

Autumn Term – Newsletter

A Festive Message

Dear Families,



We have reached the end of an extraordinary term. The last couple of weeks have been full of festive cheer and the children have really shown just how incredible they are. The children have shown determination in spades showcasing their unbelievable talents from Nativity performances, Carol Concerts, Pantomimes, 'Owlprentice' and even our very own Rudolph Rave. Everyday the children surpass expectations and give us all something to celebrate and to be proud of.

If you haven't already seen 'THAT CHRISTMAS' on Netflix, it is a must see this year. In the film they talk about Christmas being a magnifying glass for many families. This time of year, certainly focuses on the good times, family, love and kindness but it also reminds us that it can also magnify memories and situations that can be difficult for so many. I want you to spend as much time as you can with your amazing children this year and take a moment to think of those families that may not be as fortunate as ourselves.

Go and make some memories this year and I look forward to hearing all about them in 2025.

Merry Christmas to you all and have a fantastic New Year.

Mr. Cope



Christmas Lunch – No sweat!



The hall looked amazing for Christmas lunch this year thanks to the hard work of the Owlsmoor Elves and kind donations of your left-over tinsel. The children enjoyed a stunning lunch cooked by Jodie and her fabulous team feeding over 300 of our children on this very special day. All the children had an incredible

time and Harrison's Christmas Hat competition went down a storm with our four overall winners receiving a very special Christmas gift. Congratulations to Calvin, Elodie, Denis and Chloe.



The Winning Wreath is...

This year we held a Christmas Wreath competition amongst the classes. They have all been beautifully displayed in the hall. The winning class received a prize of £100 to be spent on something for the classroom. It was a very close call this year with School Council calling a tie between two of the classes. After a long deliberation they announced the winners to be FLAMINGOS. Congratulations to Mr. Rock and his team – the Wreath really was a masterpiece.



****NEW** to Owlsmoor – Introducing SMILE Afternoons**

One thing we are working hard on this year is to provide our families more opportunities to learn more about what goes on in school. I am pleased to announce that we are introducing after Christmas our SMILE afternoons.

The doors to school will open at 15:00 and you will be able to pop in to your children's classroom to look at their learning. Each SMILE session will focus on specific areas of learning. Our first will be Maths and English. On entry, you will be given a SMILEY sticker which you will stick into your child's book next to your favourite piece of learning. It is an excellent opportunity to share your children's amazing learning and for them to tell you all about it.

Nursery parents will be able to come into their setting at 14:30 where they will be able to take part in a stay 'n' play session, learning alongside your little ones.

Our first SMILE afternoon is on FRIDAY 17th JANUARY 2025 @ 15:00 for all (apart from Nursery) with a focus on Maths and English.

We look forward to seeing you all there.



Christmas has come early - Academisation is on the horizon!

We have all received an early Christmas present! The Governors and I are absolutely delighted to share the news that the Department of Education issued the orders for our school to academise and join The Circle Trust www.thecircletrust.co.uk. The work now begins in the practical parts, which we hope will conclude by the end of this academic year. In one way, joining a Trust won't feel very different at all! As you know, we chose to join with this family of schools because the schools that are part must retain their unique ethos and character. By joining this Trust, we will very much enjoy the help, support and expertise from this family of schools. We will of course keep you updated on the exciting journey ahead 😊.



Interesting Hair Cuts

Not to spoil the festive mood, but just a quick reminder about hair cuts in school. We have a small number of 'interesting' hair cuts creeping into school. I have never had to send a communication out before so just wanted to send a quick reminder that tram lines or shaved designs are not permitted in school as set out in our uniform policy. If the children would like hair cuts like this please allow them to have them at the beginning of the Summer Holidays - this then gives them enough time for them to grow out. Thank you, as always, for your support.

KEY DATES

Friday 20th December 2024	End of Term at 2pm for Christmas
Monday 6th January 2025	INSET DAY
Tuesday 7th January 2025	Children Return to School
Tuesday 14th January 2025	Family Forum 18:00 – 19:30 – School Hall
Wednesday 15th January 2025	Year 3 Trip to the Living Rainforest
Friday 17th January 2025	SMILE Afternoon @ 15:00
Wednesday 22nd January 2025	Kiwis Class Assembly 9am
Friday 31st January 2025	Herons Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 5th February 2025	Woodpeckers Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 13th February 2025	Flamingos Class Assembly 9am
Friday 14th February 2025	End of Half Term at 3:15pm
Monday 24th February 2025	Children Return to School
Monday 3rd March – Friday 7th March 2025	Book Week
Thursday 6th March 2025	World Book Day
Thursday 6th March 2025	Year 6 WW1 Workshop (More details to Follow)
Thursday 6th March 2025	Year 3 Mayan Workshop (More details to Follow)
Friday 7th March 2025	Dressing Up as a Book Character
Wednesday 12th March 2025	Pelicans Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 12th March 2025	Family Forum 18:00 – 19:30 School Hall
Friday 14th March 2025	PTA Comedy Night (Adults Only)
Wednesday 19th March 2025	EYFS Spring Celebration (More Details to Follow)
Friday 21st March 2025	Red Nose Day (More Details to Follow)
Friday 21st March 2025	PTA Disco (More Details to Follow)
Thursday 27th March 2025	Year 1 to Windsor Castle (More Details to Follow)
Friday 28th March 2025	SMILE Afternoon @ 15:00

Wednesday 2nd April 2025	Parent Consultations School Closes at 12 noon for Everyone (More Details to Follow)
Friday 4th April 2025	End of Term at 2pm for Easter
INSET Days Left for 2025	
Monday 6th January 2025	
Tuesday 22nd April 2025	
Monday 2nd June 2025	

SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025 – 2026

Autumn Term 2025

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Pupils Start on Thursday 4th September 2025

October Half Term - Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October 2025

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 3th November 2025

Pupils start on Tuesday 4th November 2025

Autumn Term ends on – Friday 19th December 2025 at 2.00pm

(Christmas holiday: Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 2026)

Spring Term 2026

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 5th January 2026

Pupils start on Tuesday 6th January 2026

February Half Term – Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026

Pupils start on Monday 23rd February 2026

Spring Term ends on Friday 27th March 2026 at 2.00pm

(Spring holiday: Monday 30th March 2026 to Monday 10th April 2026)

(Good Friday: 3rd April 2026, Easter Monday 6th April 2026)

Summer Term 2026

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 13th April 2026

Pupils start on Tuesday 14th April 2026

Public Bank Holiday (School Closed) Monday 4th May 2026

(May holiday: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026)

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 1st June 2026

Pupils start on Tuesday 2nd June 2026

Summer Term Ends on Wednesday 22nd July 2026 at 2pm

RESPECT – KIND – INCLUSIVE – DETERMINED - SAFE