



February 2019 Newsletter

Dear Parents - another half-term has flown by and again we have so much to celebrate. It has been wonderful to see so many parents at parent library, attending our e-safety workshops, reading workshops and the parent consultation meetings.

The children have again made us very proud representing The Oval School at a variety of sporting competitions as well as year 2 pupils performing at a music concert.

Our Rights Respecting Rangers have also been leading a campaign on road safety as they are very concerned about the way parents are parking and the way children are crossing the road. Please keep our children safe and be considerate when parking or, better still, walk.



Best Wishes - Miss J Harris and Mrs D Williams (Headteachers)

DEPUTY AND ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER NEWS

Mrs Chadda - Deputy Headteacher

In Nursery, the pupils have been very excited to watch eggs hatching. They have enjoyed learning about the life cycle of a chicken and watched chicks growing and changing over a 2-week period. They have linked their art work, maths and literacy to this topic and produced very impressive work. Thank you to all parents in Early Years who have been attending the parent workshops. Please look out for the next parent sessions for Early Years and we look forward to seeing you all at the sessions.

In Reception, pupils have been enjoying their topic 'Let's pretend'. They have been reading traditional stories and acting them out. Thank you to all the parents who have been coming to the reading sessions. It has improved children's writing skills. This term reception pupils have enjoyed learning about Arctic Animals also. They have used google maps to find out where The Arctic is on Earth. They have explored the animals that live there and how they survive in such a cold climate. Pupils have been working hard to develop their problem-solving skills in mathematics. Pupils in Nursery and Reception are developing their understanding of linking concrete experiences with visual and symbolic representations. They are learning to work systematically to solve problems. This is a very important step before they learn more formal recordings. Pupils are working independently and making their number stories using objects from real life. Thank you all the parents for their continue support. Last week, reception took part in an E-Safety workshop where they have learnt how to stay safe on the internet.

Whole-School Maths News

During this term pupils throughout the whole school have been working to improve their reasoning and problem solving skills in mathematics. I'm really pleased to tell you about the fabulous work I have seen in the pupils' books and around the school this term. In Year 1 I have seen pupils using different models and drawings (part -part whole model) to show their deeper understanding in addition and subtraction. In Year 2 pupils have been working on drawing arrays to understand multiplication and division. They are applying this knowledge to solve problems. I am really pleased to see the correct use of mathematical vocabulary in reasoning in Year 3. In Years 4 and 5 pupils have been developing the skills and strategies to solve problems. Year 6 are improving all the key skills needed to reason and solve problems linked to real life maths.

I would request parents to support their children in learning their times tables. By Year 1 pupils are expected to know counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. In Year 2 expectation is to know times tables of 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s. Year 3 is 2s, 3s, 4s 5s, 6s, 8s and 10s. Year 4 the expectation is to know all times tables up to 12. It would give your children great confidence to solve the problems if they are secure and fluent in their times table knowledge. Have a good half term holiday everyone!

Mrs Roberts - Assistant Headteacher

Happy New Year to you. It is lovely to see that pupils have returned to school refreshed, with a new enthusiasm for their work. If you come into Parent Library, please look at the wonderful displays outside your child's classroom that celebrate their fantastic work. Class 4.2's display is below. They are reading Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo and have produced some high quality writing based on the novel.



The Oval's Rights Respecting Rangers were very pleased with the response to the Road Safety Poster Competition. Here they are looking at the entries and deciding which they should shortlist. It was a very difficult decision as the entries were all of a very high standard. The Oval's RRR were particularly pleased to have an entry from Tannon in Hedgehogs class. Congratulations to Haania Shah 5.3 and Shakir Hussain 2.3 who were the winners.



POLICE NOTICE

Following a recent visit, at the end of the school day, by our local PCSO we have been asked to pass on this information. Cars that are parked illegally or in dangerous positions will be photographed and tickets will be issued and posted to the vehicle owners. Please be mindful where you park when coming to school and also remember that parking on school site is not permitted - thank you.

