



2nd November 2018

Dear Parents

Thank you to all those parents who came to our parent consultations just before half term. If you haven't spoken to your child's class teacher about your child's progress, then please get in touch with them. It is really important that you know how well your child is doing.

### CAREERS WEEK

This week, all the children have had an opportunity to think about their future and what jobs they might like to explore. We have provided daily drop-in workshops; a careers fair; and employer visits. We reached out to local companies and invited many to talk about their jobs, challenged stereotypes, and discussed working hard and following aspirations to develop successful businesses.

We have had military crewmen, an animal physiotherapist, Verizon and Microsoft representatives, a sports coach, Reverend Catherine, the police and fire services, a Sky engineer, a yoga instructor and business owner and The Joystick Club, who provided an interactive cockpit and pedal planes to introduce children into the world of aviation.

We closed the week with a careers fair and we would like to thank all the parents who gave up their time to showcase a variety of careers and answer some of the questions our children had.

Thank you to everyone who made this week so successful.

Mrs Leggett and Miss Hipkin.

### SUPERSTAR MATHEMATICIAN AWARD FOR KEY STAGE TWO

October's Superstars are: Darijan Mircheski, Alfie Brewer-Peck, Evie Mills, Harry Bampton, Lily Plumtree, Eladee Manning, Lucy Siggs, Oscar Randall, Joseph Spackman, Luke Edwards, Verity-Ann Grist and Lily Faux. You should be very proud of your hard work – well done!



### SUPER STAR WRITERS' AWARD FOR KEY STAGE TWO

October's Superstars are: Lukash Vaughan, Alice Giffin, Lucie Adamson, Chloe Robson, Harry Goddard, Daisy Turner, William Stanton, Molly McDade, Harry Easener, Lily Faux and Eve Spredbury. Well done – what a lot of brilliant writers!

### PARENTS' FORUM

Our next parents' forum is on Tuesday 6th November from 9.00 – 9.30 am.

## FOOTBALL



This month the team have continued with their winning start to the season winning in both the league and the cup.

In the first game at home against Jennets Park, the team played really well but found themselves going into half time with only a narrow lead at 2-1. However, the boys came back out strongly for the second half and substitute Liam Ankerson-Rolfe grabbed a second half hatrick to ensure Owlsmoor walked away as 5-1 winners.

The second and last game of the month came on the last day of half term as we travelled away to Holly Spring for our first cup match of the year. This was a very tight game with the one and only goal coming from a well taken corner seeing the team move on to the next round!

The team have really started to play well as a unit and our results are reflecting all the hard work and effort that the boys are putting in each week.

I am very proud of the way the boys have gelled as a team and am hoping for more victories and success for the rest of this season.

We now go into a winter break with our next game scheduled for February 2019

Mr Dolby



## FROM THE PTA

Owlsmoor Primary School PTA Fireworks Night. Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Come along and enjoy another amazing fireworks display.

Gates open at 4:30pm and fireworks will start at 5:30pm!! The gates will be closing at least 15 minutes before the performance starts.

Tickets are £3 each and are be available through the school office or on the gate on the 10<sup>th</sup>. This event is open to everyone so tell all your family and friends!!! Under 3 years are free entry. Volunteers will receive 2x free tickets. This will allow yourself and one other person free entry.

If you would like any more information please email us on [owlsmoorschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:owlsmoorschoolpta@gmail.com)

## STEPPING STONES CAKE SALE

There will be a cake sale on behalf on Stepping Stones next Thursday (8<sup>th</sup> November) in the middle playground at 3pm. If there happens to be any leftover they will be selling them on the next day (Friday) same place same time.



## OWLSMOOR SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

The School Council elections were a great success and we had an excellent turn out on the day! Well done to all the children who took part in the voting and to all the children who put themselves forward as candidates. We were very impressed by the time and effort that was put into some of the posters and speeches during the campaign process.

I would like to say a big thank you to all the school councillors from last year who helped drum up excitement about our school's election day by making posters, taking part in an assembly and helping sort ballot papers after the voting. We were also very lucky to have the help of several enthusiastic Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils who helped run the elections on the day by spreading the word in the playground, helping hand out ballot papers and directing children to the voting booths and ballot box.

