



And just like that... it's half term! As always, it has been jam-packed at OSPA. The children have settled beautifully into their new classes and are really impressing their teachers.

I hope you enjoyed our recent face-to-face Parents' Consultation Day! It is a great opportunity to celebrate the amazing work your child has been doing. If you were not able to attend, please do ask the teachers for a phone appointment at a time convenient for you.

Enjoy the half term, celebrating Halloween together! School returns on Monday 7th November.

Mrs Steward - Principal

PGL

Year 6 pupils and staff returned from our annual PGL trip with big smiles.

Many happy memories and special moments made during a very full 3 day trip.

Activities included learning key survival skills, making fires and building dens, working in teams to solve problems.

Archery was a 'big hit', along with abseiling, canoeing, climbing and the giant swing, all challenging the children to push themselves and try new things.

The fun carried on into the evening with SPLASH, AMBUSH and the last night's disco.

We finished the trip on a high with the 'High ropes obstacle course'

Another successful residential trip, a big thank you to all of those staff that gave up their weekend to help and support.



Science experiments



Year 5 and 6 are loving learning about their new science topic - Forces. They have learnt all about gravity, air and water resistance and friction. In lessons, they've taken part in a number of different experiments including making and testing parachutes and dropping different shaped items into water to investigate the speed in which they fall.

Art competition

We need your amazing art!

Do you want a chance to win £200 worth of art supplies for yourself and £1,000 worth for school?

All you need to do is bring your masterpiece into school and give it to Mrs Carroll in Latvia class.

The competition is open until July 2023 and there are no limitations on how many pieces of art that we can submit. Good luck!

Jeans for Genes

This year we raised an amazing £340.28 for the charity Jeans for Genes. This charity supports many children and their families with genetic disorders to provide activity days, equipment and residential weekends to children in the UK. Thank you for your kind donations.



Recycle the present, save the future.

Our recycling globe project was completed and I'm sure you will agree it looks amazing! Our aim is to continue to promote sustainability and recycling to our pupils and families. We would like to thank all of our sponsors for their generosity in supporting our project.

After lots of hard work, we have successfully achieved our Eco-School Green Flag Award with Merit! Pupils and staff have worked hard to create a more eco-friendlier school and promote this throughout our curriculum and academy.

We have achieved our SAPERE Philosophy for Children (P4C) Bronze Award! P4C enhances pupils' discussion, language and deepens their questioning



Green Influencer clubs

Fresh produce grown in our school allotments by the Green Influencer groups.



Parent's consultation day and parent view

We really hope that you enjoyed our first face to face parent meetings in such a long time. We enjoyed having you back.



Parent View
Your child's school

Thank you to all of those parents that have completed a parent view questionnaire, we really do appreciate your opinions and time.

All of the parents were entered into a prize draw and Mr Hallibone has won a voucher.

The Great Ormiston Bake Off

In October we took part in the Great Ormiston Bake Off. Children took part by baking at home with their friends and families and then brought in their bakes for judging. All children took part in the judging by voting for their favourites and were blown away by some of your amazing creations. We had some absolutely amazing bakes! So, a big well done to everyone who took part and an even bigger well done to our three winners.

Reception: Emmy and Kieran

Group 1: Amelia - Rae

Group 2: Gracie

Staff: Mrs Carrington



Upcoming events

Friday 18th November—Children in need—children to wear something spotty—for a charity donation.

Monday 21st November—flu vaccinations,
Open evening Reception at 3.30pm

Monday 5th December—cinema trip for years 1-6
Reception Christmas concert at 9.30am, Nursery
Christmas concert at 10.45am and 2.30pm

Tuesday 6th December—Reception Christmas
concert at 9.30am

Wednesday 7th December—Year 2 Christmas
concert at 10am and 2pm

Thursday 8th December—Year 1 Christmas
concert at 10am and 2pm

Monday 12th December—Minster concert time
TBC

2022-2023 term dates

21.10.22 Break up for half term

07.11.22 Children return following half term

25.11.22 School closed for a Trust wide inset day

16.12.22 Children finish at 2.30pm for Christmas

04.01.23 Children return after the Christmas break

10.02.23 Children finish for half term

20.02.23 Children return after half term

31.03.23 Children finish at 2.30pm for Easter

17.04.23 Children return after the Easter break

01.05.23 May day bank holiday

26.05.23 Children finish for half term

05.06.23 Children return after half term

25.07.23 Children finish for Summer break

Attendance



Our whole school target for attendance is **96%**

Our whole school attendance for this half term is **95.3%**. Let's see if we can make it to **96%** for Christmas!



There has been a steady increase in the number of children missing school on account of assumed illness. Please remember that early morning aches often pass, so don't keep your child at home "just in case" when he or she could be learning in class. If you are not sure, you could talk to a member of the school staff or your GP.