NURSERY ADMISSIONS - SEPTEMBER 2019

Waiting lists for nursery admissions to this school for September 2019 will shortly be closing. To put your child's name on the waiting list please request a form from the school office which should be returned together with the child's full birth certificate (the one showing both parent names) and also proof of home address such as your most recent council tax bill or gas / electricity utility bill. Children will be due to start nursery in September 2019 if their date of birth falls between 1 September 2015 - 31 August 2016. Please remind any family or friends that may have children born between these dates to register now to be put onto the waiting list. Thank you

INCLUSION FESTIVAL

Miss Burns and Mr Waring took 8 children from years 4, 5 and 6 to an inclusion festival on Tuesday 22 January. The children took part in a number of athletic events including javelin, speed jump and relays. The Oval came fourth out of 12 schools and all of the children showed great sportsmanship throughout the day and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The children were a credit to the school and a big well done to all.



WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2019

School will be celebrating World Book Day on this day and you will already have received a flyer giving you full information about what will be happening in school on this day.

HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTICES

A courteous reminder to everyone who comes onto school site that smoking, vaping and the use of e-cigarettes is NOT permitted on school site.

Birmingham City Council has asked school to re-iterate to parents that it is a criminal offence to allow or bring a dog onto a school site and fines will be issued in response.

Thank you for your co-operation with these requests.

LOCAL ROAD INFORMATION

School has been contacted by Nationwide Data Collection to inform us that they have been appointed to carry out 12-hour two-way traffic surveys as part of the Department for Transport's annual link count program. There are a number of major and minor road sites scheduled for survey between March and the end of October 2019. The vast majority of surveys are intended to be carried out by enumerators parked at the roadside and there will be a site that is being counted on Meadway on Monday 25 March 2019. Should you want any more information about this then please contact the company direct on 01926 485504.

DESIGN YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

School submitted several designs to a competition run by a supply agency called Tradewind Recruitment who received a huge number of entries from schools all across the Midlands. We are so proud to announce that one of our very talented pupils won first prize. Huge congratulations go to Ellie Richardson from class 5.2 who won a framed picture of her design as well as a hamper full of exciting Christmas goodies.

CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE PROJECT - NEWS UPDATE

In December, The Oval School took part in a Christmas card exchange with 18 schools across Europe when we asked our pupils to make their cards at home with the aim of making at least one card per partner school. We ended up with over 50 beautiful Christmas cards made at home. When we added that to the cards made at the Nursery parent workshop we had enough to send 4 cards to each partner school.



Thank you for the amazing response.

School Crossings Patrol Warden needed locally

Pro Rata £17,007 - £19,446 (*Part time*)

8 hrs per week – Oval School Nr Wheatcroft Rd

You will assist at places where children/adults cross roads on their way to and from school (or on their way from one part of a school to another) during the prescribed hours, ensuring their safe passage, and will also be responsible for reporting any problems encountered to supervisors.

- You will need to be caring, reliable and must have good verbal communication skills to enable you to communicate effectively with a range of people in differing situations.
- You will need to be available term time mornings and afternoons during the school run.
- All leave must be taken in school holidays.
- Successful applicants will be provided with a uniform and training.
- A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check will be undertaken.

Application Forms can be completed online: www.birmingham.gov.uk/jobs

Any Questions call School Crossings on 0121 303 7777

or email: schoolcrossings@birmingham.gov.uk

ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY (UNITED AGAINST DEMENTIA)

Side by side volunteers help people with dementia to get out and about doing activities of their choice such as simply going for a stroll in the park, enjoying refreshments in a café, going to watch a sporting activity or joining a local club / team. Support from volunteers can make it easier for people with dementia to do things that might otherwise be taken for granted as they may sometimes feel isolated, not part of their local community or find it hard to leave their home



Volunteer for our Side by Side service today!

Could you help someone with dementia do the things they love?

The Side by Side service is about enabling people with dementia to be a part of their local community with the support of a volunteer. Do you have 1-3 hours a week or a month to volunteer?

Here for everyone affected by dementia.
alzheimers.org.uk
Get in touch today
lianne.jayes@alzheimers.org.uk
07483 122447



This service is provided FREE and Alzheimer's Society covers all volunteer expenses. If you are interested and / or would like more information please contact Lianne Jayes at lianne.jayes@alzheimers.org.uk or on 07483 122 447.

EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN SCHOOL

All our pupils work very hard, enjoy themselves and do lots of practice when preparing for productions and they are then very proud when their parents come along and watch. School is implementing new guidelines for all parents who come along and join us on these special occasions and would appreciate your co-operation as follows. Prams and pushchairs should either be left at home or in the main foyer of school due to lack of space and health and safety reasons. Entrance to each production will only be permitted up until 10 minutes following the scheduled start time - this is to minimise disruption and interruption to the children who will have worked so hard to put their production on. Thank you for your support.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you know that you have only provided school with ONE person as a named contact for your child then please provide a second contact as a matter of urgency - the person's name, their relationship to the child and their telephone number(s). Those parents who have only provided school with one contact were individually informed before Christmas however only 3 parents have responded to the request for more contact details.

February Half-Term Holiday

Don't forget that school breaks up for the half-term holiday at the end of the school day on Friday 15 February. School re-opens to everyone on Monday 25 February.

Have a safe and happy holiday!

School Trips

Tuesday 5 February	90 x year 2 pupils to visit King Edward's School in Edgbaston
Wednesday 13 February	90 x year 2 pupils to visit Tamworth Castle
Monday 4 March	60 x year 3 pupils to visit Birmingham Museum
Wednesday 6 March	30 x year 3 pupils to visit Birmingham Museum
Monday 11 March	30 x reception pupils to visit St Edburgha's Church in Yardley
Wednesday 13 March	90 x year 5 pupils to visit Safeside in Birmingham
Thursday 14 March	30 x reception pupils to visit St Edburgha's Church in Yardley
Friday 15 March	30 x reception pupils to visit St Edburgha's Church in Yardley
Thursday 21 March	90 x year 1 pupils to visit Gurdwara in Sparkhill
Tuesday 2 April	45 x year 4 pupils to visit Birmingham Cathedral
Wednesday 3 April	90 x reception pupils to visit Think Tank in Birmingham
Wednesday 10 April	45 x year 4 pupils to visit Birmingham Cathedral
Monday 29 April	45 x year 4 pupils to visit Lunt Fort in Coventry
Tuesday 30 April	45 x year 4 pupils to visit Lunt Fort in Coventry
Wednesday 8 May	90 x year 5 pupils to visit Buddhist Temple in Handsworth
Tuesday 4 June	45 x year 6 pupils to visit Hindu Temple in Tividale
Tuesday 11 June	45 x year 3 pupils to visit Synagogue in Birmingham
Wednesday 12 June	45 x year 3 pupils to visit Synagogue in Birmingham
Wednesday 19 June	90 x year 2 pupils to visit Central Mosque in Birmingham
Thursday 27 June	45 x year 6 pupils to visit Hindu Temple in Tividale
Thursday 11 July	90 x year 1 pupils to visit Burnham-on-Sea

Term Dates

Spring Term 2019

Opens To Staff	Monday 7 January 2019 (teacher day - no pupils in school)
Opens To Pupils	Tuesday 8 January 2019
Closes To All	Friday 15 February 2019 at the end of the school day
Half-Term	Monday 18 - Friday 22 February 2019 (school closed to all)
Opens To All	Monday 25 February 2019
Closes To Pupils	Thursday 11 April 2019 at the end of the school day
Closes To Staff	Friday 12 April 2019 at the end of the day
Easter	Monday 15 - Friday 26 April 2019 (school closed to all)

Summer Term 2019

Opens To All	Monday 29 April 2019
Closed To Pupils	Thursday 2 May 2019 (voting day)
Closed To Pupils	Friday 3 May 2019 (teacher day - no pupils in school)
Closed To All	Monday 6 May 2019 (May Day Bank Holiday)
Closes To All	Friday 24 May 2019 at the end of the school day
Half-Term	Monday 27 - Friday 31 May 2019 (school closed to all)
Opens To All	Monday 3 June 2019
Closes To Pupils	Friday 19 July 2019
Closes To Staff	Monday 22 July 2019

Autumn Term 2019

Term Starts On Monday 2 September 2019 - You Will Be Informed In Due Course Of The Start Date For Pupils And All The Term Dates For This Academic Year