



Ox Close Federation Newsletter

Friday 23rd September 2022 - Volume 3

Parental Engagement

Ever since I started at Ox Close in 2011, we have tried exceptionally hard to include and involve parents in school life. It is so important to have close partnerships as we seek to work together in the best interests of the children. COVID meant that this was not possible, in person at least, and most people understand this was unavoidable. However, I am delighted that we can now resume a full programme of parental engagement and this will include the launch of our Colour Run - fingers crossed for no sudden downpours this time! I have also shown prospective parents around school this week, which is always so enjoyable and the children were amazing.

New House System

We are so excited here at Ox Close Federation, to be launching our new House system this academic year. A lot of hard work and consideration has gone into this new system, and we feel that our children will gain so much awareness and understanding of the different values they will develop during their time at Nursery and Primary school. At the Federation, we believe that children should leave us in Year 6 ENRICHED in these personal values.

Our new houses will be:

E mpathy	Marie Curie House
N urture	Florence Nightingale House
R esilience	Anne Frank House
I ndependence	Gilbert Baker House
C onfidence	Rosa Parks House
H onour and Respect	David Attenborough House
E ndurance	Norman Cornish House
D etermination	Tom Moore House

The children will find out their new house on Thursday 29th September.

Colour Run – Friday 30th September

To launch the new house system, we are excited to hold our very first Colour Run. Mrs Woods is sending you a letter today with further information about this event. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.



Parent Consultations

We are very excited to welcome you into school to meet your child's class teacher during the week commencing 10th October 2022. Mrs Phillips will be in touch with Nursery parents on how to book an appointment with your child's key worker. Primary pupils will receive a text on Thursday 29th September at 2pm with a link to book an appointment time convenient to yourselves.

Football Cards

Please could we ask that the children do not bring Football cards or stickers into school as these can cause considerable problems between the children. Thank you for your support.

Nursery

This week, we had a visitor from the Local Authority and we looked at learning in the Nursery and the environment. We were so impressed with what we observed and the relationships between the staff and children were fantastic. The children were amazing, they were so enthralled and excited and it was a pleasure to see. Well done to all of the children and staff.

Attendance at Ox Close

As mentioned last week, in all schools, there is a clear link between good attendance and good academic and social development. The Government are introducing new legislation to try to improve attendance across the country. All schools are required to produce new policies and to have a range of measures which help to improve attendance and punctuality. This may include various strategies, as well as support to families to address non-medical issues which are preventing attendance. However, following feedback from some parents, and having reflected, we have decided **not** to have a weekly reward for highest class attendance as this could be counterproductive in some cases. Of course, we will acknowledge good attendance, as do all schools. It is worth noting that the overwhelming majority of parents at Ox Close do their very best to get the children into school, whenever they are well enough to attend. Miss Bewick will continue to work with parents and families and we will also consider any possible incentives. She has produced some attendance leaflets, which we will be sending home. We will continue working together to do the very best for every child. Thank you for your ongoing support with this.

Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers

Year 1	Heidi C and Addelynn Y	Year 4	Charlie A
Year 2	Ethan D	Year 5	Elliott S
Year 3	Patsi H	Year 6	Jessica C

Parent Support

Miss Bewick, our Parent Support Advisor, is available to offer support. She can be contacted via the school office or on 07584072973 and can also be emailed: r.bewick300@oxclosespennymoor.uk.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 30 th September	ENRICHED Colour Run
Week Commencing 10 th October	Parent Consultation Evenings
Tuesday 18 th October	Phototronics
Friday 21 st October	Break up for the Half Term Break
Monday 31 st October	Children back to school
Tuesday 1 st November	PM - M and M Production – Jack and the Beanstalk
Wednesday 9 th November	Flu Immunisation - EYFS to Year 6

D Harrison (Mr Harrison - Executive Headteacher)

A Bowden (Miss Bowden - Deputy Executive Headteacher)

J Phillips (Mrs Phillips - Assistant Executive Headteacher)