from the start of this term. We hope that you understand the reasons for the increase and appreciate that this has been the first rise since 2016.

## Absence

**By Mr Eardley**

For the last few years, we have arranged our term dates in a way that means we often finish slightly earlier than other local schools and we add a professional day to the end of the school year. I have always hoped that this might allow OWPS families to start their summer a bit earlier than other Peterborough families.

At the end of last term Mrs Russell (Attendance Manager) notified me that a higher than average number of children were ill in the last week, and this often included their siblings as well. We also had a higher number of children who needed to go to non-urgent medical appointments on the last day. We even had parents turn up without any warning to pick up their children early. I am concerned by this and intend to bring it us with the Governing Body as I suspect that some families did not go through the correct process of seeking my authorisation for a term time absence.

I am not sure why some families would choose to do this. I imagine that some are trying to avoid a penalty notice. Some would rather avoid admitting that they are taking their child out of school to go on holiday early. It can be very embarrassing when a child tells us the truth, not realising that they are contradicting what their parents have said to us.

I want to take this opportunity to ask you, on day 1 of 190 school days – please do not take your child out of school in the last week of the school year. Next summer we break up on Thursday 16 July, the earliest we have EVER broken up. Please give your child the chance to finish the school year with their classmates and teacher.

## Learning at Home

By Mrs Granville

Last year we reviewed the type of homework we set. We decided to keep the weekly English/Maths based tasks but wanted to change the project style learning we previously included on our website.

This year, we have produced a series of **Family Challenges** for you to try.

It's up to you how many you try over the course of the year. The complete list will be published on our website but an individual challenge will be included every fortnight in our newsletter.

If your child/children produces something they have made at home, send it into school and we will display it on our Home Learning display in the HUB corridor.

Please send in any photos, models, posters or anything else you create as part of this Family Challenge. Or you can tweet or e mail to the school office. We look forward to seeing what you get up to! Good luck!

The First Challenge is...

**How many things can you find around your house beginning with the letter 'B'?**



## Healthy Eating and Drinking

By Mr Eardley



One of our Working Party projects this year is to look at Staff and Pupil Wellbeing. We already have some ideas about what we are going to do and will write to you to explain these in more detail.

However, we already know two issues we want to address from the start of this school year and we need your support to do this as they are about what you give your child as a snack and a drink.

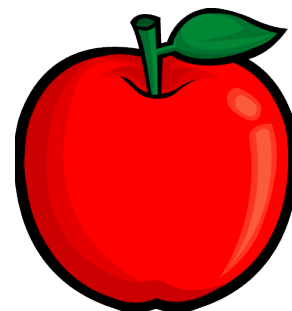
I want to remind you that children are allowed to bring water to school to drink during the day but they are not allowed to bring squash or other types of drinks. Water is the best drink to keep children hydrated during the day and contains no extra energy. We are sometimes told by parents that their child will not drink water unless it is flavoured in some way. We do not find that this is the case in school and only serve water or milk at lunchtimes or water from the water fountains.

Secondly, staff have become increasingly concerned by the amount of processed, high fat, sugary snacks that some children bring to eat at break time or have in their packed lunch boxes.

You only need to look at the litter in the bins and blowing around the playground to see the types of snacks that come into school. We are a Health Promoting School and recommend that children bring healthy snacks to school. You can find useful guidance on snacking at <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life>

As part of the Working Party project, we intend to rewrite our Healthy Eating Policy and to be firmer on monitoring and implementing our expectations.

We hope that you will help us from the very start of this new school year by following our recommendations.



## FOWS Update

By Sophie Chambers (Chair)

### Autumn Term Events

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September-FOWS Annual General Meeting  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October-Donation Friday (Wacky Socks for Gifts)  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October @ 7pm-Bingo Night!  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October- School Disco

Welcome back everyone! We hope you all had a lovely Summer and are raring to go...the Autumn term always feels like the busiest time of the academic year doesn't it? We don't have a huge amount planned prior to the October half term to allow everyone to settle into the routine of school, but our minds are already thinking forward to Christmas and gearing up for the Fayre and Sale so we do have just the one Donation Friday to get us going! Our AGM is being held on 19<sup>th</sup> September, 7pm in the school staffroom, everyone is welcome to attend as always.

### Bingo Night-Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 7pm

Following the success of the Quiz Night during the Summer term, we will be holding a Bingo Night at school! The cost for this will be £10 per person, which includes a game card and a portion of Fish & Chips (alternatives available). We will provide hot drinks on the night but you are welcome to bring your own cold refreshments, soft or alcoholic! The feedback we received from the Quiz Night was that people enjoyed a child-free evening, so this event will be for adults only also. Booking is essential to allow us to pre order from Fishtastic-forms will be available later this week from the office or to download from the school website.

