



12th January 2024

Motivated to learn, empowered to achieve

OTTERSHAW NEWS!

Spring Term

Dates for your Diary:

January

- 15th Closing date for new Reception and Year 3 Admissions
- 17th Parents' Evening Face to Face 3.30pm - 6.30pm
- 18th Parents' Evening Face to Face 3.30pm - 6.30pm
- 19th 9.00am OPTA Bags2School Fledglings starts back
- 24th Year 4 Residential Sayers Croft
- 26th Year 4 return home

February

- 5th Year 6 Bikeability Week
- 6th Safer Internet Day
Year 4 'Delight in Dance' project
- 12th - 16th Half Term**
- 19th Back to school
- 21st OPTA Disco
- 29th Tangled Feet 'Belongings' performance Junior children

March

- 4th Book Week
- 5th Year 5 to Fullbrook to watch their production
- 8th Book Week Dress Up Day
- 11th Year 4 Bikeability
- 21st Nursery Easter Assembly 11am
- 22nd OPTA 'Break the Rules' Mufti Day
- 25th Easter Pause Week
Year 5 to church for rehearsal
- 26th Year 4 'Delight in Dance' performance to parents
- 27th Easter Church Services
9.00am Junior
10.30am Infant
- 27th Year 5 Easter production for parents - Junior hall
- 28th OPTA Sponsored Easter Fun Run
- 28th Last Day of Term
Nursery closes at 1.00pm/Junior School closes at 1.05pm/Infant School closes at 1.15pm

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start by saying a big thank you to all the Junior parents for adapting clothing and lending heaters so that we could stay cosy whilst our heating was repaired this week! Your support was very much appreciated.

Open Classrooms and Parents' Evening

I do hope those who were able to visit classrooms this morning enjoyed seeing what your child has been learning and the progress they are making. I also hope you have all received your child's mid-year report ahead of Parents' Evening next week. Our Parents' Evening booking system is open and we look forward to seeing you all next week. If you have not yet booked your appointment, please follow the links below to School Cloud our online booking system.

Infant School <https://ottershawinfant.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Junior School <https://ottershawcofes.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Emergency Closure Plan

As is usual for this time of year, I would just like to remind you what our plan is should it snow heavily one day:

Should we experience adverse weather conditions we aim to make a definite decision by 7.30am, but with every school trying to send their emergency text messages these don't always arrive as quickly as we would like and so advise checking the school website. We will also send messages out via Marvellous Me.

Just to reassure you, we will always endeavour to open if at all possible, but our decision will be based on how many staff members are able to travel safely to work to enable us to safely supervise children.

Should snow fall and we do open, please send your children in with a change of warm clothes (including footwear and socks) because we will let them enjoy some playtime in the snow with their friends and they will be wet when they come back inside! This is the most important part as the children love playing in the snow together but we don't allow this if they don't have something warm to change into.

Having said all this, we keep our fingers crossed that we don't have to make an awkward decision!

Lunchtime Clubs

Our teacher lunchtime clubs resume next week and continue until Friday 22nd March. The clubs available at lunchtime this term are as follows:

	Infant School	Junior School
Monday	Drawing In Squirrels with Miss Philbey Yoga In Sparrows with Miss Holland	Drawing In 3W with Mrs Winsor



Lunchtime Clubs....continued

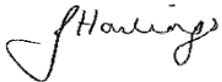
	Infant School	Junior School
Tuesday		Karaoke In 5G with Miss Grey Homework In 3G with Miss Gamblin Board Games In 4P with Mrs Potter
Wednesday	Puzzle Club In Otters with Miss Pearson Singing In Hedgehogs with Mrs Thornton	Jump Start In 3HS with Mrs Smithers Mindfulness In 6I with Mrs Ikin Y5 Football (boys before half term, girls after half term) On the field with Mr Sanders
Thursday	Lego Club In Badgers with Miss Bassett	Homework In 6A with Mrs Ali Extreme In the library with Monica
Friday	Reading Club In Nursery and Robins with Mrs Maclellan, Mrs Bracken and our Y6 Prefects Construction Club In Hedgehogs with Mrs Yeates	Sports Crew for Year 3 In the Ball Court with Mrs Hastings/Miss Hine and the Y6 Sports Crew Library In the Junior Library with the Y6 Librarians

Lateness

Finally, we are seeing a growing number of children arrive at school late and this is impacting on learning. We start our learning as soon as the register is taken (Junior school 8.40am, Infant school 8.45am) and it is important that every child arrives in school in plenty of time to get organised and ready to learn. We urgently need your support in this regard please.

Enjoy your weekend,

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Hastings
Headteacher