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Weekly Newsletter: wb 24th February 2025

Lockdown procedures

As you know, we did a 'lockdown' practice with the children before the holiday. This was observed by one of our governors, David Chinchin, and the children were VERY sensible throughout. They understood the need to practice (in the same way as we do a fire drill) and remained calm / quiet. We were very proud of them!

Attendance

Our whole-school attendance for the year-to-date is **95.4%**. This is up on this time last year and above the latest National Average (94.8% for Primary Schools). We are of course happy with this but it is still short of our target of **97%**. Obviously, we don't want children to come in if they are likely to spread a virus; but please continue to do what you can to maximise their attendance (every day counts!). Examples of this include not taking holidays in term-time and booking and booking routine appointments after school wherever possible. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Reminder: Parents Evening & SEND Reviews

You should have last week received a separate letter about our forthcoming Parents' Evening on Wednesday 5th March. If you would like to make an appointment for this, please click the link [here](#).

Meanwhile, if your child is due a SEND review this term, you should have received a letter about this before the holiday. Please check the date and time and attend if you can; letting us know either way by returning the parental advice form. Thank you.

Nursery codes

If your child attends Nursery, it is your responsibility to apply for and provide us with the relevant code to ensure their hours are currently funded; otherwise we may have to charge for any hours taken. Because different people apply at different times, we cannot remind you about this individually; please check your dates and look out for official government emails about renewing codes etc. Thank you.

Modeshift STARS

- We are once again working towards accreditation from Modeshift STARS for the work we do around road safety etc. Part of this includes consultations with stakeholders; including parents. If you could possibly spare just 2 minutes to complete the survey [here](#), it would be most appreciated. Thank you.
- Meanwhile, 'Dr Bike' will be in school on Friday this week. Please see the separate letter about this (sent out alongside this newsletter).

Oughtibridge Gala

Oughtibridge Gala is coming up soon and applications are now open to any Y5 or Y6 pupil who would like to be part of their 'Gala Royalty' programme (the deadline is the 15th March). A separate letter with more information has been sent to parents of children in Y5 & Y6. Please think about applying if possible – it should be a great experience for them.

OPC Kids' Club

Finally, Oughtibridge Parish Church are starting a new Kids Club after school on Wednesdays (3:30 – 4:45pm). This is open to children in Y3 to Y6 (term-time only) and starts on the 12th March. It promises to be "a safe, fun and special place for young people to play games, make crafts and hear some Bible stories." It is free to attend and you can sign up at www.opc.org.uk/kidsclub.

Mr Gaughan

Nurturing confidence, nurturing potential, nurturing success.



Celebrating Achievement



Well done to the following children:

- ★ **Bronze:** Millie-Mai, Angus (Sycamore)
- ★ **Silver:** Grayson, Briar (Ash); Henry B (Rowan); Enes, Ameera (Sycamore); Zach, Lily P, Lunar (Oak)
- ★ **Gold:** Ford (Ash); Alfie J, Molly, Cameron (Willow); Elliana, Hope, Darcy (Rowan); Jacob S (Oak)
- ★ **Nursery Stars of the Week:** Oscar & Cian (Saplings)
- ★ **Attendance winners:** Attendance during the last week of half-term was 93.5% overall. The winning classes were Willow (KS1) with 97% and Sycamore (KS2) with 93.9%.
- ★ **House Point winners:** It was another win for Oceania last time out but Asia won overall for the Spring 1 half-term.
- ★ The following children have recently earned **bronze awards** from the **Children's University:** Esme, Willow G, Jude, Joseph B, Eser, Isla, Leo C, Polina, William R, Alfie J & Henry J.
- ★ Skyla & Esme won our in-house competition for posters on 'Phishing' for **Internet Safety Day**.



This week's birthdays:

Ellie-Mai (10),

This week's 'School Standard' is:
Be Kind (our FIRST rule!)

What's Happening?

Little Seedlings & Saplings are using their imaginations to think about what would happen next if a story didn't finish (making predictions). Meanwhile, they are looking for any 'junk modelling' items you may have; specifically lids, empty toilet rolls and kitchen towel rolls. Thanks in advance!

Ash will this week be making their own rocket packs!

Willow will be starting to design and make their own moon buggies using wheels and axles in their DT unit.

KS2 children in The Learning Zone will be planning their non-chronological reports about African animals.

Rowan will this week be starting their 'Joy of Moving' health and wellbeing sessions with coaches from SUFC.

Sycamore are meeting their friends from Porter Croft School on Tuesday. They will be visiting Graves Art Gallery with them.

Now there are only 9 school weeks until SATs, Oak class are busy preparing (please encourage them to work through their 'SATs Buster' books!). Thank you to all the parents who attended Mr Hartley's information session before half-term; we hope it reassured you about our approach... Meanwhile, girls from Oak class will be taking part in a girls' football tournament this Friday. Good luck girls!

