

Summer Term – Newsletter 2



School Update

Dear Families,

Welcome back, I hope you managed to spend some quality time with your incredible children over the half term. Thank you all for your kindness on my return to work, it is never easy being away from school but Mrs. Warner has done an incredible job of steering the ship whilst I was away. The children have come back to school full of enthusiasm and energy ready for the final few weeks of the academic year and are full of stories of what they have been up to over the break 😊.

The 'transfer deadline day' as I call it has passed. Sadly, we will be losing Miss Holness and Miss Watkins. Miss Holness is starting an exciting new adventure in Dubai with her husband and little man. She will be teaching in Early Years and is very excited about the new challenge. I have told Miss. Holness that she needs to keep in touch and I have even suggested that Owlsmoor links up with her new school – pupil exchange maybe 😊.

We are super proud of Miss Watkins as she has successfully gained a promotion in her new school and will be leading her own EYFS team. Miss Watkins started her teaching career here at Owlsmoor Primary School and has quickly grown as a leader. We are always very pleased when one of our own hops on to the leadership ladder – they have learnt from the best 😊. I hope you will join me in wishing both Miss. Holness and Miss. Watkins all the very best for the future (remember they still have 6 weeks left 😊).

This time of year, is one of mixed emotions with our children moving year groups and our fabulous Year 6 moving on to the next part of their academic journey. Classes this year will be mixed, allowing the children to experience a new set of peers, teachers and classroom environments. As you may or may not be aware, the mixing of classes is no mean feat with so many different factors to consider. The children will take part, as they did last year, in a two-day transition (Wednesday 3rd July and Thursday 4th July). The children will spend quality time in their new classrooms, whilst taking part in a range of activities supporting the children's transition to their new year group. It promises to be an exciting few weeks, please can we ask that you continue to support your children during this time, as I mentioned above, it isn't easy for everyone.



Due to my untimely operation we have not had a Family Forum for a while. The next forum will be on Wednesday 26th June @ 18:00. The focus for the session will be on the New Curriculum and as always, we will provide the refreshments 😊.

Thank you all again for all your support, we can't do what we do without you.

Mr. Cope

Maths and English Superstars

A huge congratulations to our Maths and Writing Superstars for the month – keep up the good work 😊.

Class	Maths Superstars	Writing Superstars
Mrs Reed	Nancy Wood	Evie Groves
Mrs Wood	George Dowden	Lucas Brown
Miss Tomlinson / Mrs Garrod	Nathan Osler	Hari Sankar
Miss Parr	Matthew Aldridge	Lily Weavers
Miss Wakelin	Harvey Dowden	Annabel Gartland-Wells
Ms Gardiner	Henry Lee	Ivey Bolton
Mrs Read/Miss Holness	Travis Richards	Krystian Cieplinski
Mrs Bruce/ Mrs Plumtree	Rose Holland	Freddie Foot
Mr Francis	Harley Everett-Benns	Jessica Curran
Mr Rock	Eliza Barnett	Adi Sharma
Miss Megrath	Phoebe Phillips	Ava Truman
Miss Bess	Rosie Gilbert	Rio Chandler
Mr Taylor	Resean Wilson	Pippa Toppin
Mrs Panesar	Freddie Paternoster	Aadhya D
Mr Stevens	Sofia Kelly	Jack Brown
Mr Saunders	Rebecca Lewendon	Matilda Giffin



Taekwondo Superstars at Owlsmoor!

We have some very talented Taekwondo experts here at Owlsmoor and recently several of them have taken part in a competition.

Amelia came 1st place and Rebecca came 3rd place across their whole club.

They entered 3 divisions, form, sparring and board breaking.

Individually Amelia got 2 golds for form and breaking, and one silver in sparring.

Rebecca got a gold for form, bronze for sparring and silver after a tie break situation for boards.

Spencer got joint 3rd place bronze in forms.

Eleanor Enriquez got silver in forms.



A huge congratulations to all of you – what an incredible achievement.

