



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2018

ATTENDANCE

We have listed below the attendance percentages for each class up to now. Each class should be aiming for a minimum of 96% attendance and parents' support in getting each class to reach or exceed this target is greatly appreciated.

Buttercups	95.7%	Daisies	92.7%
Tulips	97.7%	Poppies	97.6%
Daffodils	97.9%	Sunflowers	96.8%
Oaks	96.4%	Willows	96.9%

Well done to Daffodils who have the highest attendance.

Rise and Shine - School Starts at Quarter to Nine

LATE ARRIVALS

School starts for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 starts at 8.45 am prompt. Nursery starts promptly at 8.30 am. Please make sure your child is in school by this time. It can be unsettling for your child if they join the class late, it can disrupt the rest of the class and can affect your child's attendance.

Welcome

We would like to wish a warm welcome to the new children who joined us this term.

We hope all the children have had an enjoyable first half term in their new classes.

The Governors and Staff would like to thank you for your continued support.

SCHOOL CAR PARKS – SAFETY WARNING

The 2 small car parks that serve school are for the use of staff and visitors only. Unfortunately, we do not have enough space for parents to use these car parks.

For the safety of your children please **do not** use the car park as a pedestrian route into school. Keep to the designated pathway into school which is there for your safety.

We have also received reports of parents, carers and their children congregating on the car park before and after school. This is potentially very dangerous both to staff and visitors who constantly access the car park and to you and your children.

Uniform

Just a reminder to make sure all items of clothing should be clearly labelled with your child's name. This includes coats, shoes and PE kits.

Thank you.

Olympic Medalist Visit (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are lucky enough to be having a visit from bronze Olympic medalist Kristian Thomas on Wednesday, 7th November. Please remember to send your child into school in appropriate sportswear on the day. School are funding this event so no payment is needed.

Holidays During Term Time

Just a reminder about holidays during term-time. From 1st September 2013 the law gave no entitlement to parents to take their child out of school for a holiday during term time. Any application for leave must now only be for **exceptional circumstances** and term time holidays are not classed as exceptional circumstances. The Local Authority are monitoring schools vigorously and are issuing fines to parents/carers who continue to take holiday during term time.

Education lays the vital foundations of a child's life and regular, punctual attendance at school is key to both your child's academic and social development.

Thank you for your continued support.

Admissions to Reception and Year 3 September 2018

If your child is due to start Reception or move to Year 3 in September 2018 you should have received a letter from us providing information on how to apply online. The closing date for applications is 15 January 2019. Please contact the school office if you have any queries or concerns about the online process – we will try to help.

After School Clubs

We have a few places left in the following clubs:

Games (Monday)
Outdoor Activities (Monday)
Tennis (Tuesday)
Multisport (Thursday)

Please contact Mrs. Penn in the School Office if your child would like to join one of these clubs which run until Christmas. They cost £2.00 per session.

Flu Vaccines

This year the school nurses are offering the flu vaccine to all children in Reception, Year 1 and 2. The vaccinations will take place on Friday 14th December. The School Nurse service will send out information and consent forms shortly.

Parents' Evening for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Thursday, 15th November

We hope parents and carers of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can join us for parents' evening. If you are unable to attend please arrange a convenient appointment time with your child's class teacher.

Reporting Your Child's Absence

If your child is not in school it is extremely important that you contact us to let us know the reason. There is an answering service for you to leave a message. We have a duty to ensure the safety of all of the children in our school and, as part of this, we have to know where our pupils are. Failure to call school could result in a visit from the School Attendance Officer or, in extreme circumstances the Police.

Just a reminder to keep checking our school website at

<http://www.ockerhill-inf.sandwell.sch.uk>

You will find lots of useful information which we update regularly.

Money Sent into School

We cannot stress enough the importance of sending money into school in an envelope or container clearly marked with your child's name and what it is for. If 'loose' money is sent in for payment we are unable to identify who it is from – already this term we have had quite a sizeable amount of money sent in to pay for after school clubs with no identifying name.

Please help us by always labelling – thank you.

Bonfire/Guy Fawkes Day and Diwali – Food Tasting Sessions

Letters have been sent out regarding allergy information for the food tasting sessions on 5th and 6th November.

If your child has an allergy please ensure you send back their allergy information as soon as possible.

Harvest Festival

We are delighted with all the produce you have kindly sent in for our Harvest Festival. After our celebrations the food will be donated to a local food bank.

Year 1 Inspire Morning – Friday 9th November

Letters have been sent out to parents and carers of children in Daffodils and Sunflowers classes with appointment times for the Year 1 Inspire Morning on Friday 9th November. We do hope you can join us.

Text Messaging Service



As you are aware we send urgent messages from school out by text message. Our text messages will be sent from no: 01212851036. Please save this number onto your mobile phone so you will be able to see immediately when you receive a message from Ocker Hill Infant School.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU INFORM US IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MOBILE PHONE NUMBER SO WE CAN UPDATE OUR TEXT MESSAGING SERVICE.

☆ Well done to all our pupils who have achieved awards out of school ☆



<u>Dates for your Diary</u>	
Mon 5 th Nov	School Starts Bonfire Night
Tues 6 th Nov	Diwali
Wed 7 th Nov	Olympic Medalist Visit - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.
Fri 9 th Nov	Year 1 Inspire Day
Mon 12 th Nov	Anti Bullying Week - Choose Respect
Tues 13 th Nov	Year 1 Planetarium
Thurs 15 th Nov	Parents Evening for School 3.30pm - 7.30pm
Fri 16 th Nov	Children In Need PJ Day
Thurs 29 th Nov	Parents Evening for Nursery 3.00pm - 6.00pm
Fri 30 th Nov	Willows Assembly 9.00am
Mon 3 rd Dec	Christmas Around the World Reception Eye Tests
Fri 7 th Dec	Theatre Group - Santa's Magical Toy Shop
Mon 10 th Dec	Santa's Sports Day
Fri 14 th Dec	Flu vaccinations - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Mon 17 th Dec	Nursery Sing Alongs 10.45am and 2.30pm
Tues 18 th Dec	KS1 Sing Alongs : Yr1- 9.00am Yr2- 2.30pm
Wed 19 th Dec	Reception Concert - 2.00pm
Thurs 20 th Dec	Fun Day Disco 4.30pm to 6.00pm
Fri 21 st Dec	Xmas Jumper Day Break Up