



26th April 2024

*Motivated to learn, empowered to achieve*

# OTTERS SHAW NEWS!

## Dates for your Diary:

### Summer Term 2024

#### May

- 10th Year 3 Pottery Workshops
- 13th Year 6 SATs Week. Y6 invited to arrive from 8.15am for tea and toast (Monday to Thursday)
- 17th Computing Workshop Year 6
- 21st Class Photo Day  
Years 5 and 6 Cross Country Competition at Pirbright School 4pm - 5.30pm
- 23rd 8.30am - 9.00am Year 2 Parents Open Classrooms to see Delight in the Woods work
- 24th Sports Day - Juniors morning / Family Picnic on the field for all at lunchtime/ Infants afternoon

### Half Term 27th May to 3rd June

Dear Parents and Carers,

What another happy week in school we have had!

Firstly, we have some very exciting OPTA news! Thanks to the hard work of the Committee and your brilliant support we have raised enough money to buy our long-dreamed of 'wellbeing pod and group room' for the Infant School. We hope to place the pod next to the new Year 2 building and have people coming out to help us in the next couple of weeks. We are hoping the whole project will be finished in time for the next school year. Thank you for your support.

It was actually the Break the Rules mufti day and Easter Fun Run (which raised an amazing £4,144.50) which pushed the total high enough to enable us to proceed.

Of course, our OPTA Committee are not resting on their laurels and are already off on new plans to get our wellbeing gardens funded – work started this week with a Bag2School collection and the fantastic return of the OPTA Quiz Night. It was great to see our annual Quiz Night return - a fun evening and, as usual, the teachers were well and truly beaten! Thank you all for coming.

Some of our children too have enjoyed something special...

There has been great excitement at the Infants, but especially in Year 2, as more story adventures are appearing every day. I can't reveal too much, but Year 2 have certainly been involved in some lovely English experiences this week. Year 2 parents, you are all invited to visit and see what has been going on very soon (23<sup>rd</sup> May at 8.30am to be exact)!

As part of our collaborative arts work with a few other local schools, we have been very fortunate to receive some funding to help us work with a local artist. You can't get much more local than The Ottershaw Potter and Ioanna has been in today running pottery workshops for all the children in Years 1 and 2. Actually, school are funding opportunities for the rest of the children in the Junior School to work with her too – we aim for every child to learn how to make a decorative, hanging plaque to celebrate nature and things that make us happy and that these ornaments hang in our wellbeing spaces. We hope everything will be hanging in the grounds for you to see at our Celebration of Work in July.

Finally, I do have some more staffing news to share with you. This time the news isn't so happy for us (but is happy for those concerned).

Mrs Maclellan, Mrs Croft and Mrs Lisher will be retiring in July. All 3 staff have been amazingly supportive and skilled members of our team for many years – they know our children and our community so well and they will all leave a big hole in our hearts and our Ottershaw School family. Thank you ladies for your love and dedication to generations of Ottershaw children, we will miss you very much.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Hastings  
Headteacher