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Anchored in excellence

25th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers.

We have reached the end of what has been a very busy and successful half term! Over the last eight weeks, there has been much to celebrate. Here are just some of the highlights from recent weeks.

Pupil Voice at OCPPA

Since September, we have been working with an organisation called 'Smart Schools' to develop opportunities for children to have their say and to share their ideas. Our aim is for the children to feel that they play a central role in the development of their academy and to develop an understanding of how different people can work together to lead change.

Our recently elected School Council are already hard at work and have formed two working teams, Communication and Action. Together, this team of elected pupils, will drive this year's agenda throughout the academy. We look forward to sharing their priorities with you.

When asked about what might help to make our academy even more friendly, the children voted to have elected children as Ambassadors, to greet special visitors upon arrival. This week, a group of our brandnew Ambassadors had their first task – to greet our CEO, Tom Rees, and Primary Director, Rebecca Bierton, during their visit yesterday. We would like to say thank you to Joseph, Evie and Isabelle who did a fantastic job!

Each week, all of the children take part in 'The Big Debate' where they work together to share their ideas on a wide range topical issues before voting to share their opinions. As well as developing the children's knowledge of current affairs, it also supports children's oracy skills and confidence and develops their understanding of alternate viewpoints.

Parent and Carer Consultation Evenings

We were pleased to welcome so many parents and carers to our recent consultation evenings. Thanks to all those who took the time to share feedback as this is very important to us as we plan for the future. We are in the process of collating this feedback and will share it with you after half term.

Cliff Park Nursery

The new nursery is looking fantastic! We have created a wonderful space for the children to enjoy and are really looking forward to welcoming our first pupils in January. Here are just some of the learning spaces within the new nursery.









Our next project will be to develop the nursery garden area, and we look forward to sharing our progress with you over the coming months!

If you are interested in securing a place for your child, either on a full time or part time basis, please contact the school office. We are already taking bookings for January and for the summer term and beyond. A reminder that places to start in January will be open to children who will be three by the 31st of December this year.

The new nursery will be an excellent resource for our school community for many years to come.

Music at Ormiston Cliff Park Primary Academy

We are delighted that pupils are accessing peripatetic music lessons. So far, we have 25 children learning the violin and they will be joined by 10 children who will be begin learning the guitar in December. All places are currently full, but we hope to be able to expand this programme in the future.



Recorder Group

Our existing recorder group will resume after half term. Mrs Tempest will be starting a new recorder group for Year 2 pupils after half term too.

Choir News

On Wednesday, Mrs Haizel took our Key Stage 2 Choir to the first of their rehearsals for the **Festival of Carols.** This is a lovely project which brings together choirs from local primary schools in the area. The children have been working hard to learn songs old and new and we are really looking forward to their performances at the Drill House on the **4**th and **5**th of **December.**

A group of children in Year 2 will also have the opportunity to take part in this year's 'Sounds for Christmas' at the Drill House on the 3rd of December.

Our Key Stage 2 Choir will also be singing at the Louise Hamilton Centre and in local Care Homes in the run up to Christmas.

Future Events at OCPPA

Bookworms Book Fair

We are delighted that the Bookworms Book Fayre is returning to our school. It will be held in the KS1 Hall on **Friday 8th November.** During the school day, all classes will be able to browse the wonderful selection of books available, which will all be priced at £2.50 each. If you would like your child to bring some money to purchase books (up to £5), please could they bring it in a named envelope or wallet to be handed to their teacher until their visit to the fayre.

The fayre will also be open after school for parents to visit until 3.45pm- cash and cards are both accepted.

This is a great opportunity to purchase quality books at great prices and, for every five books sold on the day, Bookworms will donate one book to our school!

Children in Need 2024



This takes place on Friday November 15th. Children are invited to wear non-school uniform on this day and to make an online donation (donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk) to this year's appeal. We will share this year's theme of 'Make Life Lighter' with the children and will end the day with a very messy assembly! The children will still be playing outside on this day so please ensure that clothing and footwear is warm and practical.

<u>Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday December 12th</u>

We are looking forward to celebrating the annual 'Christmas Jumper Day' to support the national 'Save the Children' charity appeal on Thursday December 12th. Children are invited to come to school wearing their Christmas jumpers (normal school trousers/skirts beneath please). There is no need for children to wear their shirts or polo shirts in this day. Children can either wear a Christmas jumper or 'bling up' an existing jumper with decorations or tinsel. Closer to the time, we will share link to the national charity appeal with you. This is

always a lovely opportunity to have some fun whilst also supporting a worthy cause.

Thank you for your continued support this half term. We wish you and your family an enjoyable half term break and look forward to welcoming your child back on Monday the 4th of November.

Key Dates

Monday 4th November Wednesday 6th November Friday 8th November Tuesday 12th November Wednesday 13th November – Friday 15th November Friday 15th November Tuesday 26th November Thursday 28th November Tuesday 3rd December Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th December Wednesday 11th December 9.15am & 2.15pm Thursday 12th December 9.15am & 2.15pm Thursday 12th December Tuesday 17th December 9.15am & 2.15pm Wednesday 18th December 9.15am & 2.15pm Friday 20th December Friday 20th December

Start of Autumn Term 2 Year 2 Time and Tide Visit Bookworms Book Fair EYFS Maths Stay and Play Session Year 6 Residential Trip Children In Need Day Year 1-6 Maths Session Year 1 Gruffalo Theatre Trip Sounds for Christmas Yr 2 Performance KS2 Choir Festival of Carols Performance Year 5 & 6 Christmas Performance Year 3 & 4 Christmas Performance Christmas Jumper Day Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance **EYFS Christmas Performance** Christmas Lunch End of Autumn Term

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Watkins Principal