



Newsletter

6th September 2019

Welcome back!

I hope you have all had a lovely summer break and would like to welcome you back to our new school year. I hope the children are ready for a new year of learning, challenges, fun and new experiences! We would like to welcome all our new starters to our school this term: Felicity, Bridget, Lemonie, Jacob, Jessica, Marcus, Syd and Lucas. We wish them every success in our school. We would also like to welcome Miss Curry and Miss Hughes to our staff team.

Classes 2019

Class	Year Group(s)	Teacher
Acorns, Saplings & Blossom	Nursery and Reception	Mrs Chapman, Miss Comerford, Mrs Sheldon, Miss Hughes
Beech	Year 1 and Year 2	Mrs Askwith & Mrs Taylorson
Pine	Year 2	Miss Turner & Mrs Collier
Willow	Year 3 and Year 4	Mr Smith, Miss O'Neil & Mrs Geraty
Sycamore	Year 4 and Year 5	Miss Curry & Mrs Stones
Maple	Year 5 and Year 6	Mr Robinson & Mrs Lowrie

Uniform

Our children have returned to school looking extremely smart, thank you for your help with this. Please remember our uniform consists of: black or grey trousers/skirts (not leggings or track suit bottoms), a white or pale blue polo shirt and a maroon sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper. Children must wear sensible, black school shoes or plain black trainers; not brightly coloured trainers/shoes. To prevent losing any part of the uniform it please name all belongings. Jewellery must not be worn to school. All children must have a school PE kit which consists of black/navy shorts, white t-shirt and plimsolls or trainers.

Timings of the Day

School begins at 8.55 a.m. and it is important children arrive to start the school day on time so they don't miss introductions to lessons. Children are allowed on to the premises at 8.45 a.m. as there is supervision on the playground and our early morning skipping and active activities start prompt. School finishes at 3:15 p.m. Please ensure children are collected from school and clubs on time.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club begins at 8.10 a.m. and all children should enter through the Sports Hall entrance. Our breakfast club is free to all school children and consists of cereal, toast, fruit, yoghurt and a drink - a filling and healthy breakfast! Please do not leave children at school before 8:10 a.m. as there are no adults available to supervise the car park area and we do not want the children's safety to be compromised in any way.

Attendance

Our attendance for the 2018-2019 academic year was 95.11%. It is still hovering below the government target of 96% for all children with unauthorised holidays in term time being a key factor. Any child with low attendance or attendance which causes concern will trigger intervention from Mr Readman our attendance officer or the Local Authority attendance team. Please inform us as soon as possible if your child is not going to be at school; it is important that we enter the correct reason on our school register to avoid 'unauthorised' absences. If you want time off for holidays you must meet with Mrs Lowrie to complete a holiday form. In line

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with safeguarding procedures, we do need to know **all** reasons for absence. I appreciate your continued co-operation and support. A list of school term dates and holidays can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Attendance awards in school:

- Each week we hold a weekly lottery draw for all children with £1 prize - you have to be in to win!
- Each class has the chance to win an extra playtime or a treat playtime for 100% class attendance
- Each term children who have 100% attendance earn an extra playtime and a prize. They will be entered into a draw and a family prize will be awarded to one lucky family
- 100% attendance for the school year will earn your child £10

School Lunches

School lunches continue to be free for children in Blossom, Beech and Pine classes. From September lunches for KS2 children will cost £2:05 per day (£10.25 per week). School dinner money should be paid at the start of the week, sent in with children in a named envelope or purse. Please send all forms and money with your child on a morning, rather than bringing them to the school office as it can become very busy. If you decide to send a packed lunch with your child please make sure it meets our school packed lunch policy requirements. No fizzy or sugary drinks are allowed in school and a child's packed lunch should contain no more than one 'treat' for example one biscuit or one packet of crisps. Sweets and chocolate should not be included. Thank you.

Parking

Please do not park on the zig-zag lines outside of school as it is very dangerous when the children are entering and leaving school; park safely, away from school. Parents must not use the school car park at any time.

Scooters and Bikes

We very much encourage children coming to school on scooters and bikes, but children must not ride them around the school carpark. Children must wheel their scooters and bikes once through the carpark gate and on school premises. Scooters and bikes are to be stored in the bike parking bays provided.

Safeguarding - Are your contact details up to date?

It is important that we have up to date contact details for all children here on file at school. Please drop us a note if you think we may not have your current contact number: home, work or mobile. For safeguarding purposes we must also be informed of any changes to your child's home address/living arrangements as soon as possible.

Reading at Oakley Cross

Mrs Collier will continue to lead our school book club this year. We have lots of new books on offer to browse, buy and read at home. We will be holding a school book club later this term and Mrs Collier will be continuing the savings club so children can save in advance. Children can save a small amount each week or fortnight and will have their very own savings card to keep a record of their savings. This money can then be used at the school book fair. Reading is really important to us and we want your child to be the best they can be. We really appreciate your support by taking time to hear your child read at home and 10 minutes each day. This has a very significant impact on improving their fluency and comprehension.

Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor on our school governing body. If you are interested in this role or would like more information, please pop in to school.

Oakley Cross Friends

We will be meeting on Wednesday 11th September, after school, for the first time this year and would very much welcome any one who is interested; new members and existing members. There is no requirement for this to be a huge commitment from you but if you can help with ideas for events and fundraising and spare a little bit of time we would really appreciate your support. Every little helps!

Teeth Team Programme

Thank you to all parents who expressed an interest and returned forms for this programme. Unfortunately our start in the programme has been delayed.

Nursery Places

We still have places available in our nursery. If you are interested in a place or would like more information, please pop in to school and we will be happy to show you round and provide you with an application form.

Messy Play Sessions

This term we will have Messy Play Sessions running in school. These are led by 'Little L's Mess-a-Lot' and are open to anyone interested. The sessions are suitable for babies sitting up unaided through to children of 5. Sessions are in our school hall on a Tuesday morning at 10:00am and cost £5 per session. This includes coffee for adults, a drink and snack for children and time to explore and play.

Dates for your Diary	
Tuesday 10 th September	Messy Play sessions start in school - contact for details
Friday 13 th September	Maple class visit Staindrop School
Wednesday 18 th September	Judo taster sessions in school Y5/6 tag rugby league begins
Wednesday 25 th September	Blossom Class 'Special Person' Lunch
Friday 27 th September	Macmillan coffee afternoon - more info to follow Maple class visit Staindrop School
Tuesday 1 st October	Y4/5 handball festival
Monday 7 th October	Y5/6 'Show Racism the Red Card' workshops
Wednesday 9 th October	Harvest Festival
Friday 11 th October	Maple class visit Staindrop School
Wednesday 23 rd October	Y3/4 Tag Rugby mega festival Halloween Disco
Friday 25 th October	Break up for half term
Monday 4 th November	School re-opens
Tuesday 5 th November	Flu vaccines - more information to follow
Wednesday 6 th November	Y5/6 football league begins
Monday 11 th November	Maple Class Remembrance Assembly
Wednesday 13 th November	Y5 and Y6 to Dukeshouse Wood
Wednesday 13 th November	Beech Class 'Special Person' Lunch
Week beginning Monday 18 th November	Parent and teacher meetings this week
Tuesday 19 th November	Y2 kurling and boccia festival
Thursday 28 th November	Y5/6 boccia school games event

Term Dates 2019-2020

AUTUMN HALF TERM	Friday 25 th October 19	Monday 4 th November 19
CHRISTMAS 18	Friday 20 th December 19	Tuesday 7 th January 20
SPRING HALF TERM	Friday 14 th February 20	Monday 24 th February 20
EASTER 19	Friday 3 rd April 20	Monday 20 th April 20
MAY DAY	Thursday 7 th May 20	Monday 11 th May 20
SUMMER HALF TERM	Friday 22 nd May 20	Tuesday 2 nd June 20
SUMMER 19	Friday 17 th July 20	TBC

I know this is a very busy newsletter, but I hope the information is helpful. You should also receive a class newsletter this week. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with school if you want to put forward a suggestion or discuss anything. Thank you.

R Brannan

The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children. Article 3

After School Clubs

The following clubs are being offered this half term and will change after the October holiday. Clubs cost 50p per session but we ask that payment for the half term is made to secure your child's place. If you receive your newsletter in electronic form and would like your child to attend a club, please pop in to collect an after school clubs form.

Day	Club	Year Group(s)	Teacher	Cost
Monday	Knitting	KS2	Mrs Collier	50p per session £3.50 total
Monday	Rugby	KS2	Ryan (Education Enterprise)	50p per session £3.50 total
Monday	Film Club	KS1	Miss O'Neil	50p per session £3.50 total
Wednesday	Yoga	KS1	Beth	50p per session £3.50 total
Wednesday	Eco Club	KS2	Mrs Askwith	50p per session £3.50 total
Thursday	Drama	KS2	Mr Robinson	50p per session £3.50 total
Thursday	Story Club	KS1	Mrs Geraty	50p per session £3.50 total

We always try to offer a range of after school activities at our school and it is expected that all children will behave in an acceptable manner and not disrupt the enjoyment of others. Some of the clubs have very limited places and it is really important that we know who is attending each club. If your child would like to attend one of the after school clubs we offer, **you must** return the slip below along with payment before the club begins.

.....
Child's name:

Class:

I would like my child to attend.....

I have enclosed payment of.....

He/she will make their own way home. He /she will be collected by.....

I understand my child is expected to behave in an acceptable manner and not disrupt the enjoyment of others.

Signed..... Relationship.....