

Parent Weekly Communication Letter Friday 29th September 2023

Academy News

It has been another very busy week in the Academy, but as always it has been very productive. The children are still looking very smart which makes judging the best dressed class of the week extremely challenging. Well done to Pathfinders who have won this week.

Magdalene Convenience Store

I am very proud to tell you that we are now selling produce from our garden at the shop. Some of the children went up to the shop today to take the fruit and vegetables to be sold. Profits will go back into the Eco Garden.

Book Fayre

As per our text earlier in the week, you raised a staggering £900 of book purchases. The Academy received a donation of over £400 worth of books for classes. A huge thank you to you all.

Flu Vaccines

The Nurses were in on Tuesday to administer flu vaccinations. Thank you to all those who signed up for their children to have their inoculations.

Antibullying Questionnaire.

Ormiston Trust has requested that every Academy within the Trust participate in the Antibullying Alliance campaign. For those children whose parents have agreed to them participating, they will be required to complete a baseline questionnaire about their knowledge and experiences of bullying. Children at Herman are very knowledgeable about what bullying is and how it should be dealt with.

Dental Screening

We had a huge response to the dental screening offer. If your child requires further treatment, you will receive a letter.

Football – Gorleston FC – Wildcat’s session

We have been asked to let you know that they are recruiting girls between the age of 5 and 11 to join their team. Further information can be found on our Facebook and website.

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.

Football Match

Well done to our Year 6 team that played on Tuesday. They beat Moorlands 4–0. Well done everyone.

Special Menu

There will be a change of menu on Thursday 5th October as it is Census Day. The children will be able to choose between chicken or vegetable nuggets and homemade chocolate brownies.

Disco

We are delighted to let you know that we will be holding a ‘Yellow Disco’ in aid of World Mental Health Day. Tickets will go on sale next week.

Reception and KS1 - 4.15 - 5.30

KS2 - 5.45 - 7pm

Bikes and Scooters

Please could I remind parents and carers that no children should be riding bikes or scooters on the academy site. Please ensure that they dismount and walk with them to avoid potential accidents.

Holiday Forms

We have a significant number of families requesting holidays during term time. Whilst I totally understand the significant reduction in cost, I am duty bound to remind you of the impact on your child’s education. Can I also

remind you that the number of days that can be requested without incurring a fine has reduced to four days. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, we cannot authorise holidays.

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 3rd October – Football match at home versus Cliff Park

Tuesday 10th October – Disco!!

Thursday 12th October – Harvest Celebrations

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.

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.

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

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. I have now emailed Sir Brandon Lewis to express my concerns and I have been assured that he is aware of the situation. 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.

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.

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 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 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: Zera
- Explorers: Emmett
- Searchers: Holly
- Seekers: Rupert
- Pioneers: Thomas
- Investigators: Michael
- Wayfarers: Abisola
- Navigators: Harrison
- Creators: Dani
- Pathfinders: Arianna
- Voyagers: Andrew
- Venturers: Ellen
- Crusaders: Daniele
- Discoverers: Curtis

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.

Principals Award for Discoverers: Micah.

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: Pathfinders.

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 **YELLOW** 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: Searchers

Key Stage 2: Wayfarers

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 93.30% 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](http://www.justgiving.com/page/lisashaircut)

Yours sincerely
Kristy Redhead
Principal

