



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is a very interesting time in school at the moment. If you walk around the building at any time of the day, things look like a normal day at OWPS. Lessons are carrying on as usual and are just as interesting and engaging. Children are still following the PRIDE Code. There is a purposeful buzz around the building. TAs are still supporting individuals and small groups. Children are just as happy and delightful. Playtimes and lunchtimes still give children a chance to let off steam and to play with their friends. It is a happy school.

But when I look around the school, I can also see the enormous effort that staff are putting in to make things work. There have been countless small and large measures that we have had to put in place to make sure that we are a COVID safe school and, hopefully, the children aren't unduly aware of what they are. I am fortunate to have the support of an amazing team that includes the Heads at Nene Valley and Woodston Primary Schools, the other OWN Trust schools. When I met with them via Zoom this week, I reflected on the fact that it feels like I am leading a new school as there are so many new rules, routines and measures that have been put in place. The staggered start and end to the day, the staggered breaks and lunchtimes mean that staff don't see other staff as much as we did and we are having to think of ways that we can all feel connected.

After a number of tweaks, I think we have now established clear routines for the start and end of the day and I am grateful that parents have accepted these without complaint. I know that some schools have come in for unfair criticism from their parent body and I am so grateful that this isn't something that we are having to contend with. I do think that there are positives to this new way of working. Parking outside school seems to be a little easier (unless it is raining which then leads to mayhem!), the younger children who are now coming in on their own seem so proud and independent, and we hope that the new Parents Evening system will work well. Yet again, no staff have wrinkled their noses and said they weren't prepared to do something new. Staff read this newsletter as well and I want them to know that I am very proud of them.

Sadly, I am now hearing about positive Covid cases at local schools. Thankfully, these schools have been happy to share what they have learnt from dealing with the situation and we have all of our plans in place should we need to send a child, class or year group home. Yet again, it has reminded me of how essential it is that we do everything we can in school and at home to follow the guidance. One local case was made worse because children from different year groups had been playing together out of school and this was how Covid was able to move across different year groups. This meant that 240 children have had to miss two weeks of school.

Thankfully, all of the suspected cases we have had in school have come back negative. We now have a new code to use in the register to show if a child is off school awaiting test results. When these children are not counted, our attendance in school is over 98%. Even when they are counted we are over 97%, which is higher than usual. Every cloud has a silver lining!

I am pleased that we will be supporting the Peterborough Food Bank again this year as part of our harvest celebrations. I know that many families have found that their own circumstances have changed and that Food Banks have become a vital resource for them. If you can, please give generously so that we can offer our support to those who need it.

Have a great weekend.

Simon Eardley

Headteacher



Attendance

This week, our Whole School Attendance was:

98.33%

Gordon the Good Attendance Gorilla was most impressed by the following classes which had the highest attendance of 100%:

**IGUANAS
SQUIRRELS
NIGHTINGALES**



Shining Stars



Well done to the following children who all received a Shining Star this week!

Penguins: Zayden Jacklin	Magpies: Jake Hall
Elephants: Bobby Crockett	Iguanas: Sri Dwaraka Kolloru
Giraffes: Dylan Howard	Squirrels: Joseph Goode
Macaws: Arnav Jain	Nightingales: Chloe Fincham
Cobras: Elyse Morgan	Flamingoes: Ethan Bennett-Florez
Wombats: Shema Mutendi	Armadillos: Chelsey Gosnold
Sharks: Gracie Ward	Toucans: Emmie Jinks

Reading Champions

Every time a child reads with an adult at home, they earn a Dojo point towards their class reward.

Our target is that every child reads WITH an adult at home 5 times a week. This week's class averages were:



Penguins: n/a	Magpies: n/a
Elephants: 5.7	Iguanas: 6.8 ★
Giraffes: 5.7	Squirrels: 6.3
Macaws: 5.4	Nightingales: 5.5
Cobras: 5.3	Flamingoes: 4.2
Wombats: 5.5	Armadillos: 6.3
Sharks: 4.6	Toucans: 4.4

Children in Years 1-6 earn Dojo Points for their class by reading with an adult at home,



ClassDojo

demonstrating the PRIDE Code and our Learning Toolkit, and for gaining House Points.

This week's Dojo Scores were:

Elephants: 840	Iguanas: 528
Giraffes: 433	Squirrels: 86
Macaws: 525	Nightingales: 229
Cobras: 336	Flamingoes: 317
Wombats: 413	Armadillos: 557
Sharks: 857 ★	Toucans: 338



Dojo Masters

Our Top 3 Dojo scorers were:

KS1: Bobby Crockett 43

LKS2: Daniel Powell 28

UKS2: Jayden Brattan 44



Children in Years 3-6 are challenged to practise their times tables at www.trockstars.com.

These children were the most improved this week:

Toucans: Finley Kingston	Sharks: Ollie Cole
Wombats: William Dalton	Armadillos: Eden Behenna-Benton
Cobras: Linden Brown	Flamingoes: Millie Cox
Nightingales: Cadence Edwards	Macaws: James McEwan

HOUSE POINTS

DEMPSEY
89



MALLARD
76

NENE
72

FENS
85

Bike to School Week

By Ms Porter, Eco-Education Lead



Thank you to all the children and parents who travelled to school sustainably for Bike To School week.

