



SYWELL ROAD, OVERSTONE, NORTHAMPTON, NN6 OAG

Tel: (01604) 493861

[www.overstoneprimaryschool.org.uk](http://www.overstoneprimaryschool.org.uk)

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are now into the second half of the school year and what a whistle-stop half term it has been. We have managed to squeeze in a whole host of activities this half term with Gymnastics, dodgeball and Strictly competitions as well as church and library visits. We have also had some experts visiting school to share their talents and journeys to success.

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February we were visited by the inspirational Word Guerilla (David Bowden) who came in and wowed us all with his rapping and poetry talents. David then worked with each class helping them to create their own aspirational poems and written pieces.

Later this term we had a visit from professional musician Susannah Sturman. Susannah has performed around Europe playing violin in various different performances as well as a stint performing in a West End Show. We were fortunate enough to hear Susannah play violin and piano during her visit and the children really enjoyed hearing about her journey from learning to play the violin in school right up to making it her full time job.

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March we celebrated World Book Day in School. Congratulations to all of the creative parents out there, we had a wide range of wonderful costumes on show. Children enjoyed World Book Day Assemblies in school and then during the afternoon children from KS2 visited KS1 and Reception groups to share books and stories together.

Our teams have competed with pride in Gymnastics competitions this term achieving a number of highly placed finishes. Our Strictly team took to the Stage at Northampton School for Girls on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and managed a very impressive 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish. Our Swimming team attended a recent Swimming gala and managed a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish and on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March our dodgeball team attended an after school event at Moulton School. They too managed a strong 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish but I was most proud to hear that they were praised for their exceptional behaviour and attitude. Very well done to all of the children that have represented our school this term and a huge thank you to the staff who have volunteered their time to make it possible.

### FOOPS

Foops continue to work hard to add those additional elements of fun and excitement to the school calendar. They continue to plan fun events for our children and the recent Easter Egg Hunt and indoor fete was a huge success. The current pot of fundraising has been allocated to paying for half of our minibus fees over the year ahead. Having the minibus is a huge benefit for the school so we would like to thank all of the FOOPS volunteers for their ongoing hard work and commitment. I know they are always looking for extra pairs of



HEADTEACHER: MR S CASEY



West  
Northamptonshire  
Council



hands so please do contact them if you feel you can offer some time or assistance. The more helpers they have, the more they are able to offer the children. Email: foops123@googlemail.com

### **School Council**

Our School council continue to work hard to ensure that pupil voice helps to implement positive changes for our school. You may have noticed a change to the front playground in recent days (good-bye dear train!), the school council and Mrs Coe have been working to make the space more useable and interactive so please keep your eyes peeled early next term when some new activities will begin to appear. We have recently written to the Parish Council along with our school governors to explore what improvements might be possible outside of school. We are in the early stages of this, but I know it will be an area of focus over the coming weeks and months.

### **Lego Appeal**

Breakfast club would love to replenish their Lego stock. If any families have any Lego they no longer use, we would be very pleased to take it off your hands. Please bring along any donations you can spare to the school office.

### **School Website**

We have been working with our provider to begin to revamp our school website. You should be able to see some changes following the Easter break. There is a chance that there may be some teething problems as we move across to the new format so, please let us know if you encounter anything that isn't working as it should be.

### **Communication with Teaching Staff**

The easiest way to catch staff is at the start or the end of the day. If you can't see them, please let one of us know and we will be happy to find them for you. If communicating by email, please forward any queries to the [admin@overstoneprimaryschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@overstoneprimaryschool.org.uk) address. These emails will be passed on within school hours and responded to once the staff member is available to do so. Emails sent directly to staff emails will not receive responses and are often missed due to external filtering. Please use the admin address to ensure items are received.

### **Parking**

Thank you to all those parents who continue to take time to park with consideration to our neighbours and other members of the school community. A number of residents have raised concerns in recent weeks around parking on the bend, blocking driveways and also regarding people turning in the road at busy times which has worried them. We know this is not illegal but would just ask people to drop off and pick up as considerately as they possibly can.

### **Year 6 SATS Week Reminder:**

SATS tests for Year 6 children will run **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May up to and including Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May**. All Year 6 children will need to be in school to participate during assessment week.

### Year 4 Swimming

Swimming sessions will commence following the Easter Break for all children in Year 4. We are pleased to have been able to retain our slot at Moulton Leisure Centre and are sure that the children will enjoy the experience. Please see additional information that has already been provided for Year 4 parents.

### Attendance:

Our overall school attendance is 95.2% with our aim to achieve a whole school attendance of over 96%. We know that we have had a number of children off with sickness throughout the term however we will be notifying all of those families where a child's attendance has dropped below 90%.

### Little Extras

As ever we have had a wide range of additional activities taking place throughout the spring term. Our aim is to create interest and provide aspirational and memorable experiences which we hope will inspire children. Please see a small selection of some of the more exciting events that have taken place this term below:

### Photos from Spring 2024



Year 3 and 4 Strictly Team



Word Guerilla Visits Overstone Primary School



Year 4 Blue Peter Badge Winners



Year 1 Class Assembly



Reception Tractor Visit



World Book Day



Year 3 Ukelele Concert



Susannah Sturman Visit



Bikeability

Thank you for all of your support throughout the term. We hope you all have a wonderful Easter Break with your children and families and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

Kind Regards

Handwritten signature of Stephen Casey.

Stephen Casey  
Headteacher  
Overstone Primary School