The new school councillors have been awarded their school council badges by Mrs Cole at a special assembly. We are very proud to announce that they are:

Year group	Class name	School Councillor	Vice School Councillor
2	Parakeets	Riley Walsh	Amelia Fortune
	Penguins	Grace Woodall	Summer Inions
	Kookaburras	Lily Bruce	Poppy Drayton
3	Swans	Leila Emerson	Imogen Jacob
	Pelicans	Freddie Drewett	Lucie-Mae Lowry
4	Hummingbirds	Yasmine Chhokar	Leo Thornton
	Flamingos	Darcey Osborn	Libby Vogwell-Evans
	Toucans	Evelyn Weston	Gurmeet Nandra
5	Emus	Finley Mott	Kimberley Lewendon
	Kiwis	Joshua Jones	Jessica Lewis
	Ostriches	Jessica Heginbotham	Millie Read
6	Kites	Bayley Wood	Eloise Lavers
	Eagles	Gracie Whalley	Jamie King
	Falcons	Alesha Mistry	Alfie Hopping

Thank you  
Mrs Layton – Matthews and Miss Edwards

### SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November the school photographer will be back to photograph the siblings who go to the school and any absent children from their first visit.

### LUNCHTIME CONTROLLER VACANCY

The school is looking to recruit some lunchtime controllers (dinner ladies/men). If you are interested please see Mrs Lowry in the school office for an application form.

### POPPY SELLING

Just to let you know the school are selling poppies in the school office.



## **AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS**

If your child does any after school activity clubs this term, and for some reason they can't attend that day, please can you let the school office know as soon as possible. This is for safeguarding reasons. Thank you.

## **NETBALL**

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, several members of our school netball team took part in the Bracknell High 5 tournament. This is a competition where each half lasts for ten minutes, there are only five players on court and all players have to change position at the end of each half, and again at the end of each match. It results in matches being played at a fast and furious pace, with players often playing in unfamiliar positions. The team began strongly, notching up a 5-0 win against Crowthorne Primary School. In their second match, they came up against a strong team from St. Joseph's and, despite a valiant effort, they lost that match 4-3. However, this seemed to spur on the team and they came out playing brilliantly in their next three matches to beat Sandy Lane 7 – 0, Ascot Heath 3 – 0 and St. Michaels, Easthampstead by 9 – 0. This put them through to the semi-finals where they were drawn against a very good team from Warfield. After ten minutes the score was even so extra time was played. Scores were still even at the end of extra time so it was decided that the next goal would win the match. The team fought hard, defended brilliantly and got the ball into Caitlin (not our normal shooter!). The whole team held their breath, Caitlin held her nerve and the adults and team went wild when the ball sailed through the hoop to win the match.

Then it was the final – and we came up against St. Joseph's again; the only team to have beaten us all day. Both teams played magnificently, battling for every ball and defending for their lives. Both teams scored but St. Joseph's just had the edge and won the match 3-2 in the end. The Owlsmoor team finished silver medallists, a wonderful achievement, particularly as we do not train for High 5 events, and shows the strength of the players in the team. They were all very proud of their medals and there is now another medal in our school trophy cabinet 😊

Huge congratulations to Isabella, Keira, Callum, Caitlin, Connie, Grace and Lily and massive thanks to Miss Horner, Mrs Kroyer and Rachel for supervising, coaching and cheering on the team on the day.

Mrs Fish

## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR SCHOOL ADMISSION APPEAL PANELS

Do you have an interest in education?

Do you want to play an important role in ensuring the school allocation process is fair?

Are you good at listening to people and making balanced decisions?

We are looking for new people to join our group of School Appeal Panel Members. Panel members are independent volunteers who decide the outcome of school appeals, where a parent wants to challenge the Council's decision to refuse their child a place at their preferred school.

All panels need to include at least one person with no experience of working in schools, and at least one person who has experience in education. We are particularly looking for volunteers who are or have been employed as a teacher or learning support assistant, or volunteers who have children registered at a school.

Our Panel members said the following about volunteering with us:

- 'For me, I felt I was able to make a difference and to contribute to the community that I live in'
- 'I applied to be a panel member as the panel has the authority to come to a fair, appropriate decision at individual hearings.'
- 'I volunteered for the Panel because hoped that I might be able to contribute some of the skills and experience I had acquired in my previous career and benefit from volunteering locally in a challenging and important area of administration'

To find out more information or to apply, please go to <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/school-admission-appeals/school-admission-appeals-panel> or email us at [appeals@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:appeals@bracknell-forest.gov.uk) with any questions.



### **Christmas Holiday Club - for ages 4 - 11yrs**

Open 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at New Scotland Hill Primary School

We are now taking bookings for the Christmas holidays.

