



OXLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Be Kind.

Be Brilliant.

Have an "I can" attitude.

5th October 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

Headteacher's Newsletter 3

Am I the only person who thinks this term is zipping by at a rate of knots? I can hardly believe that there is only one more week left of this half term. Thank you for your support in helping the children with their homework projects recently. I have seen (and tasted) some amazing creations over the past couple of weeks.

Dinosaur Fundraising

The efforts to raise money towards the Dinosaur Day in Key Stage 1 have really taken off! Thanks to your generosity and support, the cake sales this week have been extremely successful. As you may be aware, the local Tesco has been very supportive of the school. Some of the children originally wrote to Tesco to ask if they could help, and this was the reply:

"Dear Dinosaur Master Danielle, T-Rex Max, Stegosaurus Elise and Diplodocus Evah.

Thank you for the letters telling us about the dinosaur you are trying to bring to your school. We all loved the pictures, very imaginative, just like the prehistoric days!

We would love to help, and have planned to do a small fundraising event this weekend. Colleagues in our store have donated some prizes and we will have a tombola set up across Saturday and Sunday. All proceeds will be donated towards your project.

We look forward to supporting you and we are ROAR-ing for you to bring a dinosaur to your school, (one that isn't too scary otherwise it might scare all of our customers away)."

The fundraising event raised an amazing **£234!** Together with **£40** from Charnwood Road Fish and Chip Shop and **£210.30** from the cake sales, we have now raised a grand total of **£484.89!** Thanks to this amazing generosity from the local community, and support from the PFA, this means we can definitely run the Dinosaur Day in November.

Brilliant Y6!

Last week, I had the absolute privilege to accompany most of the Y6 children, who were taking part in their residential visit to Caythorpe Court PGL centre. We were incredibly lucky with the weather; we had wall-to-wall sunshine all week. The focus of the visit was to build and strengthen relationships and to enable the children to face a range of fun challenges, often involving an element of fear. One of the things that impressed me the most was how supportive and kind the children were towards one another, particularly when abseiling or scaling the heights of the High Ropes activity. I had lots of excellent feedback from the instructors about the children's attitudes to all of the challenges. We all saw a huge amount of the "I can" attitude as well as plenty of the "Be kind" Oxley value.

The residential played a big part in this week's class assembly for Y6, but it also included other achievements and reflections from the rest of the children in the year group. Well done to everyone!

This week, we also held our House Captain elections. Several children from Y6 stood for election, some of them very nervous about speaking in front of a large group of children. Every child who did stand has been awarded a Green Card Award for making the effort and giving it a try. I am very proud of them. The votes were incredibly close. There were two Houses where there was a draw, and because the quality of the children's speeches was so high, the children have elected **two** Captains for each House. They are:

- Beech: Kimarhnei P and Beau B
- Maple: Alfie H and Laura P
- Faith N and Angeline A
- Oak: Mai G and Latasha S

Congratulations to them. Vice Captains will be elected soon!

Non Uniform Day for Harvest

As there has already been a lot of fundraising taking place, including cake sales, it would be difficult to start collecting items of food for our Harvest donation to the Shepshed Food Bank at the same time. Therefore, we have decided to have a non-uniform day next Tuesday. We invite children to bring in one item of food for our collection, and in exchange they can come to school in non-uniform. Ideal items for the collection include: tins, jars and packs of dried food such as pasta, cereals or rice.

Please do not send fresh fruit or vegetables, as these will perish before they can be given out. Thank you for your support. We will present the donations to the Food Bank at the end of the Harvest celebrations next Wednesday. We hope that one day, there will no longer be the need for a food bank in Shepshed.

Shepshed Scare-Sheep Festival

Thanks to the kindness of one of our parents, Mrs Ahsurst, Oxley is taking part in the Shepshed Scare-Sheep Festival! This has been organised by Shepshed Volunteer Centre. Mrs Ashurst fashioned two sheep body shapes using chicken wire. On Wednesday this week, all the children had the chance to help decorate the sheep using pieces of fabric. One is wearing school uniform colours, while the other is a rainbow sheep. Our sheep are called the "Friend Sheep", and they are now on display in the school car park, sitting together on our friendship bench! Our sheep will have a number and letter attached to them, which people write down when they are voting.

Voting takes place this weekend only, so please vote for Oxley! You can get voting booklets from:

- Shepshed Volunteer Centre
- Shepshed Town Council offices
- Meet n Eat
- Dilip's Multistore
- Shepshed Library

World War 1 Soldier

The children in Key Stage 2 had an amazing visitor this week - a "soldier" from World War 1 - as part of their topic work this term. The character actor was able to bring to life this important period in history, playing a soldier, using real-life stories about the experiences of the soldiers who fought in the First World War. The children were completely fascinated and were asking interesting questions to find out more.

Foundation Festival Open Day

On Friday 26th October, we are having an exciting Foundation Festival open day. The Reception area and playground will be open to all visitors, particularly pre-school children, who might want to come and join the fun. There will be entertainment, including a magic show, puppet show and teddy bear's picnic. We hope that you can join us, or spread the word if you know anyone with very young children who would like to visit our school.

Internet Safety Evening

This event, on Wednesday evening, was an extremely informative session. Parents from our school and some from St Botolph's Primary came to find out the latest advice about how best to keep their children safe when online. So many of the parents who attended did say they thought every parent needed to hear this information! We hope to run another session in the near future. Thanks must go to the PFA for giving up time to help provide refreshments and the raffle prize for the evening. A copy of some of the information will be posted on the website and I will alert you when this is done.

Can you help in school?

Would you, or someone you know, like to help out in school? We are always grateful for any help people might be able to offer. This can be as simple as sparing a few hours a week to listen to children read. If you would like to know more about volunteering in school, please contact the school office.

Dates for your diary

- Monday 8th October, after school - parents' evenings begin.
- Wednesday 10th October, morning - Harvest celebrations - 9:10 for Reception and KS1, 10:30 for KS2.
- Wednesday 10th October - Late evening appointments.
- Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th October - parents / carers can visit Iveshead for a "working day"
- Friday 12th October - INSET day. School closed to pupils. Half term begins.
- Monday 22nd October - First day back of school.
- Friday 26th October 9:30-11:30 and 1:30-2:30 - Foundation Stage Festival (see above)
- Monday 12th November - National Anti-Bullying Week begins.
- Friday 16th November - Children in Need Day.
- Wednesday 12th December + Thursday 13th December, 2:00pm - Reception + KS1 Christmas Production.
- Friday 14th December - Christmas Jumper Day.
- Friday 14th December, 1:45pm - KS2 Christmas Celebration, St Botolph's Church.
- Friday 21st December - Last day of term.

INSET Days

Friday 12th October, Monday 25th February 2019, Friday 24th May 2019

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely

Jason Gilman
Headteacher