



Overton St Helen's Primary

School family news



Issue 1

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HAPPY NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

I know I say this every year, but it really has been a wonderful start to the new school year! All our pupils are looking smart, switched on and ready for another hard working and exciting year at school. I am always amazed by how resilient our pupils are to change - they have made new friends, settled into new classes and are already building relationships with their new teachers. It is fabulous to see it all happen.

A highlight of yesterday had to be our collective worship when we all gathered once again in the school hall. It was a very special moment and a very new one to some of our pupils who have never gathered as a whole school before. The word 'together' was the focus of our worship, being thankful for the fact that we are able to gather 'together' instead of separated in our classes. As we move through the school year we will seek many opportunities to work and play together solidifying our school as one whole family, once again.

Don't forget, parents are welcome to join our celebration worship each Friday morning when we share work and award certificates and house points. If you find yourself with a spare 20 minutes, make your way round to the front of the school after dropping off your child and come and join us. Our morning worship always starts at 8.40am and lasts for 20 minutes. It would be lovely to see you there.

PE & FOREST SCHOOL KIT

As mentioned in the letter I sent to parents at the end of the holidays, PE kits can now be brought in and left at school; children will change in school for their lessons. For your information, PE lessons will be on the following days for the following classes:

Monday - HOLLY CLASS

Tuesday - ELM CLASS

Wednesday - BEECH CLASS

Thursday - WILLOW CLASS

Friday - OAK & MAPLE CLASS

As usual, when Forest School kit is needed, we will let you know the previous day via text message. Children will not need a full change of clothes—simply a pair of wellies, some over trousers and of course a good coat. If unsure, please chat to your child's teacher.

NEWSLETTERS

School newsletters will be sent out once a week via email. If you have recently changed your email address or are not receiving them, please let us know so we can keep you up to date.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING

Next Wednesday 8th September, we will be holding a 'meet the teacher' evening where you will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and find out details about the class routine and expectations for your child. This will begin at 6pm in the school hall where I will take the opportunity to welcome everyone. We will then invite parents to move to their child's class where the teacher will give a 20 minute talk about class routines. They will then repeat this talk, to give those parents who have children in more than one class, an opportunity to hear more than one talk.

Timings will be as follows:

Welcome by Mrs Easthope: 6—6.20pm

Class teacher talk 1: 6.20—6.40pm

Class teacher talk 2: 6.40—7pm

Those of you who only have one child in school get to go home early!

HOUSSE CAPTAINS

This morning we announced our new Year 6 House Captains for this academic year. Congratulations to our following pupils:

Milligan (red): Florence Gudgeon and Euan Wilcock

Benson (blue): Georgia Stephenson and Theo Degiorgio

Smith (yellow): Aimee Shields and Callum Winder

Clarke (green): Emmie Crewe and Robbie Bentham

I am sure they will rise to the challenge of leading their houses and being great role models.

PARENT PAY

Thank you to all those who have been very organised and now have their Parent Pay accounts up, running and fully funded. If you have yet to create your account and are struggling, please do not hesitate to pop in and ask for help—we will do our best to assist you. Can I advise you to keep a regular check of your account to ensure balances are kept topped up. The system will send you a polite reminder if you drop into arrears however you can set an alert that reminds you when your balance is getting low.

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

High School open days are making a return to face-to-face visits once again; our Year 6s and our Year 5s are strongly encouraged to take a look and see what each are like before making those all important decisions. Some high schools are hosting open evenings and some are inviting families to book onto open evening tours. For details about the schools you are interested in, check their website to find out what is on offer for you. Remember, the high school application process for Year 6 pupils closes on 31st October.

CHRISTIAN VALUES

Our Christian Values are very important to us at Overton St Helen's and something we underpin all of our school activities with. They are the foundations upon which we build our school and all that happens in it. This half-term we are focussing on 'Thankfulness'.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Next week we will be holding our annual school council elections, voting for representatives of each class to sit on our school council. We will also be looking for new members of our Worship Council to join those who are already members. On Friday morning we will be announcing the successful candidates.

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

We are looking forward to being able to invite parents back in to school to get to know us and the school environment better; we appreciate that some of our newer parents are not familiar with the inside of our school building at all! We are taking the first opportunity to do this on Friday 24th September, hosting a coffee afternoon in support of Macmillan Cancer Care. More details will be given nearer the time, including requests for delicious homemade cakes, but put this date in your diary. On the morning of 24th September we will be holding our annual Harvest Festival which you are most welcome to join us for too. It promises to be a very busy day!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 8th Sep: Meet the Teacher evening, 6pm—7pm

Fri 10th Sep: School Councillor Announcements

Fri 24th Sep: Harvest Festival—all parents welcome 8.45am

Fri 24th Sep: Macmillan Coffee Afternoon from 1.30pm

Fri 22nd Oct: School ends for half-term break

Fri 31st Oct: Deadline for high school applications

Mon 1st Nov: INSET DAY (school closed)

Tues 2nd Nov: School re-opens after the break

Although there are not many dates in the calendar yet, more will be added as the weeks go on. Please remember to check this feature of the newsletter each week.

