

# Ox Close Primary School Newsletter



Dedicated to Excellence

February 7<sup>th</sup> 2020 Volume 20

## **Congratulations Mrs Simpson**

We start this week's newsletter with some fantastic news. Congratulations go to Mrs Simpson upon the birth of her first child, Joey. Both mother and baby are doing well and Mrs Walker is keeping us all posted. I am sure that you will all join with me in wishing the family well.

## **Dental Hygiene Assemblies**

Yesterday the children took part in informative and fun assemblies about how to keep their teeth clean and healthy. I am sure your child will be able to share the key messages with you.

## **Go Orange for a Day**

Today, Team Ox Close have joined people across the country and worn something orange to raise awareness of the research needed to help beat muscle-wasting conditions such as Muscular Dystrophy. Ox Close proved to be a sea of orange and bright colours and I would like to thank everyone for taking part. If you wish to make a donation you can go on Just Giving and search Love for Louis Muscular Dystrophy UK.

## **1/2C Class Assembly**

We look forward to welcoming the parents and carers of 1/2C for their class assembly on Wednesday. Good luck to Mr Crowther and the children!

## **Online Safety Workshops – Years 1 to 6**

Online Safety is something which is becoming more and more crucial and next week will be our Ox Close Online Safety week. There will be many different activities taking place which aim to make the children fully aware of the importance of staying safe online. Technology develops quickly and so it is vital that we are also fully educated as adults. We are delighted that we are once again able to offer Online Safety workshops for parents and carers on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February. An additional letter with further information about these workshops was sent out last week. At the start of each workshop there will be a special assembly which will be led by the Internet Legends and all of the children will perform a short piece. Refreshments will be served.

## **Valentine's Party/Disco - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

Tickets are on sale at a price of £3 and can be bought from the school office. For times see Dates for the Diary overleaf. Thank you to the Ox Close Friends for organising this event.

## **Wraparound Care**

Breakfast and After School Care is provided by the Federation at Oxclose Nursery and it is very well attended. There is a system in place for this for bookings, if you require a log in for this system, then you can collect a form from either the Nursery or School office. Bookings can now be made for after the half term holidays.

## **Spennymoor Town Football Club**

Today, we got a very kind delivery from Spennymoor Town. Key Stage 2 children will come home with a Spennymoor Ticket which allows them free entry to the games for the rest of the season when accompanied by a paying adult.

## **Ox Close Friends Non-Uniform**

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, we are holding a non-school uniform day for all children in school. A donation of £1 is suggested for the Ox Close Friends fund - the funds raised will go towards providing all children with a treat at the end of the year. The Ox Close Friends thank you for your continued support.

## **Mobile Phones**

From time to time, it is necessary for older children to bring their mobile phones to school. This is usually when children are walking home by themselves. We have noticed that lots of children are bringing mobile phones in to school and storing them at the school office. Please can we remind everyone that children should only be bringing mobile phones in school to store if it is an emergency or if they need the phone immediately after school. Ordinarily, there is no need for the children to bring mobile phones and we don't have the capacity to store large numbers of them securely. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Class Charts

Rosie was the highest Class Charts point scorer in Reception this week, while our top scorer in 1/2 was Alfie E. In Key Stage 2 Zach T scored highest in 3/4 and Erin H was the top scorer in 5/6.

## Attendance

Class 5/6S had the highest attendance this week with 98.9%. The overall school attendance this year is 95.6% while this week it has been 96.8%. Four classes were perfectly punctual and 152 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 12 <sup>th</sup> February  | 10.10 am 1/2C Class Assembly  |
| Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February  | Valentine's Discos<br>3:30 – 4:30pm EYFS and KS1<br>5:00 – 6:30pm KS2 |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February   | Ox Close Friends Non-Uniform Day                                      |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February   | 3:15pm School closes for half term                                    |
| <b>February Half Term</b>  |   |
| <b>Children return to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 8:45am</b>              |   |
| Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March  | 10.10 am 5/6L Class Assembly  |
| Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March   | AM – Image Musical Theatre  |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March   | 10.10 am 5/6S Class Assembly  |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March   | 10.10 am 5/6P Class Assembly  |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March   | Mother's Day Lunch – Reception, Y1 and Y2                             |
| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> , Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup><br>and Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March | Parent Consultation Evenings – more details will follow               |
| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March  | AM – EYFS Mother's Day Activities                                     |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March   | 10.10 am 5/6T Class Assembly  |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March   | Mother's Day Lunch – Siblings and KS2                                 |
| Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March  | 9 – 10:30am EYFS Easter Craft Session                                 |
| Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March   | 9 – 10:30am EYFS Easter Craft Session                                 |
| Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March   | Y1 – 6 Egg Decorating Day – more details to follow                    |
| Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April  | 10.10 am 3/4D Class Assembly  |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April   | 3:15pm – School closes for Easter                                     |
| <b>Easter Holidays</b>   |   |
| <b>Year 6 SATS Easter School – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April</b>                             |   |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April  | Children back to school   |

*A Bowden*

Miss A Bowden  
Head of School

*D Harrison*

Mr D Harrison  
Executive Headteacher