Dec 2018

OVERSTONE COMBINED SCHOOL



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Mr.Bowskill's bit It's all about the C.H.A.R.M.

Wowzers Where has this term gone??

As we look back and reflect on this term, there have been lots of highs and plenty of positives. However, there have been a few lows – notably Mr McArthur and Mrs Westall's decisions to change pathways – although we do wish them both success on their new adventures.

As the Spring term approaches we will continue to work towards making the experiences and learning for our children even more memorable. Our main focus will be the review of the curriculum, to ensure we can continue to meet the wishes and desires of our children for a curriculum they deserve. Thank-you to those who managed to attend the parents' evening input into this; due to limited numbers in attendance, I will be running this again next term. The teachers will be adding their input and experience into this, starting on the INSET day (2nd Jan).

The Spring term also sees the arrival of Mrs Woon, who will be replacing Mr McArthur as the Y5 class teacher and Mr Ashton, who will be taking over some of Mrs Westall's responsibilities. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome them to the team.

Mrs Willett will be our new KS2 coordinator and has already started working hard behind the scenes to ensure there is a smooth transition and putting plans in place to challenge and engage the children.

After spending this term focusing on the M and the R of our CHARM values, next term sees the focus move to the letters A and H (Aspirations and Achievement & Happiness and Hard work), with A being our initial focus. We will also be introducing the CHARM badges this term too.

May I also take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope that you have a prosperous New Year too.

See you in 2019!

Mr K Bowskill Headteacher

Switching on of the Overstone Christmas lights

Every year it is Overstone tradition that the youngest and the eldest child in the school turns on the tree lights on 1^{st} December. This year it was Lilly from Y6 and Loki from Reception who did 'the honours'.



Poppy appeal

Thank you to everyone for your generosity this year. You will be pleased to know that as a school we raised £192.07.

Christmas Bazaar

Thank you to our PTA for organising such a lovely event and to the Overstone Choir for performing to us all.

Christmas Productions in Reception and KS1

A huge thank you to the Reception and KS1 staff and children, for working so hard on their wonderful Christmas productions this year. The children sang, spoke and acted really well and the feedback from parents has been so positive.

Please see below some photo's of Reception's 'Wriggly Nativity'.





Forest School sessions

There will be no Forest School sessions for Y 3 Holly next half term. Please note that Y 3 Fir will be going to the Forest for the first half term on a Friday afternoon.

There will be no Forest School sessions at all in KS1 – instead for the 6 week half term, children will be doing cookery with Mrs May. Please don't forget to send your £4 in for ingredients, in an envelope please, marked with your child's name. Also, please remember your aprons and your containers.

See below for Reception children enjoying the end of the autumn term in Forest School.





Skipping success

Well done Overstone children. We won! (at the recent Skipping Festival) and the children were thrilled with their medals and certificates.

Pantomime this year

The children had a fabulous time at the Milton Keynes Pantomime this year. Thank you to all the helpers and volunteers on the day and especially to Mrs Toosey and Mrs Graves for all your hard work in preparing for this event.



Parents of children who will be 4 by 31st August 2019

The window is still open for you to apply to the County Council in which you live for a place in Reception in the school of your choosing for September 2019. You have until 3pm on 15th January to apply online.

Attendance in November 2018

| Class | % |
|------------|-------|
| Reception | 92.65 |
| Y1/2 Beech | 97.56 |
| Y1/2 Cedar | 98.51 |
| Y1/2 Elm | 97.56 |
| Y3 Fir | 96.3 |
| Y3 Holly | 98.95 |
| Y4 Oak | 94.32 |
| Y5 Redwood | 94.19 |
| Y6 Walnut | 96.52 |

Diary Dates Spring Term 2019

| Wednesday 2 nd January 2019 | Inset Day – School closed to children |
|--|---|
| Thursday 3 rd January 2019 | First Day of Spring term for all children |
| Monday 4 th March 2019 | Parents' Evening |
| Wednesday 6 th March 2019 | Parents' Evening |