Musical achievement 🎵

We have a number of talented musicians here at Owlsmoor and a huge congratulations goes to Charlotte Allen for passing her violin exam. I know her family are very proud of her achievements, as we all are here at school.



Well done Charlotte.

Summer Craze

School Council have been busy as ever and have decided on 'card games' for this half term.

Card games can include: playing cards, UNO and Top Trumps to name but a few. Please take note that the cards are only to be brought in on a Friday and are only permitted to be used at break times and lunchtimes.



SCHOOL TRAFFIC & PARKING

We have had many complaints from local residents and school parents that people are exceeding the 20mph limit around the school and that parents are increasingly stopping/parking on the zig zag and triangular white lines causing congestion. Please do not park or stop on any of the road markings outside the school, they are specifically placed to aid traffic flow and for the safety of your children. Please also do not park across our neighbours' drives, or on the curbs as pushchairs etc cannot get through. Thank you.



CLASS PHOTOS

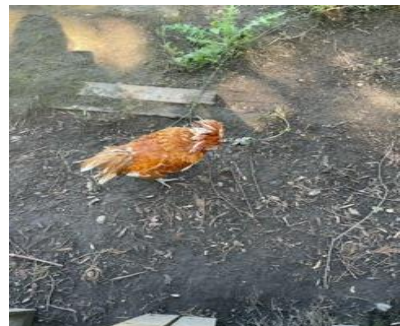
Cardwell, the school photographer, is coming to take class photos on Thursday 20th June. If for any reason you do not want your child in the class photo, please let the class teacher know in advance.

Kingfishers and Wrens

Welcome back! I hope you all had a very restful, if not very sunny half term? I can't quite believe it is the last half term of the year!

As usual, we have been very busy in Kingfishers. We very much enjoyed our trip to the farm. We met Farmer Lorraine, we learned how to look after the animals, collected freshly laid eggs and planted pumpkin seeds. Kingfishers especially loved meeting Bruce, the naughty pig and getting to hold and stroke Dotty the rabbit.

Here are some photos from our visit



We have written letters to Farmer Lorraine to thank her for showing us around the farm.

This half term, our topic will be 'Under the Sea'. We have been reading Rainbow Fish and the Big Blue Whale and we have written sentences using adjectives to describe the whale and Rainbow Fish. Kingfishers used some fabulous adjectives! Well done.

We are looking forward to learning about road safety and taking part in sports day this half term.

Year 6 Outdoor Athletics

On Wednesday 5th June, 14 talented year 6's travelled to Bracknell Leisure Centre to take part in an Outdoor Athletics Competition against 26 other local Primary schools. Due to the success of the indoor athletics competition, confidence was high in the hope we could compete and finish inside the top 10 schools!

With a variety of different track and field events, the pupils took part in 80m, 600m, sprint relays, long jump, overarm throw and shot put. In very hot conditions, Owlsmoor performed brilliantly and were waiting in anticipation to see the final result!

The results were in and once again, **amongst 26 different Primary schools, Owlsmoor finished in an incredible 9th place!**
Well done EVERYONE!



Rights Respecting Schools

Thursday 6th June marked 80 years since the D-Day landing. Remembrance unites people of all faiths, cultures and backgrounds in those who defend our democratic freedom and way of life.

Article 38 – Protection in war

Governments must not allow children under the age of 15 to take part in war or join the armed forces. Governments must do everything they can to protect and care for children affected by war and armed conflicts.



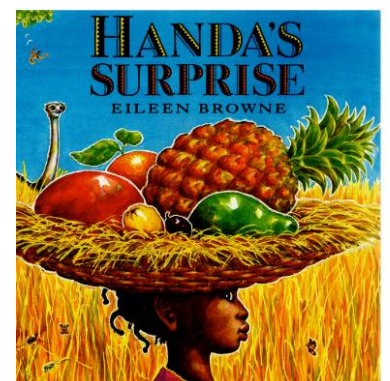
Reception

Reception:

Welcome back after what we hope was a relaxing half term filled with lots of outdoor adventures to a very busy half term.

