

Ox Close Primary School Newsletter



Dedicated to Excellence

March 6th 2020 Volume 23

Adam Bushnell: Mastering Writing Greater Depth

Adam Bushnell has released his latest book for teachers, which is entitled 'Mastering Writing Greater Depth'. This book features examples of lessons from a number of teachers at Ox Close, which is quite an accolade. What is even more exciting is that work from 2 of our pupils is also included in the book. Ted from Year 1 is featured, as is Ella H, who is now in secondary school. Adam has provided complimentary copies for all of the staff and children who are included and this is something of which we are very proud. Well done to all concerned!

5/6L Class Assembly

Class 5/6L gave a tremendous Class Assembly on Wednesday. The children showcased their many talents and Miss Lanagan cleverly linked these to the designing of monsters which had taken place when Adam Bushnell had visited last week. I was so impressed with the vocabulary which the children used and their expression - Adam had clearly inspired them. I must also praise the children for how clearly they spoke, something which was identified by the audience too. It was a pleasure to be here to witness the performance and I would like to congratulate 5/6L and Miss Lanagan.

5/6S Class Assembly

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers of the children in 5/6S for their class assembly on Wednesday at 10.10am.

World Book Day

The children had an enjoyable World Book Day, focussing upon significant authors, and their t-shirts were terrific. Their highlight was the performance of Robin Hood by Image Musical Theatre, something which was financed by the School Fund.

Coronavirus

Coronavirus is very much in the news at the moment and the Government are understandably continually assessing the situation. As part of this process, they send daily emails and information to all schools. We were asked to share information with parents and so tonight we have sent the advice leaflet that they have issued to all schools across England. It is important that we take common sense precautions, such as regular hand washing, and we are staying calm, using common sense and following all guidance closely. This week we have discussed the importance of washing hands and we are ensuring that children wash their hands thoroughly and regularly. We also recommend that the children wash their hands when they return home from school. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Sports Relief

On Friday 13th March, we are inviting all children to come into school wearing their sportswear for Sports Relief. **We are not asking for donations on this occasion.** Children from Years 2 to 6 will also be involved in our YOGA taster sessions which will take place through the day with 'Yoga Mike', a teacher who trained at Ox Close.

Parents/Carers Drop-in Session

Thank you to all of the parents who attended Miss Bewick's drop in session on 'Connecting with Children' and the mental health and well-being of children. I know that Miss Bewick was delighted with the response and she is looking forward to working with some of those children and families in the future.

New Menu Starts After Easter

Each child will receive a copy of the new menu today. You can use these at home to help you book your child's choices online using Parent Pay from Easter up to July 2020. If you are unable to make your own bookings, please complete the form, circling a Red, Green, Yellow or Pink choice for each day, and return it to the school office ASAP. Meals must be booked in advance so the cook can pre-order food for the next term. Thank you for your co-operation.

Newsletters

Just a reminder, that as well as sending out paper copies, we always save our newsletters online in case you ever lose the newsletter and need to refer to it. You can find newsletters at <http://www.ox-close.durham.sch.uk/parents/school-newsletters/>

Class Charts

Naava A was the highest Class Charts point scorer in Reception this week, while our top scorer in 1/2 was Logan T. In Key Stage 2 Olivia R scored highest in 3/4 and Jenson R was the top scorer in 5/6.

Attendance

Class 5/6T had the highest attendance this week with 100%. The overall school attendance this year is 95.8% while this week it has been 97.6%. Two classes were perfectly punctual and 170 minutes were lost due to lateness. The threshold for what is termed as persistent absence has been determined as 90%. **Unfortunately, we are also unable to authorise term time holidays as we have to follow the Government and Durham County protocol. The Durham County protocol explains that penalty notices must be issued 'in instances of unauthorised holidays in term time (where the holiday gives rise to 7 days or more unauthorised absence in any period...).** The school processes absences and then the County Council pick up on unauthorised absence.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 11 th March	10.10 am 5/6S Class Assembly
Wednesday 18 th March	10.10 am 5/6P Class Assembly
Wednesday 18 th March	Mother's Day Lunch – Reception, Y1 and Y2
Monday 23 rd , Tuesday 24 th and Wednesday 25 th March	Parent Consultation Evenings – more details will follow
Monday 23 rd March	AM – EYFS Mother's Day Activities
Wednesday 25 th March	10.10 am 5/6T Class Assembly
Wednesday 25 th March	Mother's Day Lunch – Siblings and KS2
Monday 30 th March	9 – 10:30 am EYFS Easter Craft Session
Tuesday 31 st March	9 – 10:30 am EYFS Easter Craft Session
Tuesday 31 st March	Y1 – 6 Egg Decorating Day – more details to follow
Wednesday 1 st April	10.10 am 3/4D Class Assembly
Friday 3 rd April	3:15pm – School closes for Easter
Easter Holidays	
Year 6 SATS Easter School – Monday 6th April	
Monday 20 th April	Children back to school

A Bowden

Miss A Bowden
Head of School

D Harrison

Mr D Harrison
Executive Headteacher