

# Newsletter

12 October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

We discussed TEAMWORK in our assembly on Monday. We talked about how each and every one at school contributes to making our school a good place to be.

We all agreed to:

- Do our best in class;
- Keep our school safe and make it a happy place to be;
- Look after our school environment.

I have to say that the children have responded so positively! Thank you children.

## Interruption to our school day

On Tuesday, the children were unable to go outside during the school day, following the siting of four dogs roaming free at the edge of the school grounds.

We followed the advice of the Police and the Dog Warden and we were able to resume business as usual at the end of the day, once the dogs had been removed from the area.

## Boggle Hole

Children from Year 4 are getting really excited about their first residential to Boggle Hole next week. They are intrigued to know more about Smugglers' Cove - all will be revealed next week!

## Book Fayre

The Book Fayre will take place from Monday 22 October to Thursday 25 October in the school hall. Books will be available to buy before and after school.

## School Improvement Priorities

We have identified the following school improvement priorities for the coming year:

### Key dates

18/19 October	Boggle Hole residential visit
22-25 October	Book Fayre in the school hall (before and after school)
25 October	Harvest Festival
5 November	Training Day: School closed to pupils
7 November	9.30am - Open morning for prospective parents

- Increasing outcomes in reading, writing and maths across the school, for all learners, particularly more able;
- Increasing attendance so that it is in line with national data (96%) and ensure that children are ready to learn;
- Ensure that we provide quality first teaching and support;
- Develop leaders across the school.

Mr Mitchell and senior leaders will keep you up to date on the progress made throughout the year.

### Attendance

Our attendance target for this year, as you will be aware, is **96%**. However, it is currently **95.54%**. Last year, our attendance was **94.92%** and if families had not taken holidays in term time, our attendance would have been **95.76%**.

Since September this year, our attendance could have been 97.44%, had the 161.5 holiday days not been taken in term time.

Orchard Head School has the lowest attendance out of all the six Trust primary schools and is well below the national average. We need to work together to improve the attendance of children whose attendance is under 96% and ensure that they are in school and making maximum progress, year on year.

The Principal Education Officer, Beverley Riley, is working closely with us, to provide support and advice to families, in order to avoid the possibility of fines and prosecutions. Please contact Mr Evans or any senior leader, if you would like to discuss any concerns regarding school attendance.

### Volunteers

Do you have an hour or more to spare each week? We need volunteers to support readers in Years 1, 2, 3 and 4. Please contact the school if you are able to help.

### Christmas Dates and Events

Please see below, the Christmas dates again. As you will see, we now have details of the Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert:

Thursday 6 December	Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 11 December, 5.00pm	EYFS Christmas Concert
Wednesday 12 December, 9.15am	EYFS Christmas Concert
Wednesday 12 December, 5.00pm	KS1 Christmas Concert
Thursday 13 December, 9.15am	KS1 Christmas Concert
Monday 17 December, 6.00pm	KS2 Christmas Carols at All Saints Church

## Relief Lunchtime Supervisors required

If you are interested in becoming a Relief Lunchtime Supervisor, please contact the school office on 01977 723495.

### Consent Forms

Please can I remind those parents and carers to complete and return the consent form given out last week, which asks permission for your child to take part in certain activities and the details of the people who have your permission to collect your child from school. Safeguarding is a priority at Orchard Head and we wish to ensure that we have the most up-to-date information regarding your child.

### Weekly Attendance

<b>Class</b>	<b>Attendance %</b>
Nursery am	99.21
Nursery pm	88.24
UFSLC	90.00
UFSR	100.00
Y1W	97.67
Y1/2B	98.28
Y2S	98.67
Y3T	94.29
Y3/4HL	96.71
Y4McA	96.67
Y5Fr	98.33
Y5/6F	95.67
Y5/6J	96.67
Whole School	96.71

Yours sincerely



Mrs G Lindley  
Head of School