



# November Newsletter

Welcome back and we hope that all families had a relaxing half-term holiday.

This half-term, The Oval School is 80 years old and we will be learning all about the school and the local area during the war years. You will have already received a letter giving more information about this and our celebration dress-up day and we look forward to sharing all the children's wonderful learning with you later in the term.

As part of this learning, school is looking for any ex-Oval pupils who may have photos that they would like to share with school. Please let us know if you have any or know anyone who might - thank you.

It has been wonderful to see so many parents joining their children in our early morning parent / child reading sessions. It is clear that the children are really enjoying you sharing their books in the classroom with them and we would like to thank you for your continued support.



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

## DEPUTY AND ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER NEWS

### Mrs Mason - Deputy Headteacher

In school we have been reviewing the way we praise and celebrate successes in school. I'm sure our pupils have been excitedly telling you about this and I hope the following is also helpful to you:

The way we PRAISE our pupils in school is via Class Dojo...

- ❖ Pupils may receive dojos from all adults in school
- ❖ The two pupils in each class with the most dojos at the end of the week will receive a certificate in Celebration Assembly, their names will also be on the Good News Letter
- ❖ When a child reaches 100 dojos, they will be awarded a privilege card

Other ways in which we praise the pupils...

- ✓ Each classroom will have a display, with pupils starting at the 'expected' zone and being able to work through different stages - dojo award, prize, privilege, postcard
- ✓ Pupil of the Day will be awarded at the end of each day
- ✓ Good News Letters will be sent home weekly
- ✓ A Celebration Assembly is held weekly, during which Star of the Week is awarded. Pupils are also encouraged to bring in certificates and medals from outside of school to share
- ✓ Pupils can be sent to senior members of staff for special prizes, stickers, certificates and messages in their books

- ✓ Once the entire class has earned a privilege card, the class will be able to celebrate with a privilege reward afternoon.
- ✓ As a class the children can earn marbles, the class with the most marbles each week will get a special treat

After much consultation, we have decided to make some changes to the ways in which we support the children if they are unable to follow our school values.

How we help pupils stay on track:

- Children are given time to reflect on their actions, the signal for this is their name/photo being moved to the Thinking Cloud in the classroom
- Some children will need more support and will be placed on a 6 week Behaviour Monitoring Chart
- Children requiring further support will be referred to our Inclusion Team and their parents will be invited in for a meeting

Red Cards will be given for:

- Physical aggression/violent behaviour/fighting
- Using homophobic or racist language
- Swearing or using offence, aggressive and threatening language
- Stealing
- Vandalism
- Refusal to follow staff instructions

For a pupil's first Red Card, they will receive a letter home. A second Red Card will mean a letter home and a meeting between parents and class teacher/year group leader. If the pupil earns a further Red Card, for the same action, the parents will need to meet with an Assistant Head teacher. A fourth incident will result in an internal exclusion, with the fifth earning an external exclusion.

For your information, this is our strategy for pupils who are struggling to follow our school values at lunchtime:

- ✚ When a pupil does not follow our school values at lunchtime, they will be asked to attend The Put It Right Room (PIRR)
- ✚ Senior staff on duty will discuss the incident and investigate what happened.
- ✚ They will put sanctions in place, this may involve; losing the remaining lunchtime, being asked to return to the PIRR the following day to miss some or all of lunchtime, a Red Card being given, a pupil being asked to leave the school site (exclusion).
- ✚ Repeated issues at lunchtime may result in the pupil being asked to return home for lunch, they will need to be collected and supervised by a parent/carer

Just to remind you that you can make an appointment to discuss your child's rewards and sanctions with their class teacher. They will be happy to share successes and strategies used in school. And don't forget to check ClassDojo!

### [Mrs Poulson - KS1 Assistant Headteacher](#)

It's hard to believe we are in the second half of the Autumn term already! It has been lovely to see all of the fabulous work being completed in Year 1 and Year 2. We are looking forward to learning all about The Oval School which is now 80 years old!

Year 1 have enjoyed a fantastic visit to Blakeley Hall. Our guide, Phil, told us lots of fascinating information and everyone had the chance to dress as a character from the past. We learnt more about The Great Fire of London and there was some fantastic role play from some of the children - dressing up as Samuel Pepys, King Charles and Jane the maid. We had the opportunity to pretend we were putting out the fire with big heavy leather and wooden buckets.

Year 2 have been very busy enjoying their work about dinosaurs. We have been learning all about Remembrance Day and what children did during the war. This term will continue to be a very busy one with Anti Bullying week as well as our exciting new topic! We have had a visit from the NSPCC who taught us about the importance of keeping safe. Ask your child if they can remember the phone number for ChildLine - they should be able to perform this to you! The ladies who led the assembly were very impressed with behaviour of the children.

I hope you were able to meet with your child's teacher for your parent meeting. We always appreciate your support with your child's education.