Bringing in a piece of fruit

Next week we will continue with our topic of Africa and will be looking at a story called Handa's Surprise. With this in mind please can we ask **all the children** to bring in **a few pieces of fruit** that we can use next week for fruit tasting, making fruit salads, exploring exotic fruit and fruit printing. For example – oranges, bananas, apples, passion fruit, mangos, satsumas, pineapples, guava, star fruit, avocado and any other exotic fruit you may think the children will find exciting or interesting learning about. Please can they bring these in on Monday 10th June.



Goldilocks and the Three Bears:

Last half term we did a lot of activities based around our learning on 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. The children impressed us with how many different activities they came up with to represent the story and by the end they could retell it so well using all the new vocabulary they had learnt! The porridge tasting went down a treat too.



Growing

The children were extremely excited to have the opportunity to plant and look after their own sunflower plant. We hope they are still growing tall at home! On the note of growing, if you have any plants or wouldn't mind buying and could donate to the school so we can plant them in our planters, we would be very grateful. We are especially looking for **strawberry plants, herbs and vegetables to plant**.



Butterflies

Our caterpillars hatched! The excitement by both teachers and children was very evident as each butterfly hatched. They children got to take care of them and then we released them into our gardens around the school.



It's a Marmalade Jam - sandwiches!

We had some super writers creating recipe lists for a yummy sandwich and also some disgusting sandwiches! We explored different fillings and decided step by step how we should make a sandwich to ensure our teachers made them correctly! Once we knew the steps, we had a go at making our own sandwiches and chose our own filling. We enjoyed sitting on the blanket in the sun to eat our freshly made sandwiches.



Getting outside in the sun!

We hope you have enjoyed getting outside as much as we have now the sunnier weather is here. The Reception children have been so excited to have the sandpit opened. We have been busy building many sandcastles and using the diggers to collect the sand. Now that we are able to get out and enjoy the sun more, please can we gently remind you to apply sun cream before school and ensure your child is coming into school with a named water bottle and sun hat.

Thank you!

Reception team.



Year 1 – Knights WANTED!

Year 1 have had a very busy May.

Our school trip to Windsor Castle was thoroughly enjoyed and the children got to see some amazing sights.

We visited Queen Mary's Doll's House, which the children found very interesting. They could not quite comprehend the scale of the Doll's House and all of the tiny intricate details. One of their favourite parts of the Doll's House were the books, complete with tiny illustrations.



At 11 o'clock the children were ready to watch The Changing of the Guard. They played some recognisable tunes and the children watched closely as the guards switched over.

The children were also able to visit the Chapel and pay their respects to the late Queen.

During the afternoon, the children attended a 'Knights Wanted' workshop and were able to see some of the equipment which would've been used many years ago. They also learnt the stages which a young person would have go through in order to become a knight.



Back at school, the children had been patiently waiting and watching to see the caterpillars transform into butterflies. As part of our science week, the children were able to observe closely the life cycle of a butterfly. Year 1's butterflies seemed to be the only ones taking their time but they did eventually emerge and the children were able to release them into the world.



A gentle reminder, please can you make sure your child comes to school wearing sun cream and has a named sunhat for those sunnier days (fingers crossed!)

Year 1 Team

Year 2



To infinity and beyond....

Welcome back after the half term holiday. We hope you all had a good break (despite the lack of sunshine!). You might have noticed our new Science Garden taking shape and we have already planted some summer flowering bulbs that the children are eagerly waiting to appear. We are still looking for bedding plants to put in this space so if you are doing any planting, do drop off any spares to your class teachers.

Our topic this half term is 'To infinity and beyond...' and the children are super excited as we kick off this unit of work with a trip to Winchester Science Centre. In our build-up work to the trip we have been finding out all about the first men on the moon. The children have been enjoying our 'space topic areas' and getting stuck in to writing biographical facts about Neil Armstrong.



