

## Parent Weekly Communication Letter - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### Academy News

#### **This Half Term**

I cannot believe that we are already at the end of the first Half Term! Each year it seems to get quicker – we have already completed so many things since September; including football matches against other academies, trips out, Harvest Celebrations, Roald Dahl Day and so much more. As always, thank you for your ongoing support that helps make Herman such a positive place to be.

#### **Harvest Food**

I would like to say thank you for all your donations for the St Mary Magdalen Food Bank. Your support is appreciated.

#### **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.

#### **Reception Cafe**

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers attend the Harvest Cafe for Reception pupils. We always enjoy sharing your child's learning with you and hope you found the reading presentation beneficial. The children always enjoy showing you what they have been doing in school.

#### **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 after the Half Term break.

#### **Photographs**

The children have had their photographs taken today. These will be sent out for you to look at and order at the end of day today.

#### **Parents Evening**

We will be sending out Parents' Evening slips during the first week back. Please return these promptly as slots are allocated on a first come first serve basis.

#### **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.

#### **World Science Day**

The children will be having a visit from a real scientist from Science Boffins on the 21<sup>st</sup> November. They will have the chance to take part in and observe lots of experiments taking place.

**Diwali**

We learn about lots of different cultural celebrations at Ormiston Herman Academy. We believe that it is very important that children learn about different beliefs and respect different cultural events. On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, a Bollywood dance school will be coming in to teach the children some dance. It is set to be a lovely day full of music.

**Black History Month**

The children have been learning about people of colour who have helped to shape history and make positive contributions to society, despite adversities that they may have faced. The children know that it is wrong to judge someone by their colour and that everyone has the right to respect and kindness. This is a fundamental belief at Herman, where any racial bias will not be tolerated.

**Diary Dates**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – ACADEMY REOPENS

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Parents' Evening

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Parents' Evening

**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: Archie
- Explorers: Finley
- Searchers: Betsi
- Seekers: Rocco
- Pioneers: Ciara
- Investigators: Freddie
- Wayfarers: Orson
- Navigators: Teddy
- Creators: Sofia
- Pathfinders: Amelia
- Voyagers: Rosie
- Venturers: Alfie
- Crusaders: Ethan
- Discoverers: Kalem

### **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 Darla (Y2), Victoria (Y3), Reeve (Y4), Lily (Y6), Evelyn (Y6). These children will be rewarded with their certificates after half term during Friday's celebration assembly.

### **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: Discoverers.

### **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.

This will continue after the half term break.

### **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: Searchers and Investigators!

Key Stage 2: Pathfinders!

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 93.8% this week.

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

Yours sincerely  
Mrs K. Redhead  
Principal