



# Newsletter



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New Oscott Primary School

## Message from Head Teacher

Welcome to a new school year!  
I hope you had a very enjoyable summer and that your child is enjoying the start of term.  
We had a whole school assembly on the first morning back and it was lovely to see all our pupils and staff together again after the summer break. We discussed our expectations and aspirations for the year ahead and celebrated feeling proud to be part of New Oscott Primary School. We also looked forward to all the opportunities and challenges the year ahead will bring.  
Over the first couple of days, Mrs Budden and I have enjoyed visiting classrooms and have been very impressed with the start our pupils have made. Keep up the great work everyone!

## Welcome to New Oscott

A very special welcome to all the children and families joining New Oscott Primary School this term. We are really looking forward to admitting our Reception and Nursery pupils over the next week. We look forward to getting to know our new pupils and families over the coming weeks.

## Staff News

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Budden, our new Deputy Head Teacher, who has started at New Oscott this week. We also welcome our new teaching assistant for Year 2 (mornings only) Mrs Payne; teaching assistant pupil support, Mrs Birchall and our Senior Learning Mentor, Ms McKee. Ms McKee will have a role to support pupil attendance and support pupils with barriers to learning. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please contact Ms McKee via the school office.

## A Few September Reminders

- Thank you to all parents for ensuring that all our children have the correct uniform and shoes for the start of the new school year. They all looked so smart on their first day back! Please encourage your child to take a pride in their school uniform and appearance at all times. As you are aware, pupils are expected to wear black school shoes in school - trainers are not permitted. Cardigans and sweatshirts should be red. Jewellery and make-up are not to be worn.
- **All** school uniform, including P.E. kit, coats and shoes **must** be named. This will be regularly checked and names written into any un-named uniform in an attempt to reduce lost property.
- Pupils are **not** allowed on school grounds before 8.40 a.m. The doors open at 8.45 a.m. in Juniors and 8.50 a.m. in Infants.
- Please ensure that your child has a water bottle (containing water only) in school every day.
- Pupils in Junior Department are permitted to bring a piece of fruit, a cereal bar or purchase a piece of toast for morning breaktime (purchased via Parentpay a term in advance). No biscuits, sweets or crisps please.
- No dogs or pets apart from assistance dogs are allowed onto the school grounds.
- Please remember that if your child is absent from school you must phone school before 9.30 a.m. to let us know.
- **Please ensure emergency contact details are kept updated. If you have changed your home, work or mobile numbers please inform the school office as soon as possible.**
- Please take care when parking. **Do not** park on zigzag lines, corners, the pavement or across neighbours' drives. Please do not stop or park in the gateway to the school. We need access in and out of the car park at all times.

### School Photographs

This year all family and individual photographs will be taken on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**. The photographs will be taken by Tempest Photography.

If you would like your child/ren's photograph taken with pre-school (who don't attend our Nursery) or secondary school age siblings, please come to the Meeting Room at the front of school from 8.00 - 8.50 a.m. All other family and individual photographs will be taken during the school day.

### Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancies

We currently have permanent and casual/relief lunchtime supervisor positions available. If you are interested, please speak to Miss Pelly in the School Office. The hourly rate is £8.93.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Parents and carers are invited to our Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Infant Hall on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September** at 9.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.



This is a great opportunity to meet other parents, as well as supporting this worthwhile charity. Thank you to Mrs High for organising this event.

### Mobile Phones

Year 6 pupils **must** have permission granted before bringing a mobile phone to school. The bringing of mobile phones to school is strongly discouraged and permission is only given to Year 6 pupils who have completed the required form available from the school office.

### Music, French, Spanish and Speech Lessons

Speech lessons, French, Spanish and instrument tuition lessons start next week.

### School Meals

**No nuts please:** A reminder to parents whose children bring packed lunches that nuts or nut products are not permitted in school due to pupils with serious allergies.

This also applies to children bringing in treats for Golden Time celebrations. Thank you.

### Bikes and Scooters

A reminder that bikes and scooters are **not** to be ridden within the school grounds.



### Letterjoin

We use the Letterjoin handwriting scheme for Year 1 to Year 6. The website and resources can be found at: [www.letterjoin.co.uk](http://www.letterjoin.co.uk). The school username is: newoscott

More information is on our school website

### Reception Impact Meetings

**Reception Ready for Reading Impact sessions** will take place on the following dates:

<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b>	2.00 p.m. RA
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b>	2.00 p.m. RW
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	2.00 p.m. RHR

We ask that each pupil has a parent/carer or family member to work with during this session if at all possible please. This could be a grandparent or other family member etc.



### School Fund

At the beginning of each school year, we ask parents for donations to our 'School Fund', which is used to buy additional resources, rewards, stickers etc throughout the year. This year, this request has become even more important due to the financial challenges faced by all schools which are trying to balance budgets in the face of increasing costs and reductions in funding. New Oscott Primary School is also faced with these significant challenges and I continue to work closely with the Governing Body to look at areas in which savings can be made whilst still striving to maintain the high standards of education our children deserve.

