



SYWELL ROAD, OVERSTONE, NORTHAMPTON, NN6 OAG
Tel: (01604) 493861
www.overstoneprimaryschool.org.uk

14th February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have had a busy and exciting start to the Spring Term here in school. This has included an inspirational visit from George Fouche, talking about motivation, resilience, and perseverance. George has supported the Men's South Africa Rugby Team at successful world cups and will this summer be supporting Team GB at the Olympics in France. Visitors from the NSPCC and also local charity RESOLVE have also been in school reinforcing messages around keeping safe. We have had Roman Day in Year 3 and we have also had a fantastic pirate themed assembly from our Reception class. They did a wonderful job of their first class assembly and have recently spent a day on pirate themed learning.

Last week, we talked about internet safety in school and Mrs Coe was able to host an assembly for all children in her role as computing lead to remind children of what to do if they don't like something they see online. Please keep an eye out for the handy #WakeUpWednesday tip sheets we share each week on our school X/Twitter page. These contain some really useful information regarding apps and websites that children are very likely to come across in the years to come.

Some of the action from Spring Term 1:

Safer Internet Day



George Fouche Visits Overstone



Gymnastics



NSPCC Visit



Roman Bread Baking



Pirates in Reception



HEADTEACHER: MR S CASEY



West Northamptonshire Council



Healthier Child Project
2020
BE ACTIVE • BE WELL • BE HAPPY



We are very pleased to be able to welcome Word Guerrilla, David Bowden into school after the half term break. Word Guerrilla offers a unique, fun and inspiring way to look at poetry and music and has a lot of exciting activities thrown in as well. I am sure the children will enjoy his performance in assembly and creating their own performances during the class workshops.

Assemblies

We continue to work on both our in-school themes and national themes through our assemblies. Please keep an eye out for next term's themes which we will send out at the start of term.

Year 6 SATS Week

The government have allocated the week beginning **Monday 13th May up until Thursday 16th May as Year 6 SATS test week**. All Year 6 children will need to be in school to participate during assessment week.

School Sports

This term has seen a number of children attend gymnastic competitions so far. They have enjoyed showing their skills and have representing the school with pride. We have a number of additional sports competitions still to come this year so there will be lots more opportunities for children to get involved if they haven't yet been selected.

Attendance

Our overall school attendance rate for attendance this currently sits at 95.5% which is on its way back up towards our target of 96% overall. Thank you for the effort that has gone in to ensuring children are in school as often as possible, we really appreciate your support with this. We are now receiving regular monitoring visits from our School Attendance Support Officer from West Northants Council who will make contact with families where attendance concerns are identified. For appointments, please provide appointment confirmation (most GPs and dentist now confirm by text) when completing our online link.

School Council

Our school council have been gathering thoughts and views from children in school and as a result we have made some changes to our lunch time provision. We now have Pacesetter Sport coaches in school on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday as well as sports crew children offering additional activities. On Tuesdays we have recently started chess club and are currently offering this as a taster in KS2 classes before starting a half termly club next term. On Wednesday we have board game club (R, KS1 and KS2) hosted by Mrs Coe and on Thursday we have Reading club (KS2) hosted by Mrs Brown. Having held recent discussions about our school environment, our councillors will soon be deciding on some new markings for the front playground which we hope to have in place in the summer term. Watch this space!

Eco Council

Our Eco-council will soon be sharing some information about the *Big Plastic Count*. This will take place later this year and we would love as many children and families to participate as possible. Please look out for information when it arrives and encourage your children to take part.

Staffing

Mrs Connors will be leaving us to take on a new post in a different school. We would like to thank Mrs Connors for her hard work and dedication during her time here with us. I am sure you will all join with me in wishing her the best of luck as she moves on to her new role. Thank you and good luck Mrs Connors!

Mrs May has been working closely with Mrs Connors over the past few weeks and will be continuing the support that was offered following the half term break.

Parking and the Local Area

Our school council and governors have been keen to engage with the local community to look at any improvements that can be made. We have recently made contact with the Overstone Parish Council to look

at possible improvement projects. Thank you to all of those parents who continue to park considerately and use the side streets to turn around. We realise that it adds a few more seconds or minutes to your journey but it is much safer and more considerate to do so.

Governor Vacancy

We still have position available on the governing body for a parent governor. Our governors make a huge contribution to our school and help create a vital link between the school and the wider community. If you are interested in becoming a governor, or would just like some information about what it might entail, please register your interest via admin@overstoneprimaryschool.org.uk

Notices

Before school and after school. Unless accessing breakfast club there is no need for anyone to be on the school playground before 8.30am. Once you arrive, all children (except Year 5 and 6 'Walkers') should be accompanied by an adult. Children need to be supervised by adults and not running around please. Riding of scooters/bikes on the playground is not permitted. When accessing breakfast club in the morning, children should be walked directly to the door by an adult.

Contacting teachers and school staff: Wherever possible, catching a teacher or staff member before or after school is the preferred method. Following this a quick call to the office with details about the question or concern can be followed up via a return call. If you need to email staff, please use admin@overstoneprimaryschool.org.uk for all email communication. Direct emails to staff may be missed or filtered out and may not be replied to at all. All emails sent to the admin address will be forwarded directly to staff during school hours. They can then be responded to as promptly as possible. We thank you for your cooperation with this.

Just a reminder that Thursday 15th February is a whole school FOOPS MUFTI day. Donations of £1 to class staff please. Also very important, Friday the 16th February is a training day and school will be closed to children. We wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable half term break and look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 26th February.

Kind Regards



Stephen Casey
Headteacher
Overstone Primary School