



Dear Parents

Welcome back to the start of a new term. It has been great to see all of the children back, well rested and ready to learn. You will have read the letter I sent earlier this week regarding new guidance about self-isolation and close contacts of COVID-19, if you have any questions regarding the guidance please do ask. As I reiterated in the letter sent home, by all following the guidance we can ensure that keep everyone in our community as safe as possible.

This term looks to be busy. We had a really positive day on Tuesday working with staff from Wootton on our curriculum vision for our two schools. The teachers have really inspiring ideas and values about what we value as key to our curriculum at our school and we agreed on three key drivers for our curriculum; English, PSHE and the Arts. Look out for more updates on the website over the coming term.

Lauren Murrey

## School Uniform

We continue to keep all spaces in school, where possible, well ventilated,. This means that windows and doors are open all day. Please layer up your children with base layers under their normal school t-shirts, jumpers and school uniform.

## PE Kit

PE will continue to be every Monday and Wednesday and unless the weather is really wet, will take place outdoors throughout the term. Please make sure that your child wears the appropriate PE kit for the weather. As a minimum they would need; black or navy jogging bottoms, house t-shirt (with a layer underneath) and a black or navy plain jumper or hooded top.

## Curriculum Maps and Class updates

Class teachers are uploading their termly update and curriculum maps on to the school website today. Please take some time over the weekend to have a look at what your children will be learning about this term.

## Reception Admission for 2022/2023

Online applications for children for Reception Year entry in September 2022 can now be submitted online, the deadline for completion is **Saturday 15th January 2022**. The link for applications is <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions> , The 15th January closing date is extremely important, as late applications will not be considered until May 2022 after the first offers have been made. Parents with older children already in the school do still need to apply for a place for a younger child. It is not automatic that a younger sibling will be offered a place. All parents must submit an application. If you know any parents looking for Reception school places please encourage them to arrange a visit.

## Governor Update—Teaching and Learning by Neil Blackledge, Parent Governor (dad of James Blackledge, Year 4, Tackley).

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December, the Teaching and Learning (T&L) committee visited Wootton school where we met with Bob Pattenden, a Schools Adviser from ODST. Bob talked to us about the most effective ways for the T&L committee to monitor teaching and learning across Tackley and Wootton schools. We discussed things to look out for and questions to ask when conducting 'learning walks' and 'book looks' across the schools. The discussion was followed by a learning walk around Wootton, with a focus on thinking about different types of children and how their individual learning experiences might differ. All of the T&L committee found the visit to Wootton extremely useful, with some good ideas to carry forward. On a personal note this was my first visit to Wootton school and it was really enjoyable to chat to some of the children and see some of the activities they were working on in the classroom.

## After School Club : Spring Term 1

Bookings for the After School Club can now be made through ParentPay in a similar way to ordering school lunches.

The deadline for a particular week is the Friday of the week before, e.g. for w/c 24th January please complete your bookings by Friday 21st January. Bookings can be made in advance for the term.

If you want to book for ad hoc sessions after the deadline, please email or call the school office, [Office.3144@tackley.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Office.3144@tackley.oxon.sch.uk) or 01869 331327. We can't guarantee ParentPay will be checked on a daily basis for new bookings.

## School Census Day : Thursday 20th January 2022

Our school meal funding for the next financial year is bases on the number of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who have a school meal on Thursday 20th January. If your child is in these year groups there is no charge as meals are funded by the Government. Please support the school by encouraging your child to try a school lunch on this day.

The deadline for pre-booking lunches for w/c 17th January is Tuesday 11th January. Please book as seen on ParentPay (e.g. sausages on Thursday, fish fillet on Friday), we will just swap the menus being served for Thursday and Friday that week.