Ofsted Registered, Accepts childcare vouchers, Open 830am-6pm.

Full & half day rates aswell as adhoc hours at only £3ph,  
*including drinks and snacks.*

*Early Bird special for all bookings booked and paid for by 7<sup>th</sup> December*

*Only £21 full day & £11 half day.*

To book the holiday club please email us at [theafterschoolclub2011@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:theafterschoolclub2011@yahoo.co.uk) or call 07928806557



**This year the school council has decided that the children should come to school dressed in their pyjamas to raise money for Children in Need on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November. We would like the children to bring in a £1 coin as a donation please. Thank you in advance.**

## **THE MONTH IN BRIEF**

### **Puffins (Nursery)**

Firstly, I would like to thank all the Parents and Carers who attended the Parent Consultations. It was a great opportunity to talk to you all and discuss how well your children have settled in, and their progress to date. If you were unable to attend the Parent Consultations, I am available after school to discuss your child's progress, so please arrange a time to meet.

Our topics this half term are Celebrations and Nocturnal Animals. We will be learning about Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas. We will be creating artwork inspired by fireworks and tasting different foods to celebrate Diwali. Also, we plan to collect leaves, acorns and other autumnal debris during autumn walks around the school.

We will soon begin to learn the songs for our Christmas Nativity play. We will be performing this for parents on the morning of Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December at St George's Church. We will let you know if any specific clothing is needed for your child nearer the time.

Later this term we will be writing letters to Santa and we are hoping to send them to the North Pole in the hope of receiving a reply from him. We will be writing these letters during the week commencing 26<sup>th</sup> November. We are hoping to walk to the Co-Op to buy a stamp and post the letters to him on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November. A letter will be going out closer to the time with more details.

There are "wow" slips available in the classroom for you to take. We look forward to hearing about the amazing learning your children are doing at home. As part of our Home-School link, we would love to see some more parent helpers in the setting. If this is something you'd be interested in, please come and speak to a member of the nursery team.

Coughs and sneezes are on the increase; we really appreciate your donations of boxes of tissues – thank you!

As always, it is helpful to ensure that all water bottles, cardigans, jumpers, gloves, scarfs, socks and shoes are named clearly as this saves a lot of time getting the right clothing items to your child.

Our door is always open, so please come and talk to us if you have any questions. Many thanks

Miss Edwards, Miss Sandy and Mrs Toal



## Reception

Welcome back after a lovely autumnal half term, we hope you are all well rested and ready for the Christmas term. This half term our topics are: People who help us, Bonfire night, Autumn and Festivals. If you have anything at home which will enhance the children's learning (books, small world toys, photos etc) of these topics, please feel free to bring them into school.

The children are learning about 'Guy Fawkes', and they will be watching a fireworks display (on screen) round a campfire for their literacy lesson next week on the Wednesday. Please could they all bring in a hat, scarf and gloves to wear for that lesson. The children will also be going on an autumn walk the following week (Friday) where they will be collecting leaves, acorns and other autumnal debris. Please can each child bring in a collection of autumnal debris from their own autumn walks. They will be put to good use! We are also celebrating Diwali and ask each child to bring in a contribution of £1 next Tuesday so we can buy Indian food (vegetable curry, naan bread, poppadums, rice and samosas) for the children to taste on the Friday.

As the weather begins to change please could we ask that your child brings in a coat or raincoat (clearly labelled). Could they also bring in a pair of clearly labelled wellington boots for outside digging and playing.

A quick reminder that all children should be reading at home every day, practising their phonics letter sounds in their phonics books and attempting to write the sounds. Could you also continue to help your child to learn their Teddy words at the back of their reading records, thank you?

We will be starting to learn the songs for our Christmas Nativity Play – The Little Angel. We will be performing this to parents on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 9:30am in the school hall. A few children will be sent home with words to learn – if that involves your child, would you please help them. We will let you know if any specific clothing is needed for your child nearer the time.

Coughs and sneezes are on the increase; we really appreciate your donations of boxes of tissues – thank you.

***We kindly request parents to ensure that children do not play or use any of the outside toys at the beginning or end of sessions. Thank you.***

It is also helpful to ensure that all cardigans, jumpers and shoes are named clearly as this saves a lot of time getting the right clothing items to your child.

As always, our door is always open so please come and talk to us if you have any questions or concerns.

Many thanks

Mrs Layton – Matthews, Ms Grant and Mrs Bryan

## Year One

The first half term has flown by and the children have settled in very well. It is lovely to see them coming into school so happily now.