Next week we will begin our work on making moon buggies and writing instructions to build them. We would like the children to bring in a cereal box as a base for their moon buggies. We are also looking for other junk modelling materials to develop these buggies so do send in cardboard tubes, bottle tops, small boxes and containers to add satellites, seats and other features to the buggies – silver foil pie dishes make great satellite dishes!

Our science this half term will be based on the materials we use to build and design vehicles – buggies, planes and rockets! We will also be fulfilling our curriculum promise to design and make a kite. You may have noticed our developing outdoor construction area – if you have any spare 'splinter free' decking boards, planks, strong crates or wheels that the children can use to build larger scale models please do speak to your child's teacher.

As the weather is starting to warm up, please send your child in with a hat, water and suncream when appropriate.



Happy half term

Year 2 Team

Year 3

Another month has flown by! We hope you all had a good half term. Before half term, we were working on the topic of time in maths. We made our own clocks and practised telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes. Any additional practise the children can do on this at home will be very beneficial, particularly telling the time on analogue clocks if you have one at home (most things tend to be digital these days so the children are often less familiar with the 'old-fashioned' clocks!).

In our art lessons before half term, we looked at mosaics and how they evolved over time. The children then designed their own mosaic and crafted the from salt dough. Finally, they painted their tiles in the colours they had stuck them to a board to create their desired pattern. We were so results! There were lots of very creative designs!



have evolved tiles they needed planned and pleased with the



As per the letter you received before half term, we will be exploring the process of tie-dye in the coming weeks. We politely request that the children bring in a plain white t-shirt to dye. It is important that the t-shirt is named in a way that will still be readable when the fabric is dyed (usually a name written in biro or permanent marker on the label will stay visible). Named t-shirts can be brought into school **at any point before Monday 24th June**. Please let your child's class teacher know if you are having difficulty providing a t-shirt as we may be able to help. Thank you to those who have already managed to bring one in.

Another of the activities we have planned for this half term is making s'mores over a campfire. Could you please let your child's class teacher know as soon as possible if your child has any dietary requirements relating to marshmallows, chocolate or digestive biscuits so that suitable alternatives can be sourced. Thank you to those parents who have already done so.

Finally, a reminder that our Egyptian Day is coming up on Friday 28th June. Thank you to those who have already paid their contribution to the workshop via Scopay. The children are welcome to dress in Egyptian style clothing if they would like to (this is not compulsory), however we will still be doing PE at some point in the day so would appreciate it if they could either wear PE kit under their Egyptian clothing or bring PE kit to change into.

Year 3 Team



Year 4

Before the half term, the children enjoyed their topic of Anglo-Saxons, re-writing their own versions of Beowulf and writing a non-chronological report on a dragon. For their reports, they wrote them across a double-page and had to carefully consider their presentation. They looked fantastic! The children also created repeating pattern prints using polystyrene tiles and then an Anglo-Saxon inspired animal design. Also, we enjoyed an extra-special school trip to the Winchester Science Museum – we had such a good time and the children were such role-models for the school. Their behaviour was excellent and apart from a few awake in the early hours of the morning, most children (and staff) slept surprisingly well!



Year 5

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful break. It's hard to believe we're already in the final term of the year! Before the half-term break, we had a very busy period, especially with our art project inspired by the work of Giacometti. For this project, we created wire sculptures based on the Tudor rose. These sculptures allowed us to explore both historical symbolism and artistic techniques. By manipulating the wire, we learned how to craft the intricate beauty of the Tudor rose. We then used Modroc to form the petals and finished them off by carefully painting them. Our classroom was filled with creativity and excitement as we brought these delicate designs to life.



Our visitors, the caterpillars, transformed into beautiful butterflies. To mark the end of Science week we all released them in the playground and watched them flutter away. It certainly was a memorising moment.



Visiting Marwell Zoo was an incredible experience for all of us. With perfect weather, we thoroughly enjoyed seeing a range of animals, from sloths and ostriches to monkeys, who kept us all entertained.

