





# Ox Close Federation Newsletter Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Volume 16

### **Change to Gate Opening Time**

Following discussions, we have decided to extend the period of time for children to arrive at school on a morning. From Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January, gates will now open from 8:35am and children have until 8:45am to arrive at school. If any child arrives after 8:45am, they will be marked as late on the register. We hope that extending the opening period of the gate will reduce the number of children who are rushing and late for school.

# **Pirate Exercise Workshop**

On Wednesday, we had a fantastic opportunity within school. Pirate Rob came into school to carry out a fitness session. All of the staff and children thoroughly enjoyed it. The children learnt new exercises and new dances. Using the exercises, they had to help Pirate Rob capture the ship. Pirate Rob has set all children a challenge. They will have brought home a leaflet that needs to be completed and returned to school next week, Friday 2nd February is the last day! Parents/carers it's down to you know to, so get involved, let the children show you the exercises and encourage them to do them every day. It only takes 5 mins a day unless they have endless energy in which case they might do more. There is a prize for everyone who completes Pirate Robs challenge - a free wristband and a free day at Rob's holiday club.

### **Year 5/6 Ancient Benin Workshop**

On Wednesday this week, Years 5 and 6 took part in a workshop linked to their History topic of Ancient Benin. Our visitor, Helen from One Day Creative, came to work with each class, and used drama and role play to explore this era in more detail. The students learnt about different rulers and took on these characters for performances, they studied a timeline of the key events and found out more about the lives of Benin citizens and how they used trade to expand their kingdom. Helen was very complimentary about our children and it was great to see them all taking part with such enthusiasm. Well done to 5/6C, 5/6R and 5/6T!

### **Tea and Talk with Toddlers**

We had a fantastic turnout at our first Tea, Talk and Toddler group on Tuesday which was ran by Miss Bewick, one of our Parent Support Advisors. It was great to see everyone having lots of fun and we are looking forward to the future sessions. The group takes place evert Tuesday from 9 – 10:30am. We look forward to seeing you there.





### Time to Talk - 01.02.2024

On Thursday 1st February, we will be celebrating and raising awareness of the importance of taking the time to stop and talk to one another. Our Parent Support Advisors will be holding an event in the Main School Hall called Time to Talk. Refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing you there.

# **Toys/Trinkets**

We have recently seen an increasing number of children bringing in additional toys and trinkets. These can be easily lost or damaged, and in some cases, distract the children from their learning. Please could we ask that these remain at home, unless this is an accommodation that we have put in place for your child specifically. This way, we can help keep track of certain items. Thank you.

## **Meal Bookings**

Huge thank you to parents and carers for making bookings for meals via Arbor – it has really helped the Office staff and we gratefully appreciate it.

# **Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers**

Reception	Daisy W	Year 4	Leon T
Year 1	Arthur R	Year 5	Daileigh M
Year 2	Heidi C	Year 6	Maya B
Vear 3	Grace R		

#### **Attendance**

Overall attendance for the week is 93.6% and the Year Group with the highest attendance is Year 2 with 96.9%. The overall school attendance for the academic year is 95.3%.

# **Punctuality**

The Primary starts at 8:45am, with the gates opening from the new time of **8:35am**. Please ensure that your child is at school on time so that they do not miss out on any learning. This week, we have had 361 late minutes – this is a huge amount of lost learning time and we are really hoping to reduce this with the extended gate opening time.



# **Dates for the Diary**

Thursday 1st February	5pm - Year 6 Parent/Carer SATs Meeting	
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	2:15pm - Reception - Cuddle up with a Book	
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	AM and PM - Nursery - Butterflies Stay and Play	
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	3:15pm – Close for February Half Term	
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	8:40am – Children return to Nursery and School	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	2pm - Reception - Mother's Day Crafts	
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> , Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Primary – Parent/Carer Consultations	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Visit to Whitworth Park Academy	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	2pm - Reception - Egg Decorating	
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	2pm - Nursery Easter Bonnet Parade	
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	3:15pm – Close for Easter Break	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	8:40am – Children return to Nursery and School	



# What Children & Young People Need to Know about

# FREE VS HATE SPEECH 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 others. Whether online or offline, communication attacking or discriminating against groups or individuals (because of protected characteristics like race or religion) is hate speech, not free speech.

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 ideas were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin's theory today. Freely exchanging ideas promotes progress.

FKLLDUM

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.

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

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.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundride of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organization behind the GCC and the world's frat one for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL EQUALITY COLLECTIVE Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – which displays prejudice against someone's identity. Derogatory, 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 who they are – including but not limited to aspects such as race, sexuality, 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 those same attributes: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example.

> Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions

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.

> Making up or repeating insults about a person or group because something about their identity is different to the person who's person

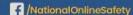
Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are.

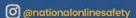
> The National College

National Online Safety\*

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# Our Week in Nursery



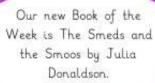




The stormy weather has given us amazing mud to dig in!















We've been practising using shapes in our play - we are designing our own aliens with different shaped bodies.













Our mark-making is getting more and more popular - we are using lots of different tools to make marks and give them meaning,