The suggested annual school fund donation to **£10.00 per child** this year - but the school would, of course, be extremely grateful for any amount you can give. This collection really makes an enormous difference to what we can provide for the children. Please make your donation on Parentpay.

We are always extremely grateful for any donations of resources to school. If you or your employer are able to donate surplus stationery or other materials, or employee time to support building or grounds works, please do let us know. We are also grateful to NOSPA who work so hard to raise additional funds for our school. Please continue to support our pupils through NOSPA and School Fund donations if you possibly can. Thank you.

### Newsletters

School newsletters are published every other Thursday and are sent out by email. If you don't receive your newsletter by email, please email the school office on [enquiry@newoscott.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@newoscott.bham.sch.uk), stating your children's names and classes and marking your email 'newsletter request'.

Copies of the current newsletter are displayed in the display boards by school entrances and there are a few paper copies in the main reception area.

### Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to all the children who have already completed the Summer Reading Challenge at Birmingham Libraries.



A reminder that all book reviews must be given in at your Library by this **Saturday, 7th September**. There will be a presentation in school on **Tuesday 1st October at 9.00 a.m.** for all the children who complete the Challenge.

### Medication in School

**Just a reminder that school staff are unable to administer medicines to children during the school day.**

Medication for children's short term illnesses e.g. anti-biotics, pain relief should be administered at home. Parents should ask their clinician to prescribe in dose frequencies which enable this to be administered outside of school hours. If this is not possible, the parents/carers have the option to bring medication into school and administer it personally to their child at lunchtime or to nominate a friend or relative to do this for them. The only exceptions to this are for children with long-term medical issues, including asthma, where prior arrangements have been made with the school under advice from the medical adviser. N.B. Children should NOT bring medication, other than inhalers, into school under any circumstances. If you have any queries about medication/asthma inhalers, please speak to Ms McKee, our Senior Learning Mentor.



### NOSPA NEWS

#### PE Kits

We are expecting P.E. kits to be delivered to school this week. Katie Tirrell will sort and get these out to pupils as soon as possible. We will send a text when the kits are being sent out.



There will be more NOSPA information in the next newsletter but if you would like to get involved in our Parents' Association and offer your help, please contact our NOSPA Chair, Katie Tirrell, using the contact details below.



Contact Us: 📞 Katie Tirrell 07888131203 ✉ E-mail: [email.nospa@gmail.com](mailto:email.nospa@gmail.com)  
or via our facebook & twitter pages



**ALL THE MONEY NOSPA MAKES GOES TO SCHOOL**

### Sports Clubs

A list of clubs available this half term has been emailed out. Parents are reminded that clubs are booked and paid for through Parentpay. Once all the places are allocated, the club ceases to be accessed on Parentpay.

If your child gains a place, you will then be emailed a letter with a reply slip which needs to be completed and returned if your child has any medical conditions. It is important this is returned, even if we already hold this information in school as some of our clubs are run by outside providers.

If your child has a place at a club and can't attend any sessions (e.g. because they have an appointment after school one day), please let us know so office staff do not have to spend time checking that your child has been collected instead of attending the club.

Parents are also asked to ensure that children have the correct kit/equipment (e.g. shin pads) for the club they are attending.

### British Values

Every month we focus on a different 'British Value' in our assemblies and classroom discussions. This month our value is 'being proud'. You may like to talk to your child about what this means; what makes you feel proud and what your child feels proud of - and why.

### Behaviour

This week, Mrs Walklett and Mrs Budden are leading Behaviour Assemblies, in which children are reminded about our school rules, rewards and sanctions. We have extremely high expectations of all our pupils and these are shared with pupils both in assemblies and classroom discussions.

All the staff, including Lunchtime Supervisors, have a positive approach to behaviour management.

Recognition is given to pupils who are polite and follow our school and lunchtime rules. For example, Lunchtime Supervisors choose children who have been commended for their good manners to sit on the 'Golden Table' at lunchtime. These children have their names read out in Friday assembly and enjoy sitting at a specially decorated table the following week.

A member of the Senior Leadership Team has their dinner with the children each day and Mrs Walklett and Mrs Budden walk around school every lunchtime to pick up on any issues and talk with the children in the playgrounds.

Our 'Room for Thought' will continue for children who have been involved in more serious misbehaviour such as stone throwing or fighting. On these occasions, children miss part of lunchtime, spending the session with a teacher to complete a follow-up activity which may be a letter of apology or writing/drawing about what they did wrong and what they could have done instead. Parents are informed if their child has attended 'Room for Thought'.

As with all areas of learning, children learn appropriate behaviour most effectively when school and parents work in partnership. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns around behaviour.

