
Newsletter

20th May 2022

It seems strange to think that we are coming to the end of the first half of the summer term. This term has seen the SATs happen for the first time in 3 years for our Y2 and Y6 children. There have been lots of fun activities and learning happening this term, and still lots more to go in the last week.

Jubilee Celebrations

We are getting ready for the Jubilee Celebration in school next week. The children have been learning songs, completing some whole school art-work and learning about the Queen. This will be continued next week and we look forward to being able to share the results of our celebrations with you.

Remember this is what our plans are:

Monday 23rd May – Wet Felt Workshops: all in school, nothing for parents to do.

Tuesday 24th May – Children asked to dress in 1950s style clothing. Special menu – please book meal on School Grid. If you are providing a packed lunch, please try to do it ‘1950s style’! Children will be eating extra food in the afternoon (provided by school) at our Coronation Street party and playing games (1950s style)

Thursday 26th May – Children are asked to dress in red, white and blue for our Platinum Jubilee Street Party. There is a special menu – please book meal on School Grid. Children will be eating extra food in the afternoon (provided by school) and playing games at the street party. Parents/carers are invited to come to school at 2.45pm for the Jubilee tree planting, entertainment, and farewell to Mrs Wilson.

The cakes are being made for Tuesday and purchased for Thursday (thank you OPTA for funding this). We are aware of the children’s dietary requirements and will cater accordingly, but if you would prefer for your child not to have the cake and drink in the afternoon, please do speak to one of us.

We are hoping your children get in the spirit of our parties and dress up in 1950’s style (as best they can) on Tuesday and in red, white and blue on Thursday. If they don’t want to dress up, that’s fine, they can still just wear their school uniform – which is blue, so works for Thursday anyway!!

The art-work that we make on Monday will be on display on Thursday so parents/carers can see it all. Please invite extended family to come along on Thursday to help the celebration. We will be out on the playground for our singing and tree planting, so come to the car park and through the big gates for 2.45pm. We look forward to seeing you then.

Playground markings

Hopefully you have seen our new playground markings. We have a netball court, sports trail, a target board and ‘mirror me’ dance area. The children have very much enjoyed playing on them so far and it really does give a lift to the playground.



Mr Puckey takes each class for PE for an hour each week. He has asked me to remind everyone about having appropriate PE kit in school on the correct days. Wrens and Kingfishers have PE on Wednesday and Robins and Hawks have PE on Fridays. Robins also have PE on a Monday. We would recommend that PE kits are brought into school on a Monday and left all week - we do sometimes have extra PE sessions and this may increase as we start looking towards Sports Day in July. PE kits should be a plain t-shirt (preferably white), and plain shorts (blue or black). ‘Strappy’ tops are not suitable, and we also ask that children do not wear football shirts. Thank you for your help with this.





Village Fete – Saturday 25th June

The school and church are holding a joint village fete this year for the first time. It will be take place at the school on Saturday 25th June from 12.30pm – 3.30pm.

More information will be being sent home soon, but please keep the date free so you can come along. There will be games, pony rides, entertainment and refreshments.

We will be asking for donations for stalls after half term and also volunteers to help run the stalls – either for part or all of the fete. Please let us know if you will be able to help and keep your eyes peeled for more information.

All proceeds from the fete will be split between the school (OPTA) and the church.



Dancing Winners

Our after school dance club entered a dance routine into the Huntingdon School Sports Partnership (HSSP) dance competition. We are very pleased to announce that they have been announced winners of the Huntingdonshire region KS2 competition.

The prize is a dance workshop for the whole school with Junior Russell, the HSSP dance instructor. We must say a massive thank you to Charlotte Cooney from Talent Dance Academy who runs our after school dance club. She choreographed and taught the children the dance routine. Charlotte holds her dance club after school on a Tuesday – please get in touch if your child would like to join.

Young Voices

Our Young Voices choir headed off to Birmingham last Monday where they took part in the Young Voices concert. They were one of many choirs that performed together as a choir of over 5000 children. They spent the afternoon rehearsing and then in the evening performed a concert to friends and family.

The children (and staff) had a fantastic day. It really is a magical experience and many parents have commented on how much they enjoyed it. Miss Brown and Mrs Taylor have already signed up for next year!

Any child in Y3 – 6 can join our Young Voices choir and attend the concert. Information will be sent out in the new year when the choir begins again.



The chicks

Mr & Mrs Hartop lent us an incubator and 24 eggs to look after. The eggs began hatching on Monday morning and we had 19 baby chicks arrive over the next couple of days.

It has been wonderful watching them grow, and they have already grown so much even in the last couple of days. We will be keeping them until the half-term holiday.



Absence Update

We are glad to report that on average our attendance so far this half term has increased to just under 96%, with at least 2/3 of our children achieving 97% or more across the period 20th April to 20th May. Whilst Covid will still affect almost all of our children's attendance figures for the year, we are hoping that next term will continue to see an upward trend.

There are still some children who are at 90% or below and I just wanted to put this in context. While 90% seems like a high figure, if you liken it to sessions missed per week it equates to one session (so half a day) per week. If you add this up over a year that's a lot of learning!

Thank you for continuing to inform us in a timely manner of any absences, using the absence phone number (01480 810308 option 1) or the email absence@offordprimaryschool.org