

Parent Weekly Communication Letter - Friday 6th October 2023

Academy News

Mrs Ashman

Many of you who have older children that came to Herman, will remember Maureen Ashman. Maureen was a member of staff for many years and retired in 2017. She was also Mrs Upton's Mum. I am sad to inform you that Maureen passed away at the weekend. With Mrs Upton's permission, we wanted to share this news with you as she was known by many and was a much-loved member of the Herman community. I am sure you will join me in passing on our condolences to the family.

World Mental Health Day

On Tuesday 10th October 2023, it is World Mental Health Day – children are invited to wear a yellow accessory to mark the occasion.

Disco for World Mental Health Day

We are delighted to let you know that we will be holding a disco in aid of World Mental Health Day on Tuesday 10th October 2023. The theme for this year is 'Stand Out and Show Up'. Tickets are on sale now on School Money – please note that cash cannot be accepted. Timings are as follows - **Reception, KS1: 4.15pm to 5.30pm. KS2: 5.45pm to 7.00pm**

Mrs Milham

Our Family Liaison Officer Mrs Milham, will be amending her hours to Mondays and Tuesdays all day and Wednesday and Friday mornings.

SEND Concerns

If you have any urgent queries about your child's additional needs, please contact the office who will refer this on to the Senior Leadership Team who will contact you as soon as possible.

Harvest Donations

As in previous years, we would welcome any food donations from Monday 9th October 2023. All donations will go to St. Mary Magdalene Food Bank. Thank you in advance for any support you can offer.

Harvest Celebrations

Our KS1 / KS2 Harvest Celebration assemblies will be taking place on Thursday 12th October 2023 at the following times - **Year 1, 2: 9.45am. Years 3, 4, 5, 6: 9.00am.**

Reception will also be celebrating the Harvest with a Story Cafe on **Thursday 19th October 2023 at 1.45pm to 2.55pm.** We hope you are able to join us for our celebrations.

Lockdown Practice

This week, we had our annual Lockdown Practice. This is a requirement of our Trust, and all children followed the procedures well.

SEND Action Plans

Alongside Mrs Upton, teachers have been writing action plans for the children in their classes. These will be shared with you in the coming week.

Football Match Vs Cliff Park

Our U11 Football Team played against Ormiston Cliff Park Primary Academy on Tuesday. The boys played a fantastic game but, on this occasion, we lost 4-2.

Football Match Vs Wroughton

This coming Thursday 12th October, our U11s will be playing against Wroughton Academy. Kick off will be at 3.30pm - any support will be greatly received.

Black History Month

October is Black History Month, where we remember and celebrate the lives of people of colour who have had a significant impact on events in history. The children enjoy learning about a range of present and historical people, and this will form part of our assemblies and learning over the next four weeks.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 10th October – Disco!

Thursday 12th October – Harvest Celebrations

Thursday 19th October – Reception Harvest Celebrations Story Cafe

Friday 20th October – Photographs

Friday 20th October – HALF TERM

Monday 30th October – ACADEMY REOPENS

Tuesday 7th November – Parents' Evening

Wednesday 8th November – Parents' Evening

Governors

We are looking to recruit two parent Governors onto our board. If you think you could be a critical friend to the Academy and you can spare the time to attend training and meetings, we would really like to hear from you. Please ask at the Academy office for an application form.

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 non-teaching 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 (0344 800 8020) 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

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: Kolt
- Explorers: Cyntia
- Searchers: Harrison
- Seekers: Farlie-Ellice
- Pioneers: Bonnie
- Investigators: Keiran
- Wayfarers: Arnie
- Navigators: Aileena
- Creators: Amelia
- Pathfinders: Charley-May
- Voyagers: Percy
- Venturers: Ashlyn
- Crusaders: Matei
- Discoverers: Joseph

Principal's Award

Each week, teachers have the opportunity to select a pupil for the Principal's Award for continually being an exceptional pupil and setting a good example to their peers.

This week's Principal's awards go to Conor (Y1) and Daniele (Y6).

Best Dressed Class

Each week, the Senior Leadership Team will select the class that have dressed the smartest during the week. This class will be rewarded with an extra five minutes on Monday's playtime and will get to sit on the bench during assembly.

This week's best dressed class: Venturers.

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 wins.

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 Electronic Tablets. There will be one for EYFS / KS1 and one for KS2. 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: Explorers

Key Stage 2: Navigators

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 94.96% 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.

Yours sincerely
Mrs K. Redhead
Principal