



5th July 2024

Motivated to learn, empowered to achieve

OTTERS Shaw NEWS!

Dates for your Diary:

Summer Term 2024

July

- 8th Olympic and Ancient Greece
Fortnight begins
- 10th Reception to The Look Out
- 11th Nursery to Hobbledown
Farm
- 12th 2.30pm Celebration of
Work - Open Classrooms for
Infants and Juniors
Reports to go home
- 16th 11.00am Nursery Leavers'
Assembly
- 18th 9.30am Year 2 Leavers'
Assembly
1.30pm Year 6 Leavers'
Assembly
- 19th Last Day of Term
Nursery Closes at 1.00pm
Junior Closes at 1.05pm
Infant Closes at 1.15pm

OPTA News

OPTA Raised a fantastic £601 at the Ottershaw Summer Fair last weekend. Thank you for the donations and it was great to see so many Ottershaw Families there.

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are so pleased that our Transition Day went so smoothly and all the children went home happy and with a smile at the end of the day. It is always important that they've had a great day with their new teacher so that any summer holiday worries about September are lessened.

For all current Ottershaw children who are returning to us in September, we have a small piece of holiday homework for you to prepare and bring in to school in September please – it will help us as part of our settling in and belonging work:

When the children come back to school in September we will be thinking about how we all belong together. As part of this early settling in work, we would love it if you could gather a few photos/artefacts about your child in a small box and let them bring it to school to keep in class. Each day children will be given the chance to share their box and tell their friends and teachers about themselves - we hope this helps everyone get to know one another quickly and is a great way of showing everyone how much they belong and we value them.

For those of you with children in Years 1 – 6 next year, we will be inviting you all in on Friday 20th September to see your child's new classroom and meet their new teacher.

For Junior School children the Meet the Teacher event will be 8.25am – 9.00am

For Infant School children (Years 1 and 2 only) the Meet the Teacher event will be 2.45pm – 3.15pm.

Please put the date in your diary (we know how helpful advance warning can be).

Teaching Teams for next year

We know it can be helpful to have an idea of which adults are working in which year groups next year. Obviously, we do still have a few teachers on maternity leave and these plans are still in draft form as we are 8 months away, but this is what we expect to happen:

Nursery	Mrs Waters Mrs Yeates Mrs McFetridge
Reception	Mrs Bracken Miss Holland Miss Rowbottom Mrs Young Mrs Skeet
Year 1	Mrs Thornton Mrs Mutch (until Mrs Dockley returns) Miss Philbey Mrs Denny Mrs Burrows Miss McDougall (trainee teacher)
Year 2	Miss Pearson Mrs Smithers Miss Walsh Mrs Partridge Mrs White
Year 3	Mrs Winsor Mrs Parkhouse Mrs Cocker Mrs Dyke Mrs Syrett joining part-time when she returns
Year 4	Miss Gamblin Mrs Potter Mrs Rodriguez Mrs Amaee Mrs Collins

Teaching Teams for next year continued....

Year 5	Mr Sanders Miss Grey Miss Helmy Mrs Pudney Potential teacher trainee (TBC)
Year 6	Mrs Ikin Mrs Ali Mrs Duddy Mrs Hunter
Administration and Premises	Business Manager: Mrs Murdoch Infant Team : Mrs Avenell Mrs May Mr Tom Junior Team : Mrs Gillman Mrs Clark Mrs Blanchfield Mr Lock
Senior Leadership and DSL Team	Mrs Hastings Mrs Jenkyn Mrs Shortland Mrs Hollis

Attendance

I am sure many of you are already aware that new attendance regulations for schools come in to force on 19th August 2024. The main thrust of the regulations is aimed at reducing any unauthorised or unnecessary school absence. All schools are expected to take a tougher stance with regards to attendance and the fining and prosecution regulations have been tightened up to include monitoring over longer periods of time (the slate doesn't wipe clean at the start of a new term or academic year now).

Our formal letter explaining the fining system effective from the 19th August is attached, but I would like to reinforce the message that 10 sessions is actually 5 days and that lateness is included within these new regulations.

As ever, I would like to thank the vast majority of parents who understand just how important regular school attendance is - of course nobody can help being poorly from time to time, but as soon as children are well enough, they should return to school.

Year 4 Social Action Project

As part of our enriched curriculum offer, we expect every year group to build in a social action project into their plans, starting with Reception and their litter picking all the way up to Year 6 preparing Harvest Baskets for our friends at Cameo. We think it is important to teach our children about taking responsibility, helping others, developing their sense of belonging and social justice (sometimes known as courageous advocacy).

Whilst many of our projects involve making a difference to our local community some are about helping others less fortunate around the world. Thanks to your generosity, the Water Aid mufti day organised by Year 4 managed to raise £221 which we hope will go towards helping another community in the world access clean water. Thank you for your support.

A busy week for Year 5

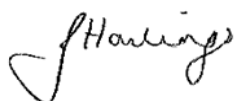
I would like to thank the Year 5 team for organising a week full of different activities! On Monday I had the great pleasure of joining some of our children at a Debating Workshop with other local schools – what a great way to start the week. On Thursday Year 5 went around the village to test our air quality as part of their Geography fieldwork and today Year 5 had a 'taster experience' at Fullbrook. Wow! That is what you call a busy week!

Finally, thank you to all the parents who joined me for the PHSE Workshop for parents on Thursday morning. I hope you found it a useful and informative session and gave you some insight as to how we teach 'Changing Me' across the Junior School and Year 2.

Our approach is all about building positive relationships and the confidence to ask for help and talk about feelings as well as accepting that change happens all the time. We also help to reinforce important messages around personal safety and respect along the way. The information sheets we handed out are attached for you all.

Enjoy your weekend!

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Hastings
Headteacher