



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

A headteacher I know rang the DfE last week to confirm that they had had their first positive Covid case at their school. The person who answered the phone at the DfE was pleasantly surprised that the school had managed to get to week six before having a confirmed case. That's how I feel now that we have managed to get through the first half term and we are still Covid-free. I think the anxiety that we all felt at the start of the term has mellowed and we now have a very clear idea of what we need to do if (or when) we have a case. There are lots of positive things that have happened this term but one of my favourites is that parents have 'gone with the flow' and understood the reasons why we are having to do things differently.

One of the changes we have seen in school is how we deliver assemblies now that we cannot all meet in person. Mr Marks and I each record an assembly each week and the other teachers take it in turns to do the same. It feels surreal to record an assembly the week before it is broadcast and even stranger to hear it played in classrooms on a Monday morning as I walk in after locking the gate. This week was stranger still as I recorded my assembly on Tuesday evening and it won't be 'aired' until after half term!

In recent weeks, my assembly themes have been 'European Day of Languages', 'World Mental Health Day', 'Black History Month', 'United Nations Day' and 'UK Parliament Week/Democracy'. Although there are different themes each week, I have noticed that a strand runs through all of them; that we need to be kind, tolerant and understanding towards others. Given all that is going on at home and abroad, I think this message is more important than ever before and I am grateful that our PRIDE Code still sums up our values as a school. Our school commitment to being kind, tolerant and understanding was demonstrated by the number of donations we received for our harvest collection in aid of the Peterborough Foodbank and I wanted to say thank you to everyone who made a contribution.

Thankfully, life is continuing as normal in school and we are still working hard to make our school environment an exciting and beautiful place to be. The planting around the outdoor story area was completed this week and we are looking forward to the grand opening shortly after half term as we will finally be able to reveal the name we have chosen. This ambitious project was funded jointly by the school and the FOWS. You might be wondering how the school can afford to make a contribution given that I have told you that we are one of the poorest funded schools in the city. Part of every school's budget is ring-fenced for work on the school site and cannot be spent on other areas. We used this funding to help boost the FOWS contribution.

We have two other site projects taking place next week. Firstly, the entrance to the tunnel in the mound will be fixed ready for next spring and warmer weather. The second project is happening in our library and is going to make a MASSIVE change to the space. I will save the grand reveal until after half term. The entire project (costing £6,000) has been funded by FOWS who have always been committed to making the Friends Library the heart of our school. It takes FOWS months and sometimes years to save up these significant sums so that we can make major investments into what we can offer the children. The only reason that they can do this is because you have been willing to support their events and to make contributions. You could make another tangible contribution to their work by volunteering to join their committee. I know that they are always happy to welcome new members to FOWS. Sadly, this year we will not be able to have many of our fundraising events and we won't be able to count on FOWS to fund a big project, but they will be back bigger and better when they can.

I wish you all a happy and restful half term. I intend to do as little as possible as I have books I want to read, films I want to watch and family I want to spend time with!

Simon Eardley

Head Teacher



Attendance

This week, our Whole School Attendance was:

98.59%

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

COBRAS **ELEPHANTS**
IGUANAS **MAGPIES**
PENGUINS



Shining Stars



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

Penguins: Lily Mehmed	Magpies: Daisy Embery-Hogan
Elephants: Migle Blagnyte	Iguanas: Theo Unwin
Giraffes: Phoebe Miles	Squirrels: Flora Witt
Macaws: Amelia Silcock	Nightingales: Willow Smith
Cobras: Charlie Pask	Flamingoes: Toby Hatton
Wombats: George Bramley	Armadillos: Courtney Gauton
Sharks: Taya Hill	Toucans: Maita Benson

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: 5.3	Magpies: 5.1
Elephants: 6.5	Iguanas: 6.8
Giraffes: 6.5	Squirrels: 7.0
Macaws: 5.8	Nightingales: 6.6
Cobras: 5.3	Flamingoes: 4.8
Wombats: 5.1	Armadillos: 7.4 ★
Sharks: 4.3	Toucans: 5.0



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

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

This week's Dojo Scores were:

Elephants: 926 ★	Iguanas: 634
Giraffes: 395	Squirrels: 236
Macaws: 358	Nightingales: 195
Cobras: 223	Flamingoes: 382
Wombats: 421	Armadillos: 727
Sharks: 391	Toucans: 348



ClassDojo



Dojo Masters

Our Top 3 Dojo scorers were:

KS1: Harvey Tuccillo 48

LKS2: Harley Jayne & Layla Siyahla 18

UKS2: Kornelijus Svietojus 31



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: Cole Foster	Sharks: Charlie Marriott
Wombats: Kayla Hatton	Armadillos: Zain Darr
Cobras: Poppy Gash	Flamingoes: Avie Crockett
Nightingales: Harry Gray	Macaws: Chloe Bewick

HOUSE POINTS

DEMPSEY
67

MALLARD
75

NENE
65



FENS
81

Virtual Honours Awards

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, our Honours Award assemblies are now taking place virtually. The second Honours Awards Assembly – on the theme of ‘Resilience’ – will be held on Wednesday 4th November 2020 in each classroom.



