

Weekly Communication Letter Friday 15th September

Academy News

Welcome Back!

The overwhelming majority of pupils have settled well into their new classes and are already working hard and producing high quality work, some of which has already been displayed.

Nursery and Reception children have quickly settled into Academy life, and I have been informed from lunchtime supervisors that they are very good eaters!

The children look very smart, and we are pleased to announce that this week's winner of the Best Dressed Class goes to Navigators. They will receive 5 minutes extra playtime on Monday and will get to sit on the benches during the Monday assembly.

Staff have revisited expectations and procedures with the children. They have been learning about all the places and opportunities that are open to them if they follow their dreams and work hard. As the parent of a son who is currently studying in Japan, I feel passionately about this. This is part of our Aspirations and Careers programme, as we want all children to have high hopes for their future, dreaming of all the places that they can go and the things that they can do.

The children have been revisiting safety procedures, including safety online and a practice Fire Drill, which the children executed calmly and quickly. Our site manager was very impressed!

We have already celebrated Roald Dahl day with a special assembly. During this Assembly, we asked for children who enjoy reading to become Reading Ambassadors to help promote Herman's love of reading and stories. We have had an overwhelming response, which is fantastic and shows how much Herman pupils love stories.

School Meals

Please can you make sure that your child's account is up to date.

If you pay for your child's meals and you think you may qualify for Free School Meals, please contact the office for a form, even if you normally provide a packed meal for your child. You may be surprised by what you can earn before you need to start paying for dinners.

Parents of pupils in Reception to Year 2, can also apply now, rather than wait for Year 3, when they will have to start paying.

Medical Forms

If you have been sent a medical form by us, please can you return this as soon as possible, even if your child is no longer taking medication. We need to use this information to update our medical register.

Playground

A polite reminder that no pupils or families should be accessing the Academy premises until 8.25, as staff vehicles are still entering the car park.

Parking around the Academy

Many of you saw myself and Mr Thorpe out and about at the end of the school day. We have had parents contacting us about their traffic concerns. Please rest assured that we are taking these concerns seriously. I have already been in contact with Venture and the local police. In the meantime, please can I ask that you park and drive responsibly and courteously to safeguard our children. I appreciate that it is a frustrating situation, but the safety of our children must come first.

Parents Evenings

We look forward to welcoming you to meet your child's teacher during the week beginning 7th November. More details will follow nearer the time.

Clubs

Clubs are now up and running again for this half term. Because we offer almost all our clubs at no cost to parents, we are always hugely oversubscribed. If your child did not receive a place this half term, we will endeavour to ensure that they are allocated first next term.

As always, we expect children to exhibit the same outstanding behaviour that we expect during the day. On the rare occasions that pupils do not comply with this, they will unfortunately lose their place and it will be allocated to another pupil.

Jeans for Genes

On Friday 22nd September 2023 we will be supporting the charity Jenas for Genes. Children are invited to wear their jeans along with their normal school uniform for a suggested donation of 50p.

The Book Fair!

The Book Fair will be with us next week. Parents / carers are invited in with their children on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school to take a look.

Swimming – Mrs. Longman’s class are swimming this half term

Swimming is a statutory part of the PE curriculum and all children in Year 5 are required to attend the lessons. Children need either a full piece swimming costume or trunks/ fitted shorts (baggy swimming style shorts are not permitted at Phoenix), a swimming hat and a towel.

SEND

If you think your child may have additional needs, please discuss your concerns with your child’s teacher and we may then arrange an appointment for you to speak with our SENDCO, Mrs Upton. Our SEND policy is available on the website.

The Ann Craft Trust has a range of resources to support children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

<https://www.anncrafttrust.org/resources/support-for-parents-and-carers-keeping-children-and-young-people-safe-online/>

This link supports parents of children with additional needs in keeping them safe online.

Safeguarding

Every member of teaching and nonteaching staff has up to date safeguarding training. Five members of staff have enhanced training to deal with any concerns that are raised.

The Designated Safeguarding Officers at Ormiston Herman Academy are:

Kristy Redhead – Principal and Lead DSL

Mark Thorpe – Vice Principal and DSL

Veronica Longman – Assistant Principal and DSL

Catriona Smith – Assistant Principal and DSL

Paula Milham – Family Liaison Officer and DSL

Janet Upton – Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator and DSL

If you have concerns about the wellbeing of a child, you should call the Norfolk CADS Number (03448008020) to report what your concerns are.

If your child is unwell and not able to attend, you must ring the Academy every day that they are off.

Working together and Important Information

Homework

Homework is set weekly for all classes. It is expected that this will be returned on the allocated day. If your child has struggled with the set task, please pop a note in with the work and we will ensure a member of staff goes through it with them.

Reading

Reading is the most important skill that any child will need in order to access all other areas of the curriculum. Without the ability to read, children lose a vital form of communication that will impact on their adult lives significantly. Herman pupils know that they are expected to read at home at least three times per week and this should be recorded in their reading diary. Older children who are fluent readers are able to complete this independently. Children in KS2 who do not record a minimum of three reading sessions over the week, will make the time up on a Friday lunchtime, after records have been collected. Please support us, by checking your child’s

reading diary regularly.

Stars of the Week

Each week, teachers select a pupil who has particularly impressed them with their attitude to learning, behaviour, effort etc. This week's stars are:

- Adventurers: The Whole Class for a great start!
- Explorers: The Whole Class for a great start!
- Searchers: Aarush
- Seekers: Ivie
- Pioneers: Imogen
- Investigators: Gabriel
- Wayfarers: Hoorain
- Navigators: Scarlett
- Creators: Catarina
- Pathfinders: Talia
- Voyagers: Lily-Rae
- Venturers: The Whole Class for great swimming!
- Crusaders: Noorulhuda
- Discoverers: Esme-Rose

Marbles

Each week, the children receive marbles for good work and choices. The marbles are put into colour pots in the classroom and at the end of each week, they are collected together and the colour / team with the most marbles win.

At the end of term the colour / team that has won the most times, win a small reward,

The winning teams this week are the BLUE team. Well done.

Attendance

The Autumn Term Attendance Prize will be 2 x Electronic Tablets. There will be one for Key Stage 1 and EYFS and one gift card for Key Stage 2. Winners will be drawn at the end of the Autumn Term. All children whose attendance is 98% or above will have the chance to win.

The winning classes for the collective highest attendance this week are:

Early Years and Key Stage 1: Seekers

Key Stage 2: Creators

A big well done to both classes!



We are always striving to improve our attendance figures. Children who are in school are safe and accessing education to help them thrive. They are socialising with peers and learning how to be positive members of their community.

Our year-to-date Attendance target is **96%**, the whole school's attendance is 96.11% this week, Wherever possible, please ensure your child is attending every day to avoid missing valuable learning opportunities.

Community News

If you know of a local event or good cause that is happening locally, please let us know and we will advertise it here.

Many of you will know Lisa, a parent of Toby and Tommy, who attend the Academy. This is a message that I received; you may be able to help,

'I've been growing my hair to have it cut off to donate it to the Little Princess Trust, the hair cut will take place on 6th October the same day as I'm a finalist in the Paget's People Awards at James Paget Hospital.'

The link to donate is www.justgiving.com/page/lisashaircut



[Lisa's Haircut fundraiser for The Little Princess Trust](#)

**Yours sincerely
Kristy Redhead
Principal**