Is my child well enough for school?

Coughs and colds

A slight cold or cough does not stop a child from attending school. However, children with heavy colds or persistent coughs should stay at home. A child whose cough is disappearing and who is feeling better should return to school.

Minor aches and pains

A child whose only complaint is a minor headache or tummy ache does not usually need to be kept at home. A child with persistent toothache or earache should see a dentist/doctor without delay.

Vomiting and diarrhoea - If vomiting or diarrhoea occurs, your child should stay at home for 48 hours.

Medication

If your child has a headache or has signs of a fever, you can administer Calpol before school. Let a member of staff know and we will monitor them closely. If your child needs medication during the school day, you can complete a consent form for staff to administer any necessary treatment. The forms are available at the front office.

Appointments

We encourage parents to make appointments out of school times. Sometimes it is unavoidable, if your child's hospital appointment is in the morning, we ask that you send your child back to school at the earliest opportunity.

Lateness

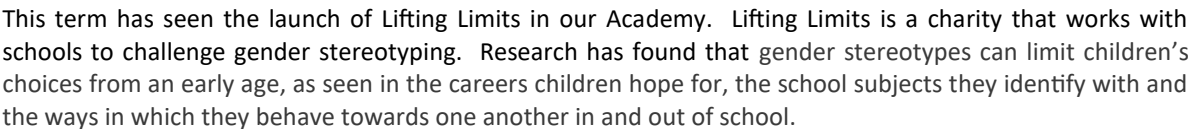
Child must attend on time to be given a present mark for the session. Poor punctuality is not acceptable. If your child is late he/she will miss the teacher's introduction to lessons and may also feel embarrassed having to enter the classroom late.

Your contact details

Reminder – It is **your responsibility** to inform school when your child is absent from school. It is important that school staff can contact you or someone you have identified on your contact list.

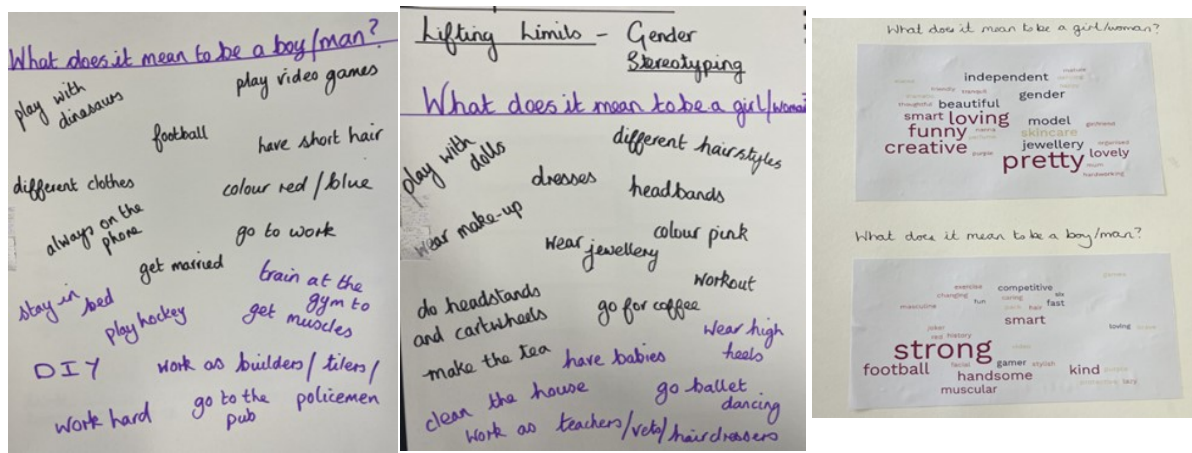
Please keep school updated if you have a new number.

Any problems or concerns please speak to Mrs Allington.



We will be delivering lessons, assemblies and activities throughout the year to raise awareness of these issues amongst the children, to develop their critical thinking and to promote gender equality in all aspects of their learning. We hope the children will talk to you about what they are learning and we will share examples of this in newsletters and on social media too.

To begin our journey each teacher asked the following questions to their class:
What does it mean to be a boy/man? What does it mean to be a girl/woman? Here are some examples of what the children said. It was great to be able to hold discussions and challenge some of their thinking just from these initial baseline lessons.



We would like you to be a part of this journey with us and we will therefore be sending out home learning tasks that can form a discussion and be carried out in your home. If you would like to write down any discussions you have or your findings, we would love to receive them. Please hand them into your class teacher. The first home learning task will be sent out via My Ed at the end of the term. There will also be a useful Family Guide attached which will provide you with further information.

We hope you enjoy following our journey and being a part of it this year.