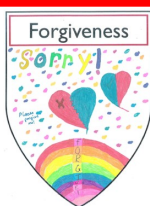


Oldswinford Cof E Primary School

'Believe, achieve and shine brighter together'



Summer Newsletter: 14th June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another lovely week in school with the preparations for sports day well under way. A quick reminder that sports day will be different to our usual format with children rotating around events and competing in all of them in their house teams. All children need to come in a t-shirt of their house colour.

- EYFS will start at 9.10 - adults are more than welcome to stay on the school site after drop off.
- Year 1, 2 and 3 will start at 10.30 and aim to finish by 12.00
- Year 4, 5 and 6 will start at 1.30 and finish by 3.00. Children will then go back into school and finish at the usual time. Adults are welcome to stay on the school site and wait for the bell to go.

There is no need to bring chairs or blankets to sit on, as in previous years, as you will be need to move around the events with your children. There will be a special area for parents to stand, which will be in the middle of the field, and the events will then take place around the outside. We have our fingers crossed that it will go ahead on the 17th as planned but will let you know for certain as soon as we can on Monday morning via dojo.

Best wishes, Ellie Game

Value of the half term...

Patience

This week we practised patience together. I turned up for worship late and the children waited very patiently for me to arrive. They also waited very patiently as I went and fetched somethings I had forgotten. We then talked about how it made us feel when we had to wait for things. We explained that to be patient we shouldn't get angry or annoyed but be thoughtful towards others and kind to ourselves.

Attendance

This **week** our attendance has been...

Reception - 97.9%

Year 1 - 95.2%

Year 2 - 97.6%

Year 3 - 97%

Year 4 - 94%

Year 5 - 95.7%

Year 6 - 97.1%

Well done **Reception** for your amazing attendance this week.

Published Author: Catherine Verney

Catherine is the parent of Connor who is currently in year 3 at OCEPS. Recently she brought out a children's book, which is available as an E-book, but will also be released as a paperback on Saturday 15 June.

The Teddy Bear's Survival Guide
by Catherine Verney

The Teddy Bear's Survival Guide is her first book. It is out now, from <https://cas5-0-urlprotect.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/?query?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.amazon.co.uk%2fdp%2fb0d2lvw54p&umid=ac73c767-a163-41ef-8fbe-4e540c65f808&auth=e8883d186f5363e648de3ed2498b672e7f5e92fe-06daf8fd3b8db5d376057944f20ac6aad7483d3e>

Catherine is having a book launch party for The Teddy Bear's Survival Guide on Saturday 22nd June from 1.30 - 3.30pm at Christ Church, Lye. All are welcome, including accompanied children.

School Attendance

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.

TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEW PENALTY NOTICE FRAMEWORK

A penalty notice issued for any offence that begins (i.e. the first recorded absence for the evidence period) prior to the 19th August will be issued under the existing rules. Therefore, it will:

be charged at £60/£120, not count towards the escalation whereby a second penalty notice within 3 years is charged at a flat rate of £160 and there is a limit of 2 penalty notices within 3 years and will be issued in line with existing LA thresholds for the 2023-24 academic year.

This is regardless of whether the penalty notice is issued before or after the 19th August.

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/>

What Children & Young People Need to Know about **FREE VS HATE SPEECH**

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE

The
National
College



National
Online
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/schedule/17/text-1/Everyone%20has%20the%20right%20to%20freedom%20of%20expression>



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