



Ox Close Federation Newsletter

Friday 7th June 2024 – Volume 31

Final Half Term

It was great to welcome the children back on Monday for the final half term of the academic year but also our final half term as Oxclose Nursery and Ox Close Primary School. It is hard to believe how fast time has gone this year! The final half term is always a busy one with lots of events which the children enjoy taking part in. All of the key dates have been included in the diary dates section of the Newsletter. We look forward to seeing parents/carers at these events but also understand that you cannot attend them all – please be rest assured that the children will still take part fully in the events and have lots of fun. As we approach the end of term, there will be the opportunity for parents and carers to visit Ox Close to reminisce on memories and have a final look at the school – more details about this will follow.

Staffing News

Mrs Douglas will be leaving Ox Close Federation on Thursday 27th June to take up a HLTA post in another County Durham school. She has been a valuable and dedicated member of the Nursery Team since 2014 and I am sure that you will join us in wishing her success and luck in her new role.

Spennymoor Gala – Saturday 6th July

We will once again be taking part in the Spennymoor Gala Parade and would love for families to join us. Add the date to your diary if you are able to come and we will be sending more information soon.

Healthy Snacks

Please can we remind families that snacks brought in by the children to enjoy at morning break need to be a piece of fruit or a plain biscuit, in line with our commitment to encouraging a healthy lifestyle. Children should not be bringing in chocolate or crisps, or retrieving items from lunchboxes intended for their meal at lunchtime. Thank you for your support with this.

Polling Station – Thursday 4th July

Just a reminder that the Federation will be closed due to the site being used as a Polling Station. I must stress that this is a decision taken out of my hands and that myself and the Chair of Governors have strongly challenged previously. The closure is due to safeguarding and health and safety reasons. We apologise for the inconvenience that this will cause. Due to the unexpected closure, we will need to move the Reception and Year 1/2 Sports Day to Tuesday 9th July. The same times apply and the updated dates are in the Diary Dates below. Apologies for this change.

Bike to School Week – 10th – 16th June 2024

During the week of 10th -16th June, it is National Bike Week. As part of this initiative, we would like to invite all children to come to school on their bikes as often as they can during this week.

Children's bikes can be kept safely at school in the following places:

- Reception: on the grass at the left-hand side, near the pedestrian gate they enter and exit through.
- Year 1 and 2: in the bike sheds at the Main Entrance.
- Year 3 - 6: behind the car park gates on the right-hand side.

Staff will be on hand to help children find where to store their bikes. I would ask that you put your child's name somewhere on their bike as there will be other children who have the exact same bike. Remember that children should be wearing a helmet when riding and we would ask that you keep hold of this after they get to school and bring it back for them at the end of the day, as there won't be a lot of space to store them within school.

Tea, Talk and Treats – SEND Parent and Carer Workshop – Monday 10th June

UPCOMING FEDERATION EVENT
Primary & Nursery Parents/Carers



Twilight Event



Tea, Talk & Treats

Monday 10th June 2024
@ 4:00pm - 5:00pm
(Main School Hall)

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service

Durham SEND iass
Formerly Durham Parent Partnership Service

Providing confidential, impartial support and advice for parents, carers, children and young people up to the age of 25 years in relation to special educational needs and disability.

SEND iass

- Do you need parental support in relation to SEN or a disability?
- Would you like more information/advice on local support groups/sessions, education, support plans, assessment procedures, application processes, appeal processes and parental rights?

Our SENDIASS team is here to listen to your views and concerns. Working with you to explore your options and provide support.



Safeguarding Update – Staying Safe in the Sun



Follow these five sun ready tips to stay safe in the sun

In partnership with **MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT**

- 

Use 5-star rated, high-SPF sun cream
- 

Drink plenty of water
- 

Cover up with a hat and long sleeves
- 

Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes
- 

Stay in the shade between 11 to 3



Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers

Reception	Harry A	Year 4	Martha G
Year 1	Jennie B	Year 5	Miles K
Year 2	Jack M	Year 6	Lily-May H
Year 3	Scarlett M		

Attendance

Overall attendance for the week is 91.5% and the Year Group with the highest attendance is Year 5 with 97.2%. The overall school attendance for the academic year is 91.5%.

Punctuality

The Primary starts at 8:45am, with the gates opening from **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 560 late minutes.



Dates for the Diary

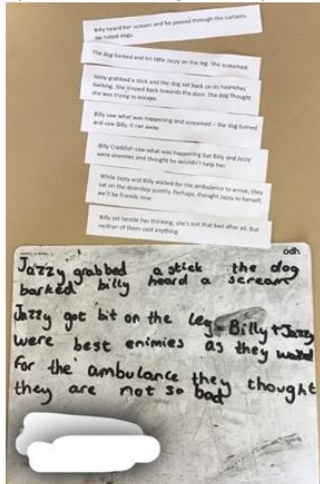
3 rd – 14 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
10 th – 14 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Thursday 13 th June	Year 1/2 Zoo Lab Workshops
Friday 14 th June	Nursery Graduation Photos
Monday 24 th June	Reception Visit to Auckland Castle Project
Thursday 27 th June	OX FEST
Friday 28 th June	Federation Closed – PD Day
Wednesday 3 rd July	9:30am – Y5/6 Sports Day
Wednesday 3 rd July	1:30pm – Y3/4 Sports Day
Thursday 4 th July	Federation Closed – Polling Day
Saturday 6 th July	Spennymoor Gala
NEW DATE - Tuesday 9 th July	9:30am – Y1/2 Sports Day
NEW DATE - Tuesday 9 th July	1:30pm – Reception Sports Day
Thursday 11 th July	Year 3/4 Visit to Theatre
Tuesday 16 th July	Year 6 Celebration
Wednesday 17 th July	10am and 2pm – Nursery Graduation and Celebration
Thursday 18 th July	9:30am – Year 6 Celebration Assembly
Friday 19 th July	2:15pm – Year 6 Guard of Honour
Friday 19 th July	3:15pm – Ox Close Federation Closes
Monday 9 th September	Springmoor Grange School opens to children

3/4W Class News



3/4W

In Music this week, we have been rehearsing for our brass performance in a fortnight and practicing our running in preparation for Sports Day.



During English lessons we have been learning our new class text and recreating it using drama.