Thank you for your support with homework and reading so far this term. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that homework is sent home on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday. Teddy, Rocket and Penguin words (high frequency and tricky words) will generally be tested once a week and once children can read each word by sight they will be given the next set of words. Children need to be able to recognise these words in all contexts and your child may be asked to repeat some words if they are not secure in reading them.

Most  
Friday for



children have been enjoying their extra 10 minute play on a reading at least 4 times a week at home. Please remember to

sign in your child's reading record when they have read. They do not necessarily need to read the school reading book every night and we do encourage them to read other texts e.g. newspapers, comics and library books. These can also be recorded in the reading diary. The National Curriculum has a strong focus on application of knowledge. Children who are confident readers are expected to apply their knowledge of language to other areas of English. For example, writing in full sentences using correct punctuation and using high level vocabulary they have experienced in their reading books.

Thank you for attending the Harvest Festival to support your children and celebrate their achievements. Performing in front of a crowd outside of the school environment can be very daunting for the children and having so many familiar faces there to support them was a real treat.

It was lovely to meet so many of you at the recent parent consultation evening and to discuss your child's progress and achievements in the first half term.

Please make sure all your child's belongings, including jumpers, water bottles, PE kits and book bags, are named. The children often leave their things around and it is impossible to match them up with the rightful owners without name tags.

We are also always grateful for any boxes of tissues for the classrooms – a big thank you to those of you that have already helped us with these.

The Year 1 Team

## Year Two

Welcome back to school after the half term break!

This half term Kookaburras will be having their class assembly on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November and the children are busy learning their lines so please keep an eye out for these in their reading records. Our topic this half term will be the history of Sandhurst. If you have any old photos or books about Sandhurst please send them in so we can share them with the classes. We will also be designing and making fruit smoothies so if you would like to help out with this activity in the kitchen please see your child's teacher.

Please can children make sure that they have their PE kits with them on Monday and Friday every week as it is now getting colder and PE will be outside at least once a week. Warm weather kit is advisable.

We will be having our annual Christmas nativity service at St George's church at the end of this term. Children will be given lines and songs to learn nearer the time.

Year 2 Team

## Year Three

Welcome back after the break. We hope you now feel rested and ready for a very exciting half term leading up to Christmas. Please make a note of the key dates at the end of the newsletter, including Pelicans' class assembly on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 9:00 am. Parents are warmly invited to attend.

We would like to thank all of the parents who came along to the parent-teacher consultations just before the end of the half term. We hope you found the opportunity to discuss your child's progress useful and, as always, we are happy to speak to you after school if you have any further questions or comments regarding class work or homework. Thank you for your continued support with completing homework and reading at home at least four times each week; this is particularly important with the higher expectations of reading comprehension this year.

This half term, we continue with our rainforest topic and there is a growing excitement about our trip to Kew Gardens on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November. A separate letter with information about the trip was sent home earlier this week. It is very important that permission slips and voluntary payments are returned to class teachers by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November at the latest. Please could we remind you

that the children will need to bring a packed lunch and plenty of



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AWARDS FOR ALL

water on the day in a named rucksac. If you have not already done so, please let us know as soon as possible if your child receives free school meals and you would like the school to provide a packed lunch on the day. There will also be an opportunity to visit the small shop so the children can bring up to £5 in a named purse, wallet or envelope. If your child suffers from travel sickness, please administer their medicine before they come into school and provide us with anything they need to take before the return journey. You will need to complete a medical form at the office with the details of how much medicine your child requires and how long before the return journey we need to administer it. If you have any further questions about the trip, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Finally, we would like to say a big thank you to all of the parents who came to help with our 'snake sewing' project. We are very grateful and the children have been very pleased with their efforts. If there are any parents or grandparents who can volunteer to help out in the classrooms as a 'one off' or at a regular time each week, even it is for an hour, we would love to hear from you. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you think you might be able to help.

Mrs Fish Miss Barton Mrs Walden

#### Year Four

Welcome back after the half term – it seemed to whizz by! We hope you now feel rested and ready for a very exciting half term leading up to Christmas. Please make a note of the key dates at the end of the newsletter, including Toucans' class assembly on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 9:00 am. Parents are warmly invited to attend.

A big thank you to all the parents who made it to parents' evening appointments – it was a great opportunity to get to know one another a bit better and set some targets for the children to really work towards, both at home and in school. Thank you for your continued support with completing homework and reading at home at least four times each week; most children are now enjoying a reading treat on Friday afternoons.

