St Osyth Church of England Primary School Newsletter

'Love one another as I have loved you.'

Friday 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

With the increasingly cold and wet weather, please do ensure that your children have a **change of footwear if they want to use the field at play and lunchtimes** and that these are named. Equally, if your children have scarves, hats and gloves, please ensure that these are named. Thank you.

Mentioning the weather, if you have children, in Years 3 to 6 and who bring in a packed lunch, please do talk to them about where they choose to eat their packed lunch. Children in Years 3 to 6 enjoy and value having the **choice to eat their packed lunch in the hall or, outside—more in a picnic style.** This week, teachers have also talked this choice through with children. We do not want children to feel they have to eat their packed lunch outside but we also do not want to stop children enjoying a 'picnic' outside.

Fun in Forest School!

Despite the cold, Reception children have had a wonderful day, today, learning through Forest School activities. Here are a few of them just before they cook some sumptuous smores. Our thanks to all the team that have enabled the children to learn and to have fun in this way.

It's brilliant to see children benefiting from the rich learning experiences which they are provided. This week, children in **Years 5 and 6 had a virtual workshop from The national Holocaust Museum Centre,** which linked to their learning about World War II. Today, children in **Years 1 and 2 had virtual visit from London Museums, all about The Great Fire of London**. Next week, children in **Years 3 and 4 have a virtual workshop about Hadrian's Wall** run by The Great North Museum. Not only do all these events help the children to learn but they are just one way that we try to keep the costs, for parents and carers, of all visitors and visits to a minimum. In addition to this, we also **subsidise visits and visitors—last year this totalled to about £5,500!**

It has been good, over the last few weeks, to have been able to support some other schools on matters including attendance, using assessment results to plan teaching, having an effective approach to the teaching of English and safeguarding. We do not suggest that we're a 'perfect school' but this does reflect that **other professionals recognise the good and effective practice that takes place in our school, day in and day out.**

Best Regards,

Mr M Carter-Tufnell

(Headteacher)

Key Dates

Tuesday 26th November

Governing Body Meeting

Thursday 28th November

Pound for no pen day!

(School Council run day)

Thursday 5th December

Reception Christmas

Craft Morning

Friday 6th December

PTA Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 10th December

Carol Service—Years 3 to 6

18:00 but children arrive by17:45

Wednesday 11th December

Nativity Service—Yrs 1 and 2

Afternoon at church

Wednesday 11th December

Lion King Trip—Year 6

Tuesday 17th December

Pantomime Trip—

Reception to Year 5

Wednesday 18th December

Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 19th December

Christingle service for children

Friday 20th December

Last day of term

Tuesday 7th January 2025

First day of new term

After School Clubs

After school clubs are for registered children only, if your child would like to attend one of our after school clubs and is not yet registered, please contact the school office.

The school office must be informed, in advance, if your child is unable to attend their after school club. If your child is in year 5 or 6 you may receive a text message to confirm that they have arrived home safe, particularly if they have permission to walk out unaccompanied at the end of the school day.

	Club	Years	From	To	Lead By
Monday	Active All-Stars	1 and 2	16.09.2024	9.12.2024	Mr Carvalho
	Maths Club	5 and 6	30.09.2024	2.12.2024	Miss Salmon
Tuesday	Gymnastics/Cheer	2 and 3	17.09.2024	10.12.2024	Miss Luff
Thursday	Sign Language	3 and 4	26.09.2024	12.12.2024	Mrs Penny
	Football	5 and 6	19.09.2024	12.12.2024	Mr Carvalho
	Computing	5 and 6	19.09.2024	12.12.2024	Miss Lebrett
Friday	Muggle Quidditch	3 and 4	20.09.2024	13.12.2024	Mrs Stock

School Notices

School Dinners

School dinners can be booked up until the end of the year via the Arbor app. To book, please make sure that you are clicking into both 'Autumn Term 2' and 'Christmas Dinner Week' when selecting dinner choices.

Please ensure that you are booking your child's school dinners, any child not booked in for a school dinner will be assumed to have a packed lunch.

Children who have not been booked a school meal and do not have a packed lunch in school will be given a meal once the other children, that have been booked a school dinner, have been served. This is to prevent against food wastage.

Water bottles

A kind reminder that children should only be bringing in water in their Bottles.

PE Kit

All children must have a full **named** PE kit in school every day.

PE Kit: Black shorts, White T-shirt and Plimsols,

Additional items that are allowed for outside: Plain tracksuit bottoms, top and trainers/outdoor footwear (Essential for winter months)

Children can wear a Fitbit (or similar) to school, but it is their responsibility to keep it safe during the day.

All Watches, Fitbits and earrings need to be removed for P.E. lessons

Footwear

Only children with a change of footwear will be allowed onto the field at break and lunchtime, all other children will remain on the playground. All spare footwear is to be clearly labelled, with your child's name.

School messaging

Now that we are using Arbor in-app messaging as our main method of communication, we are aware that a lot of parents/carers are not being notified when they receive a message and instead are having to check the app daily, for any updates. We recommend switching on push notifications to ensure that you are receiving messages as soon as possible. Please follow the link for more information.

https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/360002598038-Parents-not-receiving-push-notifications

Parking

When parking outside of the school, please do not park on the zig zag lines or over any of our neighbours driveways.

For EMERGENCY CLOSURES go online to:
https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/emergency-school-closures

Community Notices

Reception 2025/2026

Primary school admission applications opened on Monday 4th November for Reception school places for the 2025/26 academic year. Applications close on 15th January and can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Attendance

Essex County Council
Education

HERO

Here, every day, ready and on time

Minutes lost per day

5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes	25 minutes
equates to a yearly loss of:				
3 days lost	6.5 days lost	10 days lost	13 days lost	19 days lost

Five minutes late per day adds up to three learning days lost in a school year

If 15 minutes late each day you will miss two full weeks of school in one year

Poor timekeeping means less chance of success!