Thank you to everyone who continues to attend our Parent Library sessions - your support is very much appreciated and the children really love having that special time with you!

### Mrs Roberts - Assistant Headteacher



#### NSPCC Assemblies

I was very proud of KS1 and KS2's contribution to the NSPCC's assemblies this week. They showed that we are a Rights Respecting School and after participating in the assembly, were reminded about how to keep themselves safe at all times. Year 5 and 6 pupils will be taking part in workshops next Thursday as part of our Anti Bullying Week activities. The theme this year is "Choose Respect." The whole school is doing Writing activities based on a story called "Tyrannosaurus Drip" by Julia Donaldson

Pupils completed their half term's English work by writing different kinds of poems based on their topic. See if you can guess who this riddle poem is about, written by a Year 4 child:

I am Catholic.  
The horrid, fat Henry V111 sent me away.  
I ruthlessly burnt rebellious, rowdy protestants at the stake.  
I have the dark eyes of death.  
Who am I?



### URGENT REQUEST FOR CONTACT DETAILS

**New requirements now mean that school must be provided with details of at least TWO contact people for each child. If you have only given contact information for one person for your child then please provide school with details of a second person as a matter of urgency. Don't forget also to update school immediately with any changes to contact details or medical information. Thank you for your co-operation with this very important request.**

## UNICEF ARTICLE 24

### *Children have the right to a safe environment*

The Oval Rights Respecting Rangers, who are Sienna in 6.4, Joseph in 6.2, Zainah in 6.2, Hamza in 6.1, Dominic in 5.3, Rehan in 5.1, Meadow in 5.1, Aaron in 5.3 and Joshua in 5.2 would like to inform you that "we are going to hold a competition for the best road safety poster. We are doing this because we are worried about how cars are parked outside the school. We do not think it is safe for children."



## RECEPTION ADMISSIONS - SEPTEMBER 2019

Online applications for admission to reception classes in September 2019 are now open for children born between 1 September 2014 - 31 August 2015 and who reside in Birmingham and do not already have a full EHP (Education, Health and Care Plan).

The deadline for applications is **Tuesday 15 January 2019** but you are advised to check the primary school admission arrangements at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) before submitting your application at the same address.

Paper applications are no longer provided by Birmingham City Council so, if you are having trouble applying online, you should contact Children's Services direct on 0121-303 1888.

## MEDICINES IN SCHOOL

Please remember that, if your child needs to take medication in school, you must fill out a form available at the school office on the first day the medication is needed. For safety reasons, all medicines must be handed to and collected from the school office and not left in your child's bag or given to their teacher.

## PARKING

As you are aware, at present, we do not have a crossing warden at the front of school so please could all parents be vigilant and mindful of where you park and cross the road. In support of this, as a school, we are talking about road safety with our pupils to help keep them safe.

## Football News at The Oval School

The Oval football team (year 5/6) have played 7 games so far. The first fixtures saw Thornton and The Oval go head to head with 4-0 wins under their belts. In a close game, keenly contested from the kick-off, Thornton grabbed the points in spectacular fashion, as, trailing 2-1 with just three minutes to go, the Thorns scored twice to win 3-2.

The following week saw The Oval against Parkfield in an end-to-end encounter. Both sides had chances but it was Parkfield who snatched the points with a fine goal just before the final whistle. The Oval were then involved in a titanic struggle with the league leaders Corpus Christi, The Oval more than matched their high-flying visitors and were well worth a point from a contest which was high in endeavour but lacking in goals - the game ended 0-0.

After playing so well the previous week and starting to pull together as a team The Oval were undone by a slow start against a determined Colebourne outfit. Going 3 goals down early on sealed The Oval's fate even though they clawed a goal back and went close again in the final minutes, Colebourne ran out 3 -1 winners. In the second game The Oval still smarting from the loss set about Alston with new determination and some stunning football at times, one notable goal was a piece of magical dribbling by Oval's striker who scored to make it 4 - 0, Alston to their credit never gave up pulled one back. The Oval ran out 5 - 1 winners.

With another 2 -0 win under their belt against Erdington Hall just before the break the team are now lying 5<sup>th</sup> in the table after playing 7 games. They are pulling together and playing well.

Well Done !

## Year 6 Hockey Success

**Congratulations to our year six hockey players who performed wonderfully in a tournament last week. Our two teams came fifth and third and we are through to the Grand Final in November.**



## Attendance and Punctuality

The Oval School are working in partnership with parents to improve school attendance. **We would like to congratulate the many parents who make sure their children attend school regularly and on time!**

**Congratulations to the following classes who achieved 97% and above for last half term and won the Movies and Snacks Treat! Hedgehogs, 1.2, 2.3, 3.3, 4.1, 5.2, 5.3, 6.4**

This half term, children can enjoy collecting their "Christmas Baubles" for their Attendance Treat, which will be the last week of this half term! Winning classes achieving 97% attendance and higher will enjoy picking their Secret Santa gift!



