

# Ox Close Primary School Newsletter



March 13<sup>th</sup> 2020 Volume 24

## **Coronavirus**

Coronavirus continues to be a hot topic throughout the country. As mentioned last week, the school is following Government guidance closely and this is something which we are duty bound to do. Preparations are fully in place for if we are advised to close and we will ensure that we communicate quickly with parents – for example, you may have noticed that in KS1 where the children are reading shorter books, we have sent home extra. Common sense measures continue to be in place and I am pleased that we have had no cases in the school. Thank you for your understanding and support with what is an extremely difficult situation for all concerned.

## **Mother's Day Lunch Events**

As part of our own risk assessment around coronavirus, we have decided to postpone our forthcoming Mother's Day lunch events. These events were due to be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March. When the situation has settled, we will reschedule the events and will inform you of the new dates.

## **5/6S Class Assembly**

Mrs Shepherd's class performed their class assembly on Wednesday and both entertained and informed a large audience of parents. For the Y6 children in the class, it was their final class assembly and the children did themselves proud. Their topic of Benin was one which would be unfamiliar to most observers but 5/6S certainly packed many facts into their fifteen minutes and showed off their excellent work, such as artefacts, masks and impressive diary entries. Well done to all of 5/6S and Mrs Shepherd!

## **5/6P Class Assembly**

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

## **Sports Relief**

Today children came into school wearing their sportswear for Sports Relief. Children from Years 1 to 6 have been involved in our YOGA taster sessions which took place throughout the day and all children thoroughly enjoyed it.

## **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/>

## **Wraparound Care**

Bookings continue to be open on our online booking system. If you require a log in for this system, then you can collect a form from either the Nursery or School office. Please remember that although doors open at 7.40am on a morning, the start time is 7.45am and parents remain responsible for the children until this time. The earlier opening will allow parents to drop off, hang coats up and accompany children until 7.45am, at which time they will be able to leave the children in the very capable hands of the staff. **Staff cannot be responsible for the children until 7.45am so it would be appreciated if all could adhere to this arrangement.**

## **Class Charts**

Sebastian A was the highest Class Charts point scorer in Reception this week, while our top scorer in 1/2 was Maisie J. In Key Stage 2 Caitlin E scored highest in 3/4 and Harry D was the top scorer in 5/6.

## New Menu Starts After Easter

Each child received a copy of the new menu last week. 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 on Monday**. Meals must be booked in advance so the cook can pre-order food for the next term. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Attendance

5/6T had the highest attendance this week with 100%. The overall school attendance this year is 95.9% while this week it has been 96.5%. 3 classes were perfectly punctual and 375 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 18 <sup>th</sup> March	10.10 am 5/6P Class Assembly
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> , Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> 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
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	9 – 10:30 am EYFS Easter Craft Session
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	9 – 10:30 am 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	10.10am 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