

Ongar Primary School Newsletter

Our real life learners are challenged and inspired in our safe, supportive and respectful school.



Monday 15th October

DINNER MENU WEEK 1

Attendance

School Weekly Target – 96%
% for w/e 12th October 2018 –97.2%

Class	Weekly %	Weekly Points	Points to Date
Donaldson	100%	4	11
Ahlberg	97.7%	2	11
Butterworth	95%	1	4
Dahl	97.5%	1	6
Rowling	98%	1	9
Morpurgo	96.1%	1	9
Horowitz	96.8%	1	9

Our current Attendance Policy is available on the school website – www.ongar-pri.essex.sch.uk. Please read through this to familiarise yourselves thoroughly.

House Points

House	Points to Date
Whale	1234
Wolf	871
Giraffe	934
Monkey	747

Daily Mile

This week we have walked 106 miles, making our grand total 9944 miles.



We will be continuing with our tradition of WOW days, as part of our topics.

This week Butterworth and Ahlberg class are having a woodland adventure day. Look out for updates via marvellous me and our website.

Parents' Evening

This week we are holding our first parents' evenings of the academic year. Sign-up sheets are on the doors of each classroom. If you don't already have an appointment, please sign up or alternatively contact the school office and an appointment time will be arranged for you. This is a chance for you and your child to discuss their progress and learning. Pupils from Ongar Primary are encouraged to attend. Unfortunately, we do not have child care facilities for younger children and request you make your own arrangements for these appointments.

During the evening we will be encouraging parents who haven't already joined, to sign up for our 'Marvellous Me' app and the governors will be asking you to complete a short survey on your child's hobbies and interests. This will enable us to plan extra-curricular activities that are of interest to our pupils.

Letter of Recognition

This week we were delighted to receive a letter from Claire Kershaw, Director of Education for Essex, congratulating us on our excellent KS2 SATs results, which were well above national averages. The school continues to be successful in ensuring our children achieve the best they possibly can. This is testament to the hard work and dedication of our pupils and staff, as well as the support of their parents.

Pantomime

We have arranged a trip to see the matinee performance of Aladdin at The Harlow Playhouse on Wednesday 5th December. OPA have kindly donated £500 towards the overall cost which has enabled us to reduce the cost to parents considerably to £17 per child. Letters will be coming home with the children this afternoon. So that we can confirm the tickets, you will need to return your permission slip no later than **Friday 19th October** with full payment being made by **Friday 2nd November** using our online payment system.



Bags

We have asked the children to bring their reading book and diary either in a school book bag or a small bag that will fit into their tray. The increase in large rucksacks creates a tripping hazard in our cloakrooms as they do not fit on the pegs along with coats. Consequently, bags and coats end up on the floor.

Safeguarding

Unfortunately, it is still necessary for me to highlight the danger posed by some of our parents when driving to and from our school. Please **DO NOT** park on the pavement, block driveways or stop in the road to allow your child to exit your car. This is incredibly dangerous and puts members of our school community at risk.



Please remember that the school is a non-smoking site, this includes the immediate area outside the school.



Fundraising

The OPA met last week to discuss social events and fundraising opportunities. The first one of these is a cake bake sale today (Monday) after school. On Tuesday 30th October we will be having a movie and munch event. The session is free when an adult attends the e-safety session with Miss Bellett. There are 2 sessions available 3.15pm -4pm and 4.15pm -5pm.



Online Payments

When we return to school after the half term break, the school office will be cashless. All payments will need to go through our online payment system, SIMs Agora. All you need to set this up is an email address and a little bit of time. If you are having any problems with setting up your account, please speak to Mrs Robinson in the school office.



We have a no debt policy in relation to school meals. It has been brought to my attention that parents are still running into debt on a weekly basis. Please ensure that your child has money on their meal account when ordering a school meal, otherwise please provide them with a packed lunch.

Reception 2019

If you or anyone you know has a child who will be starting school **NEXT SEPTEMBER**, please do come and have a look around and see our fantastic school in action. We will be holding our second session on Friday 16th November at 1.30pm. Please contact the school office to book your place.

You will be able to apply for your Reception Class 2019 place between 12th November 2018 and 15th January 2019.

Library Visit

Donaldson Class will be visiting the local Library this Friday. If you are able to help, please speak to Ms Matthews.



Celebration Assembly

There will be **NO** celebration assembly this week (19th October) as we are having a special internet safety assembly for our KS2 children. The assembly will be attended by our local MP – Mr Alex Burghart.

Black History Month

October is black history month where we celebrate the contribution made to our society by a range of individuals. Last week we held a special assembly to mark this occasion. Children were asked to do some additional research themselves. Thank you to Taylor C, Freddy K, Joel, Rhylee and Emma who have already done so. Children have the whole of the month of October to research additional facts and may be rewarded with a small treat.

Secondary School Applications

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round opens on Wednesday, 12 September 2018, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2019.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 31st October 2018. Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 98% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

The Local Authority will not be sending letters to parents about making an application. All of the application information is available on the website above. The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2019-20 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies. A link to the booklet is provided below.

http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/econdary_Admissions_Booklet.pdf

Diary Dates – **dates & times are subject to additions and deletions**

We plan to hold a Celebration Assembly every Friday at 2.45pm. If for any reason this has to be cancelled, we will inform you as soon as possible via the notice board by the main school entrance or our Facebook page.

Dates	Event	Time
October		
16 th	Parents Evening	3.30pm
18 th	Parents Evening	5pm
19 th	EYFS Library Visit	9am
19 th	No Celebration Assembly	
22nd -26th HALF TERM WEEK		
29 th	Back to School	8.45am
30 th	Flu Immunisations	AM
30 th	E-Safety Movie & Munch sessions (2 Sessions)	3.30pm & 4.15pm
NOVEMBER		
1 st	Individual Photos	AM
7 th	Y3 Home Safety	PM
7 th	Y6 Cyber Safety	PM
9 th	Y4 Library Visit	9am
11 th	Y6 Class Assembly	2.45pm
16 th	EYFS September 2019 Intake Tour	1.30pm
23 rd	INSET DAY	All Day
30 th	Y1 Library	9am
DECEMBER		
3 rd – 7 th	Assessment Week	
5 th	Pantomime	2pm
7 th	Y5 Library	9am
10 th	Christmas Bazaar	3.30pm
11 th	KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal	PM
12 th	Choir - Mulberry House	TBA
12 th	KS1 Nativity performance to Parents	1.30pm
13 th	KS1 Nativity performance to Parents	5pm
14 th	EYFS Library Visit	9am
17 th	Christmas Craft Afternoon	1.30pm
18 th	Christmas Lunch	12noon
19 th	Party Lunch	12noon
19 th	Last day of School	
20 th – 31 st	XMAS HOLIDAY	
JANUARY		
1 st -2 nd	XMAS HOLIDAY	
3 rd	Inset Day	
4 th	Inset Day	
7 th	Back to School	8.45am