



22nd March 2024

Motivated to learn, empowered to achieve

OTTERS SHAW NEWS!

Spring Term

Dates for your Diary:

March

- 25th Easter Pause Week
Year 5 to church for rehearsal
Easter Bonnet Parade for Infants
- 26th 2:15pm Year 4 'Delight in Dance' performance to parents. 2 people maximum per child.
- 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
OPTA Cake Sale at both schools
Nursery closes at 1.00pm/Junior School closes at 1.05pm/Infant School closes at 1.15pm

April

- 15th INSET DAY—schools closed
- 16th Back to school
- 19th Year 6 start their Swimming lessons
- 22nd MUFTI for the Winning Class of the Easter Fun Run

24th OPTA Quiz Night at the Junior Hall

25th OPTA Bags2School

May

21st Class Photos—both schools

Junior Parent and Carers Poll for School Time Change

Please [click here](#) to register your vote in our poll for changing the Junior School Day. This will close on Monday 25th March at 12pm.

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have certainly enjoyed their 'Break the Rules day today – thank you so much for paying your 'fines' for breaking our uniform rules in advance!! I think, at first, some of the older children were hoping that they would be able to break all the school rules today so we did some extra work earlier in the week to reassure them that we always expect them to 'Try Hard, Be Nice' and that most of our rules are needed to keep them safe. I'm pretty sure they understood because we've had a normal day of good behaviour!

Our other great highlight of the week was our Nursery Easter Assembly! Well done to the Nursery Team for preparing the children so well – to see our 3 and 4 year olds stand up and show their work, sing and say things to a large audience is quite an incredible sight. I'm sure parents were as proud of their children as we were (and enjoyed a trip up to Nursery afterwards).

As always, we have been looking at the progress of all the children as we near the end of term. One thing that is standing out for us, and will be a big feature of our teaching from Year 2 upwards next term, is encouraging children to spot the simple mistakes they are making with their punctuation (especially remembering to use capital letters and full stops accurately). I know we sound like stuck records sometimes, but this is such a key requirement of writing. When you are working on spellings at home, feel free to write some sentences together and make sure those capital letters and full stops have been remembered and used!

Whilst talking about English, many of you may have already seen the recent news article encouraging families to turn on the subtitles when watching a television or tablet at home. The aim is to give children even more opportunities to read at home and within their daily activities. I can certainly see how following the sub-titles and listening at the same time could help with fluency of high frequency words and teach new vocabulary at the same time – who knows, you might spot a few more capital letters and full stops along the way! If you are interested in giving it a go, the details are below from the Turn On the Subtitles promoters, and the link to their research can be found [here](#):

The link to the Jack Black explanation is [here](#):

Catering Change

I know I have been writing about the change to school catering arrangements for the past 2 weeks not, but I would like to remind everyone at the Junior School that all dinner money accounts must be in credit before the end of term and that the last day for ordering dinners for after the school holidays is Wednesday 27th March. Regardless of how small your debt is, it must be cleared by the end of the term and the office ladies are sending reminders to pay. Please support us! I know it might take us a while to adjust to the changes but I do think that this change is for the best and hope our children enjoy the chance to have a choice of which hot meal they would like after Easter.

Family Fun Day

I am sure that many of you will be thinking about gardening now that Spring has arrived. Please remember that our local Otter Nursery is having a Family Fun Day this Saturday between 10am and 3pm and there is a chance to enter a prize draw for our school. If you visit, please enter the competition! Tickets can be collected from the Offices.

OPTA News

OPTA have a busy few weeks ahead; Cake Sale next Friday. Can you help to bake, make or donate cakes? Or buy some goodies to take home with you?

Wednesday 24th April; OPTA will be hosting a Quiz at the Junior School for adults only. More details to follow.

Thursday 25th April; Bags2School. Having a clear out over the Easter Holidays? Bag your items up and drop them off for the Bags2School collection.

Easter Service

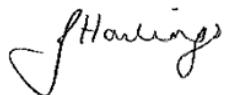
Sadly, we don't have enough parent volunteers to include Reception in our walk to church and Easter Service. We will still take Years 1 and 2 and will need everyone who has already volunteered to help us please.

Staff Update

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Uth will be joining the infants after the Easter Holidays as Year 2 Badgers teacher. She will be coming in to meet the children and have a handover next Tuesday. Mrs Uth is familiar with Ottershaw school, as she has previously worked here as a supply teacher. We are sure you will all welcome her to the infants and we cant wait for her to start.

Enjoy your weekend!

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Hastings
Headteacher



Happy Easter

Easter cake Sale  28th March

Infant School at 1.05
Junior School at 1.15

Can you bake, make, or donate
Easter treats for the OPTA
cake sale?


Please hand your donations to
the Infant and Junior School
Offices in the morning.
Cash or card accepted.