**poor attendance + poor punctuality = lower academic achievement**

It is a parent's **legal responsibility** to ensure their children receive appropriate education. **Failing to send your child to school regularly without good reason is a criminal offence.**

**The Local Authority has fined 3 further parents this year for their child's poor attendance and Leave in Term Time:**


**£120**


**£60**

**£120**


**Please remember, fines are per child per parent. Therefore a family of 2 adults and 2 children would be looking at a fine of £240.00**

We will be starting a new initiative to inform you of how your child's attendance looks every half term. We will be sending out Attendance Slips which highlight which bracket your child's attendance falls in to:

100%  97%

0 day  1 day


absence per half term




Name \_\_\_\_\_


Class \_\_\_\_\_

Attendance Superstar! Keep up the good work!

96.9%  93%

2 days  3 days


absence per half term




Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Please be aware of you child's attendance, it will get increasingly difficult to catch up with their lost learning, if such absence continues throughout the year. We will be monitoring these absences

96.9%  93%

4 days and above absence per half term



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

A serious loss of learning which is likely to have a detrimental effect on achievement and life chances

## YEAR 3 RAINFOREST PROJECTS

During Autumn Term 1, Year 3's topic was The Rainforest. Throughout the half-term children were invited to complete their own research and decide how they wished to present it. Children researched animals, rainforest layers, tourist attractions and dangers. The Year 3 team are extremely proud of their efforts and would therefore like to show you some of the incredible work. Huge thanks to parents and carers who supported the children with these wonderful projects. Well done!



### CASHLESS FROM SEPTEMBER 2018

School is no longer accepting cash payments which means that you must pay for school meals, toast, trips and uniform online via ParentPay.

You will have received a letter with log on and password details to register online. If you have misplaced this please contact the school office to request a copy.



### SMOKING

Could we please remind parents that school has a strict no-smoking policy on site and also respectfully we ask parents not to smoke in front of the school gates either. This request also includes vaping and e-cigarettes. Thank you for co-operating with this request.

### UNIFORM

With effect from September 2018 school will no longer accept cash in payment for uniform as it will only be available to order online through your ParentPay account.

Alternatively, our school uniform is available to purchase over the counter at Mansuri Schoolwear in its brand new premises at the Yew Tree Shopping Centre.





# Diary Dates

## Non-School Uniform Days

Friday 16 November 2018	Children In Need
Monday 19 November 2018	School's 80 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Dress Up Day
Friday 14 December 2018	Christmas Jumper Day
<b>More information on its way about these days!</b>	

## Christmas Productions

Monday 17 December	9.30am	Pupils in years 1 and 2
Monday 17 December	2.00pm	Pupils in years 5 and 6
Tuesday 18 December	9.30am	Pupils in reception
Tuesday 18 December	2.00pm	Pupils in years 3 and 4
Wednesday 19 December	10.45am	Pupils in nursery
<b>Please note that school will close to all pupils for Christmas on Friday 21 December 2018 at 1.00pm - please ensure you arrange to collect your child promptly ready for the start of their Christmas holidays</b>		

## School Trips

Monday 12 November 2018	45 x year 6 pupils to visit Cannock Chase Museum
Wednesday 14 November 2018	45 x year 6 pupils to visit Cannock Chase Museum
Wednesday 13 February 2019	90 x year 2 pupils to visit Tamworth Castle
Monday 4 March 2019	60 x year 3 pupils to visit Birmingham Museum
Wednesday 6 March 2019	30 x year 3 pupils to visit Birmingham Museum
Wednesday 13 March 2019	90 x year 5 pupils to visit Safeside
Wednesday 3 April 2019	90 x reception pupils to ThinkTank
Monday 29 April 2019	45 x year 4 pupils to visit Lunt Fort
Tuesday 30 April 2019	45 x year 4 pupils to visit Lunt Fort
<b>More information coming your way soon about other trips!</b>	

# Term Dates

Please read the following carefully as the term dates are now updated with all the remaining teacher days and school closures for this academic year.

Autumn Term 2018	
Opens To Staff	Monday 3 September 2018 (teacher day - no pupils in school)
Opens To Pupils	Tuesday 4 September 2018 for all pupils in years 1 - 6 Wednesday 5 September 2018 for reception pupils who didn't attend nursery Friday 7 September 2018 for reception pupils who have attended nursery Monday 10 September 2018 for new nursery pupils
Closes To All	Friday 26 October 2018 at the end of the school day
Half-Term	Monday 29 October - Friday 2 November 2018 (school closed to all)
Opens To All	Monday 5 November 2018
Closes To All	Friday 21 December 2018 AT 1.00PM PROMPT
Christmas	Monday 24 December 2018 - Friday 4 January 2019 (school closed to all)
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
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
Half-Term	Monday 27 - Friday 31 May 2019
Opens To All	Monday 3 June 2019
Closes To Pupils	Friday 19 July 2019
Closes To Staff	Monday 22 July 2019