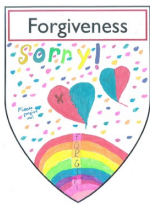


Oldswinford Cof E Primary School

'Believe, achieve and shine brighter together'



Autumn Newsletter: 6th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back!

It has been great to see you all again after such a lovely summer holiday - the school seems filled with smiles and friendliness. We look forward to finding out all the exciting things that this year will bring! I'd like to welcome all our new families to Oldswinford; we look forward to getting to know you better over the coming weeks.

Our 'year of dates' was really popular last year so we will be sending it out again as soon as all the dates have been confirmed. Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best wishes, Ellie Game



I thought it would be lovely to share some wedding photos from over the summer...

Congratulations
Mr and Mrs Terry

Congratulations
Mr and Mrs Perry



Value of the half term...

St Mary

This half term we will be learning about St Mary rather than a value. We will be looking at who she was, why she is important in the Bible, which values she shows and we will also be learning about St Mary's Church.

I really look forward to exploring this with our children. Our Open the Book team and Rev'd John and Rev'd Claire will also be leading our worship again this year.

Well Done Amelia!



Earlier in the year Amelia was poorly and needed help from Birmingham Children's hospital. She wanted to do something to help support them so over the 6 weeks holiday Amelia has been raising money for them to say thank you.

She has scooted 1 mile a week and has nearly raised £600.

If anyone would like to support Amelia and this brilliant charity and donate, please follow this link.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/zara-elliott-1721473302026>

Dudley Parent Carer Forum annual survey of SEND services 2024

We have had this information that we have been asked to share with our families.

Who is this survey for and how will we use the information:

This survey is for parent carers of children/young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) between the ages of 0-25 and living in Dudley.

We want to hear about your recent experiences with a range of different services. To keep this information up to date and relevant we will sometimes ask you to think about your experiences within a certain timeframe (eg previous 12 months).

We understand that if you have more than one child your experiences may vary for each child. Therefore we ask that you complete a separate survey for each child with SEND that you have.

We will use the information provided to ensure we focus our work on the areas that are most important to you.

We will share the results of this survey with our members and wider networks as well as local services. We will also share the results of this survey with Ofsted or the Department for Education (DfE) during any inspections of SEND services. We will never share any identifying information

To complete the survey follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QFYQL2J>

Safeguarding

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff, governors, volunteers and the wider school community to share this commitment.

If you have concerns about a child the NSPCC helpline can offer advice.

They can be contacted on: 0808 800 5000

Alternatively, If you feel like you might need extra support then there is a process called 'Early Help' which can provide help where problems are emerging for children, young people and their families. More information can be found out about this by following the link below:

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/care-and-health/children-and-family-care/early-help-for-children-and-families/>

Birthdays

Last year we introduced children being able to wear their own clothes when it was their birthday. We are absolutely going to continue this. If your child's birthday is on a weekend or in the holidays then they can wear clothes on the nearest Friday or Monday when they are in school. We know the children loved doing this last year!

A little reminder....

The school gates open at **8.45am**

At **8.50am** a bell will ring, the doors into school will open and the children can enter school.

At **8.55am** a second bell will go, the school doors will then be closed and any children arriving after this time will need to enter school via the school office.

At the end of the day the school gates open at **3.15pm.**

School finishes at **3.20** for Reception

School finishes at **3.25** for Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

(Our new reception children have slightly different times next week and should follow letters sent from reception class teachers until they are in school full time.)

ClassDojo

We love using dojo in school so we can share messages and photos so easily. Can we give a little reminder that staff have 48 working hours to respond to messages that you send. Please contact the school office if you have an urgent message that needs to be passed on. Staff don't always have access to dojo throughout the school day so things could be missed. Thank you for your support.

School Attendance

We wanted to remind parents of the following information. A copy of our full attendance policy can be found on our school website.

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence recorded by schools after 19th August 2024.

National threshold:

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period. The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Who may be fined?

Penalty notices may be issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school. However, they should usually only be issued to the parent or parents who have allowed the absence (regardless of which parent has applied for a leave of absence).

First offence

The first time a penalty notice is issued, the fine amount will be £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days, reduced to £80 if paid within the first 21 days.

Second offence (within 3 years)

The second time a penalty notice is issued, the amount will be £160 per parent, per child, payable within 28 days. The lower rate is not an option.

Third offence and any further offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed, a penalty notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. Parents found guilty of an offence under s444 (Education Act 1996) can be fined up to £2,500 and will have a criminal conviction.

Further information can be found here:

'Fines for parents for taking children out of school: What you need to know' - <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/29/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>



SINGING ANGELS

MONTHLY IN ST MARY'S CHURCH
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