This half term, we will still be learning about Ancient Egypt and we have been enjoying the amazing artefacts made by the children last half term. We will, once again, be visiting BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir on the 7<sup>th</sup> December and look forward to sharing the experience with all of the children in Year 4. This trip has been very enjoyable in the past and gives the children a fantastic opportunity to see this amazing building and have lots of their questions answered by the extremely helpful staff. Letters will be going out soon with more details but please do let us know if you would be interested in accompanying the children on the trip as parent helpers.

We will also be making bread this term. The children will bring home a copy of their designs labelled with the flavourings they wish to use. We will provide the children with the ingredients to make their dough, but we would like the children to bring in their own flavourings to add to the bread. More information will be sent out nearer the time.

Finally, if there are any parents or grandparents who can volunteer to help out in the classrooms as a 'one off' or at a regular time each week, even if it is for only an hour, we would love to hear from you. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you think you might be able to help.

The Year 4 team

#### Year Five

Welcome back to school after the half term break, we hope you enjoyed it! We would like to thank all the



that you found this a useful meeting.

This half term we are continuing with our 'Meet the Greeks' topic and will be making and designing Trojan horses and making Greek pots. We are also looking forward to our Greek workshop. In science this term we are starting a new topic of Space. We have enjoyed reading their space posters and we hope they enjoyed researching this exciting topic.

Please can children make sure that they have their PE kits with them on Monday and keep them in school until Friday. As it is now getting colder and PE will be outside at least once a week, please ensure they have a pair of long tracksuit bottoms, warm sweatshirt and trainers that fit.

As the cold weather has started to arrive along with runny noses we would like to ask for donations of tissues. Thank you!

Year 5 team

### **Year Six**

Welcome back and we hope that you all had a restful half term break. Thank you to all who attended the parent consultations last term. It was a pleasure to put some faces to names and share with you how hard your children have been working. If you haven't had the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher, please arrange an appointment with the school office.

This term, to mark the centenary celebrations, we will be studying the First World War in more depth in our topic lessons. The children have produced some fantastic information posters, leaflets and models for their homework and we hope that they are excited to continue to build on their understanding of why this is a significant point in history. This will also couple with our work in English, where we will follow on from our successful theatre trip by reading the novelisation of 'Private Peaceful'.

As the weather is now turning colder, please ensure that your child has their winter P.E. kit in school at all times. It would be extremely helpful if you encouraged your child to clearly label all their items of clothing.

Falcons' class assembly will take place on Friday November 9th in the school hall at 9am. We look forward to seeing as many parents of Falcons' children as possible.

As a reminder, any payments towards the Mill Rythe trip should be sent directly to the school office; a final payment date will be sent at a later date.

Thank you for your continued support.

Year 6 Team

Yours sincerely

EA Cole (Mrs)  
Headteacher



**DIARY DATES: (new dates or information in bold)**



Tuesday 6th November	Parents' Forum 9.00 – 9.30 am
Thursday 8th November	School Photographer (sibling photos) Stepping Stones cake sale <b>3.00 pm middle playground</b>
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Continuation of cake sale <b>3.00 pm middle playground</b>
Friday 9th November	Falcons' Class Assembly 9.00 am
Saturday 10th November	PTA Fireworks Display
Wednesday 14th November	Emus' Class Assembly 9.00 am
Friday 16th November	Kookaburras' Class Assembly 9.00 am
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Children in need</b>
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Y3 Trip to Kew Gardens</b>
Thursday 22nd November	Nuthatches' Class Assembly 9.00 am
Friday 23rd November	Pelicans' Class Assembly 9.00 am
Friday 30th November	Toucans' Class Assembly 9.00 am
Wednesday 5th December	Christmas Lunch
Friday 7th December	YR Nativity <b>9.30 in the school hall</b> <b>Y4 trip to a Mandir</b>
Tuesday 11th December	Parents' Forum 6.00 – 6.30 pm
Thursday 13th December	Y2 Christmas play – <b>9.30 am at the church</b>
Friday 14th December	Nursery nativity – <b>10.00 am at the church</b>
Tuesday 18th December	Y1 and Y6 Christmas Play – <b>9.15 am and 2.15 pm</b>
Friday 21st December	Rudolph Rave 9.00 am
FINISH 2.00 PM	
Monday 7th January	2019 Inset Day
Tuesday 8th January	2019 Pupils return to school