



DUCKLINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tel. (01993) 703651 Website: <https://ducklington.oxon.sch.uk/>

Headteacher: Mr R. Leigh Chair of Governors: Mrs D Rose

Friday 5th November 2021

Headteacher's Thoughts

Welcome back, I hope you had a great half term break with its selection of weather. It will be interesting as we work our way through the winter months. The County team have sent around some information for parents to consider with the variety of viruses and bugs that are now re-appearing within the community this year – please take the time to read this. There have been a few COVID cases across the school over the last term and this week – so please continue to be vigilant for symptoms.

Thinking ahead to next week, there are a few diary dates to be aware of:

- Parents Evenings for Years 2 to 6 – the booking system is now closed, however if you did not manage to secure a suitable time, please let the office know on Monday. Virtual meeting details will be sent out next week prior to the appointment times. You will also receive a summary report this afternoon to support the parents evening discussion.
- Year 3 children start their swimming sessions on Monday – don't forget your swimming kits
- Year 1 start Forest School on Monday afternoon.
- Flu Vaccinations for Reception to Year 6 will take place on Wednesday, please make sure you have signed in to give permission for your child to receive this as this will not be possible to do on the day.
- Next Friday is the deadline to send in your shoeboxes, we still have plenty of boxes available in the entrance hall if you are unable to find one. It will be great to support other children that may not have the chance of Christmas present this year.

As Children in Need is fast approaching, Year 3 and 4 are beginning to plan the event for school, so look out for further information next week to see how we will be raising money for this amazing charity.

Mr. Leigh

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

Forgiveness

We will be thinking about how important it is to forgive people who upset us and how we need to say sorry if we do things to hurt others. We will be learning about how Jesus is a great inspiration to Christians to forgive others. We will also think about God's all-forgiving love.

*"Forgive us our sins, as we also forgive everyone who sins against us."
Luke 11:4*

Future Diary Dates.

Monday 8th November – Y3 swimming starts

Tuesday 9th / Wednesday 10th November –
Year 2 – Year 6 Virtual Parents Evenings

Wednesday 10th November – Flu Vaccinations

Week beg: Monday 15th November – Y5 Bikeability

Monday 15th – Wednesday 17th November –
Open Morning (see flyer below)

Achievements Assembly

A big well done to the children mentioned in our achievement assembly this week.

Cygnets:	Bilal Elouahabi
Ducklings	Hallie Buckingham, Jake Mobey
Owls:	Jake Clements, Ollie Wathes
Mandarins:	Theo King, Kendall Gardner
Eagles:	Mason Hart, Issac Paiva
Robins:	Bailey Woodward, Olivia Mason
Kingfishers:	Max Law, Harley Franklin
Red Kites:	Spencer Ball

Lunchboxes – a reminder

As a 'Healthy School' we encourage children to bring a healthy packed lunch and respectfully ask that children do not bring sweets or fizzy drinks. Thank you.

Staffing news

Welcome to Mrs Towler who joined us just before half term as our new Admin Assistant. She joins us with previous school admin experience and is a great addition to the team.

Message for Parents from the County Team - Winter viruses

This winter, compared to last, there is a higher risk of catching a winter virus because people are getting more exposure to common viral infections.

COVID-19, flu, norovirus and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) could all be in circulation at the same time in Oxfordshire.

For the majority of children, these illnesses will not be serious, and they will soon recover, but it's important we do all we can to minimise the chance of them spreading.

Vaccinations are an important part of reducing that risk – so please do ensure you and your families get the vaccines you are offered – but there is a lot more we can do at home, work and school.

- If your child has any symptoms of COVID-19 – a temperature, a persistent cough or a loss of taste or smell, book them a PCR test. This can be done at [gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test).
- If you don't have symptoms or you just feel more generally unwell, you should regularly test for COVID-19 using an LFD test. These can be collected at pharmacies, ordered online.
- If your child is unwell – for example has an upset tummy, is nauseous, has a temperature, a bad cough or is sneezing a lot – keep them at home and follow the relevant guidance.
- Ensure you encourage your family to keep washing and drying their hands. Almost 80% of illness-causing germs are transmitted by the hands. Drying them can remove 99% of those germs so it's important to do both.
- Throw away used tissues and keep surfaces wiped down. They can harbour germs and so increase the risk of the viruses spreading.
- If you know someone is not well, then try to stay away from them. It's obvious, but the closer you are, the more likely you are to catch the virus they have.

Around the School

Ducklings have had a lovely week after the holiday. They have really enjoyed being together, sharing their ideas, playing imaginatively, exploring, and choosing resources independently and talking and listening to each other. We have also loved exploring all about Bonfire night.





Reception Places for September 2022

Was your child born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018? If so, you need to apply for a reception place by 15 January 2022 even if your child is currently in a nursery within a school setting.

**Please come and visit our school on
15th, 16th, 17th, 23rd or 25th November
9:30am - 11:30am**

Children welcome

Come and see the challenging and innovative learning experiences we offer at Ducklington CE Primary School.

Starting school is an exciting time and we believe in creating strong partnerships with parents to give your child the best education possible. With your help, we can ensure your child flourishes and reaches their full potential.

At Ducklington we recognise children as independent learners and place them at the heart of the learning process. We deliver the curriculum through a well-planned play-based approach, fully considering individual strengths, interests and developmental needs.

Please book your place on one of these dates by phoning the office on 01993 703651 or emailing office.3122@ducklington.oxon.sch.uk

For more information on how to apply for your child's place in a Primary School please visit:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/starting-school/infant-and-primary-school>

Is your child 3 or 4 years old?

Primary school place – you must apply now

If your child was born on or between **1 September 2017** and **31 August 2018**, you need to apply for a primary school place now.

You must still apply even if your child already attends a nursery attached to the school.

Deadline for applications is **15 January 2022**.

Apply online at

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

– it's quick, easy and secure.

You can get free access to the internet at many of our libraries and children's centres – ask for details at your local facility.

For help and information:

Web: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Email: admissions.schools@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Tel: **0345 241 2487**

