

## Parent Weekly Communication Letter - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### Academy News

#### **Chinese / Lunar New Year**

This 15-day celebration starts on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February and is celebrated by millions of people across the World. Today, the children have been learning a little more about the celebrations, including that this year is the Year of the Dragon, which is seen to be particularly lucky. The children will be tasting Spring Rolls and making Chinese inspired crafts. They will each bring a red envelope home, with a chocolate coin inside. These are to symbolise good wealth for the New Year. (Please note, children with a known food allergy will be given an alternative to try).

Children in Reception will be taking their envelopes home next week after they have done some special learning throughout the week.

#### **PSHE Learning Cafes**

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers join us for our PSHE Learning Cafes this week. The children enjoy sharing their work with you and it is a chance for you to learn a little more about how the academy runs during lesson time. Thank you to everyone who was able to make it.

#### **Reception Maths Cafe**

We will be holding a Reception Cafe on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February this week. This is a chance for you to come in and see how maths is taught in our Reception classes and also a chance for you to help your child complete some maths activities and games. We hope that you can make it.

#### **Year 6 SATS Meeting**

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February, we will be holding a meeting for parents of Year 6 pupils regarding the upcoming tests that all Year 6 pupils undertake. You will have the opportunity to look at some past papers, ask any questions that you may have and find out more about what the tests involve. If you are unable to make the meeting, we will be able to send the slides out for you to look at in your own time.

#### **Reasons for Absence**

A polite reminder – when phoning about a child's absence, it is important that you provide us with details of your child's illness as specifically as you can, for example, flu – like symptoms, chicken pox, sickness. This needs to be done before or at 8.30am each morning. This enables us to look for any trends in illnesses across the Academy. Thank you for your support with this.

#### **Disco**

As you are aware, we had to postpone our Disco this week due to a high number of pupil and staff absence. The Disco has been rearranged for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024 (4.15pm to 5.30pm for KS1 and 5.45pm to 7.00pm for KS2). If you have already paid for this via School Money, your child will receive their ticket in due course.

#### **Class Photographs**

Unfortunately, we also had to postpone our class photographs this week. These have been rearranged for **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024**. Please ensure, as every day, that your child attends in full Academy uniform.

#### **World Book Day**

You will have seen that our theme for World Book Day is Harry Potter this year. We would love donations of odd socks that you no longer use, to free Dobby and the House Elves. If you have any odd socks, please send them into school where we have a box in the Main Office for collecting them.

### **Reception Learning Cafes**

Our Reception classes will be hosting several Learning Cafes over the next few weeks, as follows:

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 8.30am: Maths Focus.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 2.00pm: Phonics Focus.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 8.30am: Mark Making / Writing Focus.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 8.30am: Easter Activities.

### **Diary Dates**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024: Year 6 SATS Parent Meeting.

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024: Academy Closes for Half Term.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024: Academy Re-Opens for Spring Term 2.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024: Year 6 to attend Breakfast Club until after SATS week.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024: Class Photographs.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024: Y3/4 Girls Football at ENSFC.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024: Ormiston's Got Talent Regional Finals.

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024: Easter Fayre.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024: Year 4 Horstead Residential.

### **Safeguarding**

Every member of teaching and non-teaching staff has up to date Safeguarding Training. Six 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.

### **Weekly Winners**

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: Lucas
- Explorers: Jocelyn
- Searchers: Eva
- Seekers: Luca
- Pioneers: Isabella
- Investigators: Piper
- Wayfarers: Oliver
- Navigators: Apolonia
- Creators: Franklin
- Pathfinders: Lylah

- Voyagers: Macie
- Venturers: David
- Crusaders: Tyler
- Discoverers: Lucy

This week's Best Dressed class is Wayfarers class!

This week's Principal Award goes to Arnie (Y3), Daisy (Y3), Joanna (Y4).

This week's marble winners are the BLUE and GREEN team.

### **Attendance**

The Spring Term Attendance Prize will be 2 x £50 Amazon Vouchers and an Easter Egg. There will be a prize for EYFS / KS1 and a prize for KS2. Winners will be drawn at the end of the Spring 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: 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 89.3% this week.

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

### **Community News**

As you may know, we are keen to support Young Epilepsy and the work they do. We have some children in our Academy who have this condition and we are committed to helping them raise the profile of this charity. The 26<sup>th</sup> March is Young Epilepsy Awareness Purple Day. They are holding a t-shirt design competition . Please click on the link below for more details.

[Design a Tshirt \(1\).pdf](#)