Over the week, we saw over 200 bikes and scooters - what a healthy bunch! We know it isn't easy to cycle and scoot in when it is a wet day and it's easier to come in the car but, as you know, it is great for keeping healthy and looking after the environment. We have been so pleased to see bikes parked in the playground this week despite the weather.



Honours Awards Results

Congratulations to the following children who received the first Honours Award of the year for 'Settling In' on Wednesday 7th October 2020:

Camden Gardner
Suzie Braines
Oakley Goodey
Serena Cameron
Santo Cusamano
Oscar Owen
Scarlett Rolt

Elijah Mabbutt
Maisy Newberry
Eden Jeal-Dunkling
Joshua Turner
Jools Carey
Sammy Merry
Imogen Mabbutt



Congratulations to the Honours Awards winners 'For Rising to the challenge and expectations of a new school year'.

Harvest – Foodbank

As you may know, for many years now we have collected a food bank in school to support The Peterborough Foodbank around harvest time. This year, we will be collecting donations during the week beginning the 19th of October 2020.



VERY LOW STOCK ITEMS URGENTLY NEEDED-- UPDATE 15/09/2020

LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE
SWEET TREATS AND CRISPS
BISCUITS
PASTA SAUCE

Over 90% of the food distributed by The Peterborough Foodbank has come from public donations which is why they continue to be so vital.

Donations such as these will go a long way to supporting those in need in our local community.

ITEMS NEEDED - UPDATE 18/08/2020

TINNED SPAGHETTI
TINNED FRUIT
INSTANT MASH
RICE PUDDING
CUSTARD

We will start collecting for the **foodbank from Monday 19th October until Friday 23rd October**. Please can children bring their donations into the classroom (in a reusable carrier bag or box if needed).

To find out more about what you can donate, please click [here](#). Thank you for your support.

WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF

BAKED BEANS
PASTA
TINNED TOMATOES
TINNED VEGETABLES
UHT MILK

School Nurse

With the new Covid regulations, the school nurse is unable to visit schools at present.

If you would like to contact the school nurse service, please can you call them directly at 0300 029 50 50.

Trainee Teacher Update

By Mrs Granville, Initial Teacher Training Lead

At OWPS, we are always pleased to support the next generation of teachers in their training. We are looking forward to welcoming two trainees from Bishop Grosseteste University next week, who will be working in Year 3 for the remainder of the term. Miss Miller will be working in the Macaws class and Miss Schofield in the Nightingales. We wish them every success with their training and hope they enjoy their time with us!

Halloween Lunch in the Dining Car



The team at the Dining Car are delighted to present a special **Halloween Lunch** on Friday 23rd October.

Due to Covid regulations, we are unfortunately unable to invite parents in at present, but all children are welcome to join us for a **SPOOKTACULAR** lunch!

There is no need to book your child a place in advance, simply top-up your child's lunch account on parentmail beforehand.

For details of Food Allergens, please click [here](#) to see information on our website.

Menu:

Chicken Burger in a Bun
(V) Southern Style Quorn Burger in a Bun

Spooky Shortbread
Creepy Cupcake

Coming Up in the Community!

World Teacher Day

Held annually on the 5th October since 1994, World Teachers' Day commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.

The day provides an occasion to celebrate the teaching profession worldwide, take stock of achievements, and draw attention to the voices of teachers, who are at the heart of efforts to attain the global education target of leaving no one behind. More details can be found [here](#) on the UNESCO website.

Mr Marks' virtual assembly on Friday the 9th October will be about this event and staff have contributed by sharing memories of their favourite teachers.

Term Times Magazine



Term Times Magazine, packed with useful information about half term activities and competitions, is now available online via the link below:

<https://termtimes.ltd.uk/read-term-times-145>

If any parents do not have the internet and would like a hard copy, please email digital@owps.org.uk and we will arrange for some hard copies to be dispatched to school.

Peterborough Youth Choir



Peterborough Youth Choir is currently recruiting children aged 7 and above to attend sessions on Wednesdays from 4pm in term time at All Saints Church Hall, All Saints Road, Peterborough.

For more details, contact Jo on 01733 425194 or email admin@peterboroughmvchoir.org.uk

Disclaimer: Orton Wistow Primary School does not endorse any products, services or activities that appear the Community section of this newsletter, and is not responsible for any contract entered into by either party. Given the current circumstances we would recommend all parents check with any providers regarding the status of these services, activities and clubs

Coming Up in School!

Next Week: WB: 12th October 2020

No confirmed events as yet

In Two Weeks: WB 19th October 2020

All week
Food bank donations
Tuesday
Long Virtual Parents Evening
Thursday
Short Virtual Parents Evening
Friday
Halloween Lunch

In Three Weeks: WB 26th October 2020

All Week
Half term

Any Queries...

Please contact us on digital@owps.org.uk if you have any queries, comments or suggestions for the newsletter.