



Ox Close Federation Newsletter

Friday 16th September 2022 - Volume 2

What has been happening in Nursery?

The children starting Nursery, and those children returning again this year, have made a fantastic start to the year. The settling in process has been better than expected; it's always a good sign when there are tears to leave! This week, we have started our first theme of Marvellous Me! We have been exploring what different parts of our bodies can do and have even learned a poem called All of Me. In the weeks to come, we will be thinking about how we are all the same but all different at the same time! The outdoors has proved a favourite place to learn for everyone, keep your fingers crossed for more settled weather in the weeks to come.

What has been happening in Reception?

The children have settled really well into Reception and are learning the expectations, rules and routines at Ox Close. We have been talking about ourselves and our families, drawing self-portraits and pictures of who lives in our house. A lot of the children are interested in minibeasts and have been collecting worms and bugs in the outdoor area. It has been great to welcome the children in our team and we can't wait to see them flourish and progress.

What has been happening in Years 1 and 2?

The children have all settled in well in their new classes and have worked very hard. We have started our new Phonics scheme - Little Wandle and children are enjoying the new lessons. In Maths, we have been looking at grouping and sorting in Year 1 and multiples of 10 in Year 2. We have also started our History topic about Space and children have enjoyed finding out about astronauts and the moon landings.

What has been happening in Years 3 and 4?

So far in Year 3/4 we have been carrying out lots of fun activities to get to know each other. In English, we have started learning a rag to riches story called Cinderella. We have created a text map and used this to help us remember key parts of the story. In Maths, we have started our topic on place value representing and partitioning numbers to 100 and 1000. During our wider curriculum lessons some children have been swimming and others having been learning how to dribble in football. Children have also started the history topic of Egyptians and RE topic Hinduism. We have all settled well into year 3/4 and are looking to the year ahead.

What has been happening in Years 5 and 6?

What a fantastic start we have had to the Autumn term! We have all been really busy in Years 5 and 6 settling into our new classes and getting to know our new teachers and friends. We have made a great start in History where we have been learning about Queen Victoria. We are looking forward to finding out about the changes which were made by the Victorians to the lives of children and the poor. In PE, we have been introduced to the new sport of handball. We soon discovered that this isn't as easy as we first thought and we are really looking forward to the end of unit tournament between Years 5 and 6. In French, we have been learning to write short sentences to explain how we feel and we are now developing our understanding of numbers beyond thirty. We have also made a great start to our art topic this half term and we have been developing our understanding of typography.

Parent Consultations

We are very excited to welcome you into school to meet your child's class teacher during the week commencing 10th October 2022. More details will follow next week to let you know how you can book an appointment.

Attendance at Ox Close

There is a clear link between positive attendance and social and academic development and the Government have raised expectations in this area. Consequently, all schools are required to revise their attendance policies and we are busy updating ours currently. It is now extremely unlikely that term time holidays can be authorised, even under exceptional circumstances. We are looking at ways to continue to encourage positive attendance and from next week we will be holding a weekly competition on a class by class basis. The class or classes with the highest attendance in school will be rewarded with an extra 10 minutes of play time, while we will also have incentives in Nursery too. Miss Bewick has also been busy producing an attendance leaflet. I look forward to sharing news of our first winners next week - good luck everyone!

Class Charts

Year 1	Arya B	Year 4	Heath H
Year 2	Chloe V	Year 5	Nathan B
Year 3	Coby W	Year 6	Luca N

Parent Support

Miss Bewick, our Parent Support Advisor, is available to offer support. She can be contacted via the school office or on 07584072973 and can also be emailed: r.bewick300@oxclosespennymoor.uk.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 19 th September	Bank Holiday – school closed for Queen’s Funeral
Thursday 22 nd September	Year 6 Transition Day – Whitworth Park
Friday 30 th September	ENRICHED Colour Run
Monday 10 th , Tuesday 11 th and Wednesday 12 th October	Parent Consultation Evenings
Tuesday 18 th October	Phototronics
Friday 21 st October	Break up for the Half Term Break
Monday 31 st October	Children back to school
Tuesday 1 st November	PM - M and M Production – Jack and the Beanstalk
Wednesday 9 th November	Flu Immunisation - EYFS to Year 6

D Harrison (Executive Headteacher)

A Bowden (Deputy Executive Headteacher)

J Phillips (Assistant Executive Headteacher)