

April 2018



# OVERSTONE COMBINED SCHOOL

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## Message from the Headteacher

I am resisting to comment on the fact that we hope Summer is here, with regards to the weather, particularly as some of us managed to overindulge on the chocolate at Easter and are not "beach body" ready!

That said, we are now in the summer term and what a fun-filled term it is planning to be. The staff have been busy planning for a variety of forthcoming events, including residential visits, sports events, learning projects and much more.

The summer term also brings a more 'serious' time to our children in Year 2 and Year 6 who have the task of completing their SATs. This can be a very anxious time for the children and we work hard as a school to ensure this doesn't become the case for our children. If you do have a child in Year 2 or Year 6, you will already be aware of the dates and I encourage you to make sure your child's attendance and health are at their best for the forthcoming weeks. That said, if you have any concerns regarding either of these, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Many of you have asked about updates on the library. We are aiming to have the library ready as soon as possible, so that our children can re-immense themselves in literature and reading. The next phase of the library will now be furnishing, setting up the management system and generally filling the shelves with engaging literature for our children.

Throughout the forthcoming weeks, I will also be sending out several surveys. These surveys are an integral part of the school's evaluation procedures and an efficient means of collecting information from you, so that you have a say in how the school moves forward. I have purposefully made the surveys short, as I know how busy you all are and how valuable time can be, but I would really urge you to complete them, so that you have a voice in how the school moves forward (the last survey only had 17 responses ☹); this is an opportunity for you to share your views and opinions. So please keep your eyes on your e-mails for the links to the surveys.

Again, as mentioned in all my previous Newsletters, please come and speak to the school if you have any questions, concerns or queries, as we believe that working together continues to provide the best outcomes for all our children.

I continue to be immensely proud of our children, school and community and very much look forward to the weeks ahead and the adventures they may bring.

**Mr K Bowskill**  
**Headteacher**

**This last month has been a very busy sporting time for Overstone children.**

**We have taken part in.....**

### **The District sports festival**



### **The district Cross Country Championships, held at Waddesdon manor**

Charlotte from Year 4 writes 'The Cross Country was fun and I had a lot of fun participating in it. The track was a bit challenging, but I really enjoyed it. We won some medals and the boys were 2<sup>nd</sup> overall!'





Huge congratulations to all the children who took part and supported the school, alongside a BIG thank you to parents/carers for taking your children. Well done to Charlotte too, for finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> place from a field of over 80 runners.



## Badminton Festival

Cameron (Y5) says 'I really enjoyed the tournament, as it's a sport I don't usually play. It was great fun and a massive challenge against all the other schools. There were 11 teams and we came 2<sup>nd</sup>, which we were very excited about'.







### Tennis festival

Sophie writes 'Tennis was brilliant and I really enjoyed it. We played 12 teams and everybody we faced was really good and challenging. We had lots of practice and we worked on our technique. And we had lots of fun!'

### Other non-sporting news...

**World Book Day – took place for us on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018** and a lovely day was had by all. The children came in some superb outfits for the day, as we can see by this photo of some of our Y6.



### **Muffins with Mum**

Thank you very much to the PTA for a lovely and very busy 'Muffins with Mum' on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you to all the Mums and Dads who came along to support this and our Early Years' open morning.

### **Grandparents' Morning**

Thank you to everyone who came and supported our 'Grandparents' Morning' on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018. The children were thrilled to see you all there.

### **Year 3 charity event**

The children made cakes and biscuits, donated sweets and staffed the sale for the whole afternoon of Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March. The entire class loved the experience and we are particularly grateful to all the Year 3 Holly parents who got behind them in such an amazing way - even having their own whip round to add to the pot!

Appledown Rescue and Rehoming will be visiting Overstone in order to receive the cheque and we look forward to welcoming them and learning more about the work that they do.



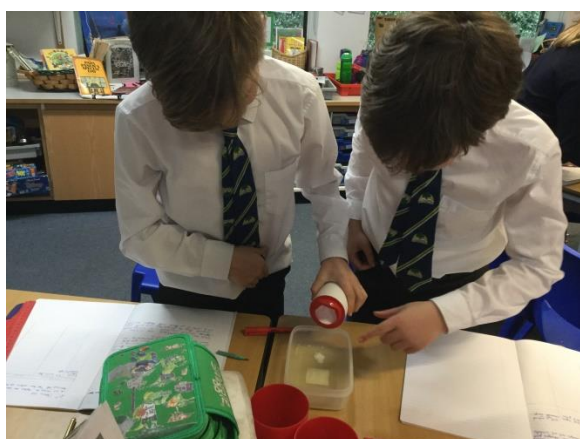
### **Year 4 Charity Event**

Y4 children organised a very popular Easter Egg Hunt for the school in the last week of the spring term and raised £149 for Guide Dogs for the Blind. This week the children have been choosing the puppy they will be 'adopting' with the money raised and they will receive regular 'Pupdates' about the black Labrador 'Alfie' over the coming year. Thank you to everyone involved and particularly Mr Bradman, who donated all that chocolate!

### **Year 6 Science investigation**

Year 6 ended the spring term with some very interesting Science investigations, requiring an outdoor fire (and Michelle was happy to oblige with this!), as they were looking into the effect of fire on different materials.





## After School Activities

After school clubs this term are shown below.

Day	Club	Year	Teacher	Dates WB			
				From	To WB		
Mon	Choir	KS2	MS	16/4	21/5		
Tues	Booster club	KS2	MM	16/4	7/5		
Tues	Fencing/archery club	Y1 /2	Coach	16/4	21/5		
Weds	Boys Football	Y5/6	MM	23/4	21/5	No football Isle of Wight week ( WB 30/4)	
Weds	Girls Football	Y5/6	MM	23/4	21/5	No football Isle of Wight week (WB 30/4)	
Thurs	Craft Club	Y1 /2	FW/SS	16/4	21/5		
Thurs	Triathlon club	KS2	MW/GB	16/4	21/5	No Triathlon Isle of Wight week (WB 30/4)	
Fri	Fencing/archery club	Y 3/ 4	Coach	16/4	21/5		

## Attendance for the month of March 2018

Well done to Y1/2 Elm for the best attendance in March!

YR Ash	96 %
YR Beech	96.8 %
Y1/ 2 Cedar	95.5 %
Y1/ 2 Elm	98.2 %
Y1/ 2 Fir	97 %
Y3 Holly	96.8 %
Y4 Oak	95.6 %
Y5 Redwood	94.4 %
Y6 Walnut	94.5 %
Y6 Willow	96 %

**Tesco tokens** – if you have any blue tokens – feel free to drop them off to us in the school office by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April (and we will take them to Tesco) and please remember to continue to support our Library Project each time you shop there. Many thanks.

## Diary Dates for this term

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Term starts
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	PTA Safari Supper from 7pm
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> -Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Y5 trip to Isle of Wight
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day Bank Holiday
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	PTA Summer Fête
W.B. 14 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Y3/4 MK Museum trip
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	End of Half Term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Return to school after the half term
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 trip to France
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Secondary Transfer Test meeting 3.30pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Doughnuts with Dad
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports week. Sports Day: KS1 (1.30pm)
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day: KS1 (reserve date)
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports day – KS2: 1pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports day – KS2: 1pm (reserve date)
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Weds 4 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Y6 Induction Cottesloe</b>
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>INSET DAY – no school for children</b>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>INSET DAY – no school for children</b>
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Reports to Parents
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers' concert
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Disco
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers' lunch and last day of term
To be rescheduled	Senior Citizens Tea Party