



Newsletter

4th September 2020

Welcome back! [Article 28 - every child has the right to an education](#)

I hope you have all enjoyed a lovely summer and I 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 are hoping this year is a little less bumpy than last as we know how much learning time the children have missed due to COVID. We would like to welcome all our new starters to our school this term: Jada, Carys, Evie, Damian, Agata, Billy-Joe, Frazier, Millie, Anna, Alice and Lyle. Next week we welcome our nursery starters for this term: Joel, Acer, Albert, Archie and Harvey. We wish them every success in our school. We would also like to welcome Mrs Wilkinson back to our Oakley Cross Team.

Classes 2019 [Article 28 - every child has the right to an education](#)

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

Update on our safe return [Article 19 - Children have the right to be safe](#)

We are quite pleased with how well our new routines and safety measures in school have been going. I am sure the children have told you a lot about what is happening and no doubt they have mentioned the amount of hand washing we are doing! I appreciate our new ways will take some getting used to and it is still early days.

Thank you to those of you who have signed up to parent pay and are using this for school lunch money; it is really appreciated. Thank you for respecting our safety and contacting school by telephone with your questions and queries. I would also like to say a huge thank you for sending your child to school looking really smart in our school uniform.

Please remember that whilst the peak of the Coronavirus has passed, it has not disappeared. We have people within our school community who are more vulnerable who need to distance from others and we all need to help each other stay safe. I would ask that you please follow the procedures for dropping off and collecting children to avoid any large groups forming at the school gates. We have staggered our start to avoid you having to wait around.

- One parent to drop off and collect
- Don't hang around at the gate to chat
- Please maintain a social distance of 2m from other adults/families
- Please don't cross the roped barriers to approach staff, maintain your social distance
- Please be punctual and stick to timings of the day. If you have two children, come at the later time to drop off and come at the earlier time to pick up. For example, if you have a child in Blossom and a child in Sycamore, come at the Sycamore time to drop off (as it is the latest time) and come at Blossom time to collect (as it is the earliest slot). That way they can be dropped off together and you do not need to wait around.

Breakfast Club *Article 24 - every child has the right to nutritious food*

Breakfast Club begins at 8.10 a.m. and all children who have booked a place should enter through the Sports Hall entrance. If your child is not booked in, they can not attend. 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 *Article 28 - every child has the right to an education*

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. It is particularly important at this time that we are made aware of any Coronavirus symptoms our children or family members may have. In line with safeguarding procedures, we do need to know **all** reasons for absence. I appreciate your continued co-operation and support. If you want time off for holidays you must meet with Mrs Lowrie to complete a holiday form. Holidays are generally an unauthorised absence and following such a long period of time away from school because of COVID-19, I will not authorise any holiday requests unless there are particularly exceptional circumstances surrounding the request. A list of school term dates and holidays can be found at the end of this newsletter and I would appreciate your co-operation in not taking children out of school unnecessarily. 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.

Safeguarding - Are your contact details up to date? *Article 19 - Children have the right to be safe*

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.

Governor Vacancy *Article 28 - every child has the right to an education*

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 contact school.

Nursery Places *Article 28 - every child has the right to an education*

Our nursery is proving to be very popular this year. If you are interested in a place or would like more information, please contact school and we will be happy to arrange an appointment to show you round and provide you with an application form. We are currently compiling a waiting list.

Term Dates 2020-2021

AUTUMN HALF TERM	Friday 23 rd October 20	Monday 2 nd November 20
CHRISTMAS 20	Friday 18 th December 20	Tuesday 5 th January 21
SPRING HALF TERM	Friday 12 th February 21	Monday 22 nd February 21
EASTER 21	Friday 26 th March 21	Monday 12 th April 21
MAY DAY	Thursday 30 th April 21	Tuesday 4 th May 21
SUMMER HALF TERM	Friday 28 th May 21	Tuesday 8 th June 21
SUMMER 21	Friday 16 th July 21	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 discuss anything. Thank you.

R Brannan