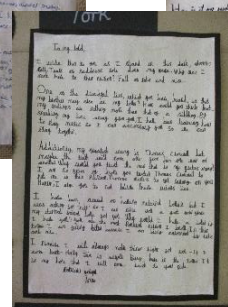
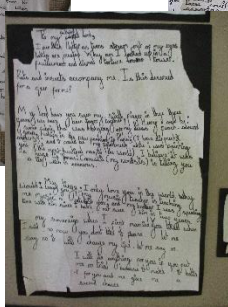
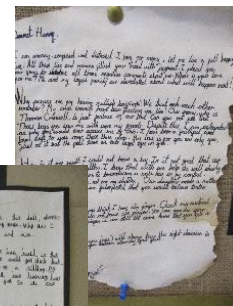
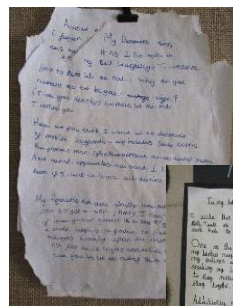
Even the tiger made an appearance to say hello! The children were very well-behaved throughout the visit, making the day even more enjoyable.



We are excited to share that the children recently planned and designed their own apple pies, creating them in true Tudor styles. Their enthusiasm shone through as they demonstrated impressive culinary skills. We discovered some budding chefs among them. It was a joy to see their pride in their delicious creations.



During our English lesson, we put ourselves in Anne Boleyn's shoes (Henry VIII's wife), imagining her plight as she was locked up in the Tower of London. Each child wrote a persuasive letter from Anne's perspective, pleading her case. To add an authentic touch, we even stained the paper to make it look old.



RESPECT – KIND – INCLUSIVE – DETERMINED - SAFE

This term promises to be just as exciting and full of new learning experiences. We look forward to what's ahead!

Thank you for your continued support.

Year 5 Team

Year 6

A warm welcome back to the current Year 6's last ever half-term in primary education; they start at "big" school in just under 3 months!

May proved to be another extremely busy and important month for the children in Kites and Eagles. The biggest event was the SATs week, but we could not be more pleased with, or proud of, the children and the way that they handled the whole experience. They were extremely mature, worked hard and did the very best that they could to show just what they know in the tests. It is fair to say that they enjoyed the pre and post SATS parts more than the tests themselves (who wouldn't like cakes and lots of fresh air?), but they acquitted themselves in a way that they can all be proud of. Mr Stevens and Mr Saunders would like to say a huge thank you to all of the staff and volunteers who helped during SATs week to ensure that the children had the best possible environment to thrive in. The party day on the Friday was a great success too, enjoyed by all.

The final week of the half-term saw us auditioning for the end of year production, What's the Crime Mr Wolf? The children were sensible in choosing which size/type of role that they were interested in and we were able to successfully cast them all inside 2 days and so rehearsals were able to start before the break (and continue now!!!)



Our last half-term is going to be choc-a-bloc with sports events such as athletics and cricket competitions, transition visits to secondary schools, residential trip (and week of events for those not going), play performances, leavers' events and much more so it will absolutely fly by. We look forward to seeing you all when we perform the play or at leavers' events.

Best wishes

Y6 Team

Nursesey

We hope you had a lovely half term and that you are all relaxed and ready for the summer term. This half term we have some exciting things to look forward to, like sports day and the farm visit. More details will follow shortly with regards to both.

Places to Visit

Last half term, we continued with our topic 'Places to Visit'. We learnt about cafés, woodlands, garden centres and the seaside. We looked at garden centres and talked about lots of different things that you could buy there and the different tools you need to keep your garden neat and tidy. We also looked at lots of pretty different flowers, and how some plants grow from seeds and others from bulbs. When we learnt about cafés, we enjoyed role playing, where we took on the different roles of the employees, like a chef, waitress, customer and barista.



