





# Ox Close Federation Newsletter Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 – Volume 27

#### Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May

Just a reminder that we are closed on Monday as it is May Day Bank Holiday. We will reopen on Tuesday 7th May.

#### Year 6

Alongside many other students, both in our school and across the country, the Year 6 pupils are busy with their final preparations for their SATs in just over a week. Our children are working incredibly hard and are making great progress. It is so important for us to acknowledge all of the efforts that Year 6 are putting into these sessions, and staff completely understand that these can become overwhelming after a while. As we enter the home stretch, our message to Year 6, both staff and pupils, is to keep going and that we are very proud of you all! Keep up the hard work and effort.

#### **ENRICHED House Time**

This week, children met in their ENRICHED House teams to talk and think about Earth Day and how important looking after our environment is. Children discussed the issue of plastic use - particularly single-use plastics and it certainly got us thinking as a Federation about how we use plastics. Each child was able to think about something that they would change in their lives in order to reduce, reuse or recycle more plastic. If you would like more information about this, please check out the Earth Day website: <a href="https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2024/">https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2024/</a> You might be inspired to change something at home too, even the smallest changes have a huge impact on the world we live in!

#### **General Reminders**

- **Labelling Clothes** now that the sun is shining, we have lots of children removing their coats/jumpers/cardigans at break and lunch. Please can you ensure that all of your child's clothes are clearly labelled with their name so that if they leave it somewhere in school, it can be returned to them.
- **Mobile Phones** children should only be bringing these into school if they are needed for emergencies or parents have requested it as their children walk home alone. We must also have a signed Mobile Phone Contract. All phones MUST be handed to staff immediately as soon as the children enter school and will be returned when they leave. Phones are brought in at the children's own risk and we cannot be responsible for any damage or loss.
- **Bikes and Scooters** it is great to see lots of children being active and riding or biking to school. Bikes and scooters can be stored in our storage sheds however please remember not to do this until there are staff on duty at the gates. This means that the site is then safe for the children to enter as the vehicle gates will be closed.

## Pizza Party – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May

We will be holding a Pizza Party for lunch on Thursday 16th May 2024. Children will be able to try 4 different flavours of Pizza served with chips and beans and Sprinkle Cake for pudding.

**Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 -** There is no need to book! We will book for all the children in these year groups. If your child does not like Pizza please let the school office know as we can choose the option of Jacket Potato or Sandwich or we are happy for you to send a packed lunch into school.

**Year 3, 4, 5 and 6** - If you would like to order this for your child please log onto Arbor and choose either the Beef Bolognese or Cheese and Onion Pasty option. There will also be the option of Jacket Potato or a Sandwich if your child does not like Pizza. If your child does not want to order a meal on this day, we are happy for you to send a packed lunch in.

If you have any issues with making the bookings please contact the school office and we will be happy to help.

### **Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers**

Reception	Daisy W	Year 4	Cheyanne P
Year 1	Caleb R	Year 5	Harvin M
Year 2	Jenson N	Year 6	Evie R
Year 3	Ethan D		

# **Safeguarding Update – Parent/Carer Conflict**

Conflict is often a normal part of any parent/carer relationship and something that we all could be experiencing.

If you feel like support is needed, here are some resources for parents and carers provided by Durham County Council:

Parental Conflict or	https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/25322/Parental-conflict-or-domestic-abuse	
Domestic Abuse		
Relationship Support	Relationship support for parents who are together - Durham County Council	
	Relationship support for parents who are separated or considering separation - Durham  County Council	
	Relationship support for new or expectant parents who are together - Durham County  Council	
Top Tips	Top tips to help you stay calm during disagreements or arguments - Durham County	
	Council	

#### **Attendance**

Overall attendance for the week is 95% and the Year Group with the highest attendance is Year 5 with 98.4%. The overall school attendance for the academic year is 95.1%.

#### **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 347 late minutes.



# **Dates for the Diary**

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Federation Closed – Bank Holiday Monday	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 Visit to Whitworth Park	
13 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs Week	
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Wear Green for Mental Health Day	
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 6 Visit to Life Centre in Newcastle	
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Nursery – Butterflies Stay and Play	
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May and Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3/4 Captain Chemistry Workshops	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	3:15pm – Close for Half Term Break	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	8:35am – Children return to Nursery and School	
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 Visit to Life Centre in Newcastle	
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	
10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1/2 Zoo Lab Workshops	
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Nursery Graduation Photos	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception Visit to Auckland Castle Project	
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	OX FEST	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Federation Closed – PD Day	
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3/4 Visit to Theatre	
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Celebration Trip	
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	10am and 2pm – Nursery Graduation and Celebration	
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30am – Year 6 Celebration Assembly	
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	2:15pm – Year 6 Guard of Honour	
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	3:15pm – Ox Close Federation Closes	
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	Springmoor Grange School opens to children	















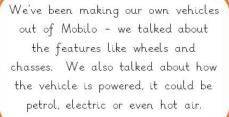
We're Off On a Journey





in

# Nursery

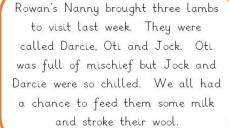






























We've been discussing different journeys we have been on. Our books of the week all contain a journey - The Train Ride, Oliver Travelled Far and Wide and Lost & Found. Look at the journeys we've been on in our play. We love these books so if you haven't read them, we think you should!

























