

Parent Weekly Communication Letter - Friday 3rd November 2023.

Academy News

Traffic Issues

I am aware that the traffic situation is a huge problem on rainy days. Many of you will have seen myself and Mr Thorpe outside on these days. I am taking the situation very seriously and contacted Brandon Lewis and his office last half term about my concerns. I have been assured that this has been referred on and that it is being looked into, but I intend to contact them again today.

I have also been in touch with Mr Gilbert Barnham at Venture to discuss ways in which we can work together to try and ease the situation.

Please can I ask that, if possible, you do not bring a car close to the academies, although I understand that for parents who live a distance away or have mobility issues, that this is not an option. Can I also please ask that you try and park courteously and if there is a wait to leave, that you try to be patient, whilst the traffic disperses.

We will continue to update you as we have any further news.

Pupil Premium

You may be aware that households who have an income of less than £16,000 a year are entitled to claim for free school meals. However you may not be aware that once this has been agreed, the Academy will receive extra money per child so that we can provide clubs at no cost to yourselves and we can subsidise trips and enrichment activities.

We will send out forms next week and if you think that your child may be eligible, please can we ask that you complete the form and return it to the office at your earliest convenience.

Parents Evening

Thank you to all those parents who have returned their slips for next week's appointments. If you haven't already returned your form, it is not too late. We will also be asking you to complete a parent survey form for us and all returned slips will be entered into a raffle to win a chocolate hamper and a twenty pounds Amazon Voucher.

Please can I ask that you arrive promptly as there is a 10-minute slot for parents to meet with teachers.

Chair of Trustees visit

We are looking forward to welcoming Julius Weinberg, the Chair of OAT Trustees next week. He is doing a tour of our academies in the East and we will be showing him lots of the great work that the children do at Herman.

Remembrance Service

As in previous years, Year 6 have been invited to attend the service at the Cenotaph in Gorleston on Friday 10th November. We will be taking a wreath and some of the children will be doing a reading.

Diwali Dancing

At Herman, we love to learn about lots of different cultures and celebrations. Yesterday, we had a visit from Jaya Dance who came in to teach the children some celebratory dancing. The children had a lovely time, dressing up and practicing their moves. You will be able to see lots of photos of the event on our website and Facebook page.

National Science Day

Friday 10th November is National Science Day. We have been able to book a real life scientist to come and visit us on Wednesday to show us lots of science experiments. They have been in in the past and the children have always really enjoyed it so we are really looking forward to this.

Coats and Donations

If you have any coats or winter clothing that your children have grown out of, we would welcome donations so that we can pass them onto other families who may benefit from these items.

Anti Bullying Cafes

As part of Antibullying Week in November, we will be running workshops for all year groups so that you can come in and join your child in a PSHE lesson, learning about the importance of being kind to others. We will share the dates with you next week. We will start the week off on Monday 13th November with Odd Socks Day.

Governors

Are you able to spare a few hours to support the academy in its day to day running? Could you be a critical friend of the academy? If so, we are looking to appoint two parent Governors to join our Governing Body. Please contact Reception for more details.

Diary Dates

7th November Parents' Evening
8th November Parents' Evening
10th November World Science Day
13th to 17th November Anti-bullying Week
17th November Children in Need
23rd November Crucial Crew Y6
27th November Training Day (the Academy will be closed to all pupils).
6th December Christmas Fayre
11th December Early Years Nativity
12th December Pantomime
13th December KS1 Nativity
15th December Christmas at the Church
19th December Christmas Dinner/jumper/party day
20th December Last Day of Term

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.

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: Lyla
- Explorers: Charlotte
- Searchers: Florence
- Seekers: Clover
- Pioneers: Parker T
- Investigators: Michael
- Wayfarers: Lily
- Navigators: Oscar
- Creators: Maisie
- Pathfinders: Harrison
- Voyagers: William
- Venturers: Tommy
- Crusaders: Daniele
- Discoverers: Noah

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 William (Y2), Darla (Y2), Libby (Y3), Victoria (Y3), Reeve (Y4), Lily (Y6), Evelyn (Y6), Darcy-Jade (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: Creators.

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 colour this week is the **YELLOW** team.

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: INVESTIGATORS.

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 94.68% this week.

Wherever possible, please ensure your child is attending every day to avoid missing valuable learning opportunities.