### Easyfundraising

Don't forget to help raise funds for FOWS whenever you shop online. Use easyfundraising to shop with over 3,500 big name retailers including Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS and Booking.com-and when you shop, you'll raise a free donation for us every time. It's that easy! Help support us:

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsfortonwistowprimaryschool/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsfortonwistowprimaryschool/)

If you do your shopping on your mobile or tablet, get the free easyfundraising app on iOS or Android and you'll never miss a donation for FOWS. The easyfundraising app makes it easier to raise donations with over 3,500 retailers every time you shop online: [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/raise-more/easyfundraising.app](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/raise-more/easyfundraising.app)

## What an Honour!



By Mr Eardley

At the end of last term, one of our pupils, Oakley Ellwood-Jeal, was invited to meet the World Cup Cricket team, see the trophy and get to play cricket on the Oval pitch.

We were delighted that Oakley had this wonderful opportunity and are sure that he did OWPS proud!

He sent us this photo from the day.



# New Year, New Books

By Mr Marks

We have made some changes to the books that the children write in during lessons and wanted you to know what you will see.

FS	1 x English book 1 x Maths book
Year 1	Autumn term – English book A4+ Maths book A4+ Anything else book A4+ Handwriting book Homework book Spring – new English book with Handwriting lines
Year 2	Maths book, New English book with Handwriting lines PSHE / RE book, Computing/DT/Science book, Handwriting book, Draft book, GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) book, Sketch book, Homework book New History/Geography/MFL (Modern Foreign Languages)/Music book New Morning book (A5)
Year 3	Maths book, New English book with Handwriting lines PSHE / RE book, Computing/DT/Science book, Handwriting book, Draft book, GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) book, Sketch book, Homework book New History/Geography/MFL (Modern Foreign Languages)/Music book
Year 4	Maths book, New English book with Handwriting lines PSHE / RE book, Computing/DT/Science book, Handwriting book, Draft book, GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) book, Sketch book, Homework book New History/Geography/MFL (Modern Foreign Languages)/Music book
Year 5	New English book with Handwriting lines 1 x Maths book 8mm squares (Arithmetic) 1 x Maths book 10mm squares (Journaling) PSHE / RE book, Computing/DT/Science book, Handwriting book, Draft book, GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) book, Sketch book, Homework book New History/Geography/MFL (Modern Foreign Languages)/Music book
Year 6	New English book with Handwriting lines 1 x Maths book 8mm squares (Arithmetic) 1 x Maths book 10mm squares (Journaling) PSHE / RE book, Computing/DT/Science book, Handwriting book, Draft book, GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) book, Sketch book, Homework book New History/Geography/MFL (Modern Foreign Languages)/Music book

# Reading

By Mr Eardley

As you are aware, at Orton Wistow we are passionate about reading! Developing a love of reading is one of our main goals and we firmly believe that being an enthusiastic, capable reader has a positive life-long effect on children. Children also need to be able to read in order to access most other curriculum areas.

We have always made sure that children hear adults read regularly during the week but this year we are reintroducing **Reading Station**, a time each day for adults to read to children. Each teacher will tweet the name of the book they are reading to their class so that you know what they are reading. We will also make sure that we read a wide range of challenging texts, including stories, poetry and information texts. Each class will keep a visual record around their door of the books they have read.

For the last year we have set you the goal of hearing your child read 5 times a week at home. I published the results in our weekly newsletter and know that this was a challenge for many of you. We remain committed to this target but want to broaden this to 'reading with your child' – this can include hearing your child read and reading TO your child. Reading to your child gives them the chance to hear more challenging texts and to hear an adult modelling how to use expression.



Each week we will check your child's reading diary and count how many times they have read with an adult at home. These will be recorded on Class Dojo so that each one counts and earns a DoJo point. We will then work out the average for the class and report these in the weekly newsletter.

Please join us in prioritising reading with your child. There will be regular opportunities for you to come into school to join your child at a Reading Café and we are always available if you want any advice on helping your child to read. We will also make you aware of when you can visit the School Library with your child.

## Coming Up!

**This Week: WB 20 May 2019**

**WB: 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

New FS Home Visits

**Monday**

Professional Day – Staff Only

**Tuesday**

School Starts

**Wednesday**

Curriculum Evening for new FS Evening 6.30pm

**Next Week: WB 9 September 2019**

**Monday**

New FS Children start part time

**In Two Weeks: WB 16th September 2019**

**National Coding Week**

**Toucans Lunch Week**

**Monday to Wednesday**

Hilltop School Trip – Year 5

**Monday**

LKS2 Reading café

**Wednesday**

Year 1 Toy Experience Day

**Thursday**

Family Learning Year 6 9.10

FOWS Annual General Meeting

**Friday**

Jeans 4 Genes Day

**In Three Weeks: WB 23rd September 2019**

**Monday**

FS start full time

Clubs start