Our Senior Learning Mentor, Ms McKee is also able to offer advice and support.

### Secondary School Applications

A reminder that the final deadline for Secondary School applications is **Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019**. All applications now have to be made online. Secondary Schools are holding their open evenings over the next couple of weeks. Visit their websites to check when these are taking place.

### Year 6 Rotary Award



Year 6 children who would like to take part in this year's Rotary Award, should return the registration form and £4.00 to the School Office by next **Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> September**.

Anyone requiring a registration form should collect one from the School Office.

Diaries should be delivered to school by the end of September. Mrs Walklett will meet with all the children involved to explain how to complete their Rotary Award plan. Mrs Walklett will also speak to parents about the award on **Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> September** at the Year 6 Parent Meeting (2.30 p.m.)

### Parent Readers



We are in need of a team of parent reading volunteers to read with children from Reception to Year 2. If you have an hour or two to spare each week and would be interested, please contact the School Office. Miss Brown will be leading training for volunteers on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 9.15 a.m.** If you are interested, please let Miss Brown know via the School Office. If you are interested but unable to attend on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September**, please also let Miss Brown know as she may be able to arrange a different time later in the term. If you have already been trained as a reading volunteer at our school and would like to continue to help this year, please let Miss Brown know as soon as possible via the school office. Please note that a DBS check is required for all volunteers in school.

### SEN (Special Educational Needs) Drop-in Sessions

Our SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator), Mrs Hutchings, will be holding drop-in sessions for parents who have any concerns or questions around their child's additional needs. The sessions will be held on the following days/times in the meeting room at the front of school:

Years 5 & 6: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 2.45 p.m.

Years 3 & 4: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 2.45 p.m.

Years 1 & 2: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30 p.m.

Reception: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30 p.m.

### Junior Playtimes Reminder

A reminder that Junior children are required to wear an old pair of tracksuit bottoms over their uniform and trainers if they wish to play football at playtimes.

### Assistance Dog

Whilst the school has a policy of no dogs on our school grounds, specially trained assistance dogs are permitted.

We now have a support dog assisting one of our pupils and accompanying him to and from school. The assistance dog, Willow, is not in school during the day. Willow has been trained by Support Dogs and will be wearing her blue coat to indicate that she is working. Whilst working it is important not to approach and pat Willow.

### Attendance

With today's newsletter, we are emailing a letter about Fast-track Attendance. As you may be aware, improving attendance for some groups of pupils was an identified action in our Ofsted Report in June 2017.

The letter explains that it is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure their children receive appropriate education. Failing to send your child to school regularly without good reason is a criminal offence.

**Head Teachers may not authorise leave during term time except where the circumstances are exceptional.**

Please read this letter carefully. Additional copies are available from the main reception if you have not received your copy.

We would like to thank parents who make sure their child is attending school regularly and are therefore benefiting fully from their educational opportunity.

If you have any queries regarding any of the above, please do not hesitate in contacting me or Mrs Budden.

Yours sincerely

*Alison Walklett*

Mrs A Walklett

Head Teacher

### Diary Dates 2019 Beginning Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term

Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> September		New Reception parent meetings New Nursery parent meetings Year 4 Parent Information Meeting
	2.30 p.m.	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> September		Welcome to new Reception pupils (Intake 1) New Nursery parent meetings Year 5 Parent Information Meeting
	2.30 p.m.	
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> September		Grammar Schools' Selection Tests Summer Reading Challenge finishes at local libraries
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	2.30 p.m.	Year 6 Parent Information Meeting
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September		Welcome to new Reception pupils (Intake 2) Year 1 Parent Information Meeting
	2.30 p.m.	
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	2.30 p.m.	Year 2 Parent Information Meeting
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	2.45 p.m.	Years 5 & 6 SENCo drop-in
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> September		Welcome to new Reception pupils (Intake 3) Years 3 & 4 SENCo drop-in
	2.45 p.m.	
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	2.30 p.m.	Years 1 & 2 SENCo drop-in
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	from 8.00 a.m. for pre-school and secondary age siblings	Individual and family photographs
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	2.30 p.m.	Reception SENCo drop-in
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	9.15 a.m.	Volunteer readers training (meeting room)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September		Governing Board Finance Meeting Full Governing Board meeting
	6.00 p.m. 7.00 p.m.	
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00 a.m.	Macmillan Coffee Morning - Infant Hall
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	2.00 p.m.	RA Phonics Impact session
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October		Summer Reading Challenge Presentation Assembly RW Phonics Impact session Year 5 residential meeting - Junior Hall
	9.00 a.m. 2.00 p.m. 3.40 p.m.	
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	2.00 p.m.	RHR Phonics Impact session
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October		Maths Rockstars Launch - all dress up as rockstars - more information to follow!
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00 a.m.	Harvest Assemblies - Reception parents invited