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(1) Anchored in excellence

24th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of the first half term, we would like to take a moment to reflect on all that has been achieved. The children have settled well into their new classes and have had a really positive start to the new academic year.

Recent Parents Evenings

We would like to thank all those who attended our recent Parents' Evenings. It was wonderful to share the children's progress and celebrate their successes together. Your support and partnership make such a difference to your child's learning journey. Thank you also for taking the time to complete our regular parent and carer feedback form. We really value your feedback and will share the results of our latest survey as soon as we have analysed them.

EYFS Reading Information for Parents

Thank you to those who attended our recent session for reception parents, where we gave an introduction to phonics teaching. Following the session, we were delighted to welcome families into our reception classroom for the first 'Stay & Play' session of the academic year. The children really enjoyed sharing their learning and enthusiasm for phonics with a familiar adult. Stay & Play events will be planned for each half term and dates will be shared shortly.

Year 6 SATS Information Session

Thanks also to those parents and carers who attended our recent SATS information session. Resources shared at both this and the EYFS Reading Session can be found on our website.

Recent Highlights at OCPPA

World Mental Health Day

The children enjoyed working together to celebrate World Mental Health Day on October 10th. We are grateful to our local NHS Mental Health Team for leading our assemblies on the day. Our learning centered around the text 'The Grand Hotel of Feelings' by Lidia Brancovic, which helps children to understand how to accommodate different 'big'emotions.

We would like to say a special 'well done' to Eleanor in Year 5 (and the kind friends who supported her) who



made and sold bracelets on the day, raising £100 for a children's charity!

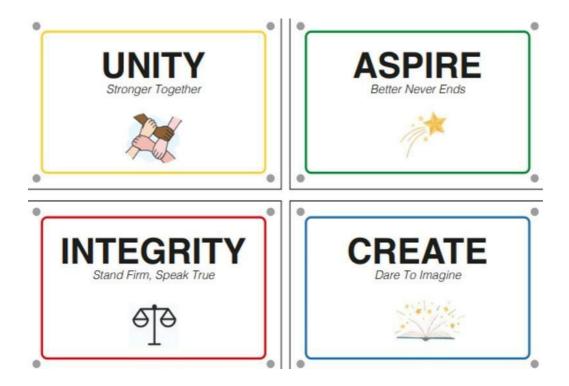


First House Team Winners!

The children are really enjoying working in their new House Teams. This half term, they have worked in their House Teams during World Mental Health Day and also taken part in inter-house competitions in PE.

It has been a very close race throughout the half term but congratulations to Unity House, who are our first half termly winners! They have collected the most points overall from our weekly house marbles challenges this half term and have been rewarded with a non-uniform today to celebrate their achievement.

After half term, the competition will start again and, in addition to the weekly marble challenge, will include an extra inter-house challenge on Children in Need Day in November.



Year 1 Bee Keepers' Visit

To support their science learning about animals, Year 1 enjoyed a visit from the Waveney Beekeeping Society. They were fascinated to learn how bees produce honey! Thank you to John and Carole.





Uniform

Thank you for continuing to support us with our uniform policy. We currently have a wide range of donated uniform, including a number of winter coats in various sizes. We will be holding another 'Freecycle' event in the Key Stage One Hall, straight after school, on Friday November 14th (3.00-3.30pm). Parents and carers are welcome to come along and select items for no charge. This is a great way to save money whilst supporting the environment!

Foodbank Collection

We are very grateful for your kind donations to the Gorleston Foodbank. These have been collected today and



will soon be supporting those in need within our community. We hope to have a regular collection box in our foyer soon so that we can support the foodbank all year round.

Safety Notice

Despite our frequent pleas, a small number of parents are continuing to park on Orde Avenue at dropping off and collection times. This poses a very significant safety risk to all our pupils and parking is not permitted in this area.

A reminder too please that no parents or carers should be entering the academy car park to drop off or collect children at any time of day without the express permission of the Principal.

It is essential that all parents take the appropriate steps to keep our children safe.

Looking Ahead

After a well-deserved break, we look forward to the second half of the Autumn term which will be filled with new learning opportunities and plenty of events for your diary.



Bookworms Book Fayre

The Bookworms Book Fayre will be returning on Friday the 7th of November. This is always a great opportunity to purchase high quality books. All are priced at £3.50 and make ideal Christmas presents! Children in reception to Year 6 will have the opportunity to visit the fayre throughout the day and the children are invited to bring in spending money up to a maximum of £10 in a named, sealed envelope (which they will hand to their teacher for safe keeping upon arrival). Alternatively, parents and carers are welcome to visit the Book Fayre in the Key Stage 1 Hall straight after school, where it will remain open until 4pm. As usual, the academy will receive a percentage of all sales made in free books for our reading areas. We look forward to seeing you there!

Curriculum Information Leaflets

Please find attached our Curriculum Information Leaflets for next half term. Please note that some subjects are taught weekly or daily whereas other rotate half termly.

Dates for your diary

Monday 3rd November Start of Autumn Term 2 Monday 17th November Year 2 Time and Tide Trip

Wednesday 19th November Year 6 Residential Trip at Norfolk Lakes Thursday 4th December Year 2 Choir Sounds4Christmas Concert

Friday 5th December Trust Staff Development Day – **Academy Closed to All Pupils**

Monday 8th December KS2 Choir Festival of Carols Performance

Tuesday 9th December KS2 Choir Festival of Carols Performance

Wednesday 10th December Year 5 & 6 Christmas Performance 9.15am / 2pm

Thursday 11th December National Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 12th December

Monday 15th December

Tuesday 16th December

Year 3 & 4 Christmas Performance 9.15am / 2pm

Nursery Christmas Stay and Play 8.30-9.15am

Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance 9.15am / 2pm

Wednesday 17th December Reception Christmas Performance 9.15am
Thursday 18th December Nursery Christmas Stay and Play 2.15-3.00pm

Friday 19th December Christmas Lunch

Friday 19th December End of Autumn Term 2

Wishing all our families a joyful and restful half term, we look forward to seeing you on Monday 3rd November.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Watkins

Principal