The children will be able to see which children have won the award in each class and they will hear the reason why the child in their class was chosen. The award winner will receive their certificate and sticker in front of their class. We will email the parents of the winners on the same day so that they know there is a reason to celebrate.

The names of all of the winners will be shared in the newsletter on Friday 6th November 2020.

The Dining Car

Bonfire Lunch

The Bonfire Lunch will be held on Thursday 5th November 2020 and will include:

- Southern Fried Chicken
- (v) Margherita Pizza
- Shooting Star Sponge and Flame Sauce
- Meringue Bonfire
- Sparkler Biscuits

New Dishes on the Menu

After half term, the Dining Car will be introducing some new menu items including:

- Vegetable Moussaka
- Lamb Moussaka

Coming Up Soon...

It's far too early to be talking about Christmas, but we wanted to let you know that our Special Christmas Lunch for the children will be taking place on Wednesday 16th December.

More details to follow soon.

Children are very welcome to have a hot dinner on any day of the week. We simply ask that you have topped up your account on parent mail in advance. You can find a copy of The Dining Car's latest menu [here](#), along with details of our food allergen advice.

Foundation Stage

A letter was sent out yesterday regarding the new arrangements for dropping off and picking up Foundation Stage children after half-term. We will no longer be using the carpark gate but, instead, parents and children can enter the school from the gate on Wistow Way.

START OF THE DAY	
Which gate should we use?	Wistow Way
What time will our children be allowed in?	8.45
What time does the school day start?	8.50
What time do registers open?	8.50
When will children be given a late mark?	If they come into class after 8.50
When do registers close?	9.10
What time will my child be given an unauthorised absence?	If they come into class after 9.10
END OF THE DAY	
What time will I be called onto the playground?	3.00
What time will my child be let out at the end of the day? You should arrive before this time so that you are there when we let them out.	FROM 3.00 when we see you.

For more details and to see a copy of the letter sent by Mr Eardly, please click [here](#) to view the letters home for the w/c 19/11/2020.

Reminders

Staff Car Park

Apologies to the majority of parents who have complied with our requests about parking.

Unfortunately, we need to remind the few people who are still using the staff carpark that it is for the use of school staff, visitors who are attending on-site and those with accessible parking needs only. Since our school car park barrier was temporarily broken, we are finding that some parents are trying to park at the start and end of the day, leaving our own staff unable to park ready for their working day. Thank you for your co-operation



Secondary School Applications

We would like to remind all parents of children in Year 6 that the closing date for applications is **31st October 2020**.

Student Update Forms

Thank you very much to everyone who has already returned their Student Update Forms. We have to collect this information every year. Second copies have now been sent out to those parents who have not yet returned their forms. Please can you send this Student Update Form into school signed, even if there are no amendments, as soon as possible. Thank you very much.

Poppy Appeal



Every year, the Legion organises a countrywide network of Poppy Appeals, the nation's symbol of Remembrance. The Poppy Appeal raises about half of the funds needed for their welfare work every year. This year we will again be selling poppies throughout the school day and Mrs Johnson will sell the poppies and other products herself. The poppies will be on sale from Monday 2nd November until Thursday 12th November.

As well as Poppies, the following products will also be on sale: zip pulls, wristbands, poppy reflectors and snap bands. Mrs Johnson will be located on the Year 5/6 playground at lunchtime and on the other playground at break time.

Children will need to:

- Take their money outside with them
- Have the correct money as no change will be given

Please send your child in with the appropriate money. Thank you.



Foodbank

Thank-you to everyone who brought in donations for this year's foodbank collection. We had a bumper crop of donations and the Foodbank was delighted when they came to collect all the food today.

The Foodbank will let us know the total weight of our donations and how many families it will feed and we will pass these details onto you as soon as we have them. Thank-you once again for all of your support.



Coming Up in the Community!

Get Into Teaching Event 2020



Department
for Education

Are you interested in Training to Teach? Do you have a degree or working towards your degree? If so, you are welcome to join Paragon Alliance at one of our *virtual* open evening events:
Wednesday 4th November 2020 4.30 pm - 7.30 pm Click [here](#) to register for this event
Thursday 26th November 2020 5.00pm - 7.00pm Click [here](#) to register for this event
Don't have a degree? email us to discuss your options Email: teachingschool@hampton-hargate.peterborough.sch.uk

Give Blood 2020

The NHS is appealing for donors in Peterborough to help save lives. Sessions are held @Christ Church Hall, Orton Goldhay, PE2 5JJ on:

Thursday 29th October & Tuesday 3rd November 12.50 – 15.15 & 16.15 – 19.15
Thursday 5th November & Friday 6th November 9.35 – 12.30 & 14.00 – 16.30

Please book an appointment via the app or website.

For up to date advice visit: <https://www.blood.co.uk/news-and-campaigns/news-and-statements/coronavirus-covid-19-updates/>



Disclaimer: Orton Wistow Primary School does not endorse any products, services or activities that appear in 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 26th October 2020
All Week
Half term

In Two Weeks: WB 2nd November 2020
Wednesday
Virtual Honours Award Assembly
Thursday
Bonfire Lunch

In Three Weeks: WB 9th November 2020
Friday
Children in Need