During woodlands, we learnt about the different types of animals we would find in the woods, from deer and owls to all the minibeasts. We then used our learning in our own environment, where we noticed the red kites flying over and around the school and finding different minibeasts in our outside area. We talked about how we care for our woodlands and that we need to look after them.



Butterflies

We have been fascinated with the caterpillars in our classroom and learning all about the lifecycle of a butterfly. We have observed them grow and grow and grow, until they were really big and turned into chrysalides. We then watched and waited everyday for the butterflies to emerge. It was amazing watching them emerge from their chrysalis and expand their wings. Once they had all emerged and their wings had dried, we took them up onto the field to let them go, so that the lifecycle could start all over again.



Maths

During maths, we have been learning about different shapes. We looked at what 3D shapes would best be used to build a bridge, we were then given a challenge to build a bridge so that a car could drive under it safely. We found out that cubes and cuboids made the best bridges and that a cylinder would only work if it was placed on its circular face.



Hopefully with the better weather upon us, can we please remind you to apply sun cream to your child before they come to school, most sun creams offer at least 8 hour protection. Also, all children will need a named sun hat for outside learning and water bottle. We have noticed an increase in juice within children’s water bottles, children may have juice in their lunch boxes for lunch time however plain water only in the class water bottle please.

Thank you.

Miss Grant and the Team

KEY DATES	
Friday 14 th June 2024	PTA Break the Rules Day
Thursday 20 th June 2024	Class Photos
Friday 21 st June 2024	Year 4 to Ufton Court
Friday 21 st June 2024	Reception Classes to Birdworld
Friday 21 st June 2024	Swans Class Assembly (9am school hall)
Monday 24 th June 2024 – Friday 28 th June 2024	Year 6 Residential to Bushcraft
Wednesday 26 th June 2024	Family Forum – New Curriculum – 18:00 start
Friday 28 th June 2024	Year 3 Egyptian Workshop at School
Monday 1 st July 2024	Reception and KS1 Sports Day (Time 9:15am)
Tuesday 2 nd July 2024	Nursery Sport Day (Time 9:30am)
Wednesday 3 rd July 2024	Transition Day
Thursday 4 th July 2024	Transition Day
Friday 5 th July 2024	KS2 Sports Day Years 3/4 (Time 9:00am -11am) KS2 Sports Day Years 5/6 (Time 11:15am -1:15pm)
Wednesday 10 th July 2024	Year 6 10p Fair
Friday 12 th July 2024	PTA Non-Uniform
Friday 12 th July 2024	PTA Disco (including YR6 Leavers Disco)
Friday 19th July 2024	Bubble show (PTA event- details to follow)
Friday 19 th July 2024	End of Term (School Year) at 2pm

REMAINING INSET DAYS – 2024
Monday 22nd July Tuesday 23rd July
INSET Days for 2024 - 2025
Tuesday 3rd September 2024 Monday 4th November 2024 Monday 6th January 2025 Tuesday 22nd April 2025 Monday 2nd June 2025

SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR - 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term 2024

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Pupils Start on Wednesday 4th September 2024

October Half Term - Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 4th November 2024

Pupils start on Tuesday 5th November 2024

Autumn Term ends on – Friday 20th December 2024 at 2.00pm

Christmas holiday: Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025

Spring Term 2025

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 6th January 2025

Pupils start on Tuesday 7th January 2025

February Half Term – Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025

Pupils start on Monday 24th February 2025

Spring Term ends on Friday 4th April 2025 at 2.00pm

Spring holiday: Monday 7 April 2025 to Monday 21 April 2025

Good Friday: 18 April 2025, Easter Monday 21 April 2025

Summer Term 2025

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Pupils start on Wednesday 23rd April 2025

Public Bank Holiday (School Closed) Monday 5th May 2025

May holiday: Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025

(Inset/Teachers' Training Day) – Monday 2nd June 2025

Pupils start on Tuesday 3rd June 2025

Summer Term ends on Wednesday 23rd July 2025 at 2pm.