



## Overstone Combined School

### Newsletter Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020

I hope you have had a wonderful Christmas break and the children are feeling well rested and ready to learn at the start of the new calendar year.

Following on from our newsletter at the end of the last term, we wanted to elaborate on some of the dates we had outlined, to allow parents to be able to support these in the coming weeks. We appreciate that this is not always possible, as other commitments are unavoidable. We will endeavour to send relevant resources out following these meetings with newsletters.

You will also receive today with this newsletter a letter regarding an opportunity for a parent governor within our governing body. This is an exciting opportunity for a parent to bring their skills and expertise to the leadership of the school, at a time when the school is moving forward.

Mrs Mercer

Interim Headteacher

#### **New Facebook page**

Overstone now has a Facebook page. We will try to keep this up to date with news and photos of events. So we can use this facility, please would you come to the school office some time in the next week or so, to sign a permission form to consent to your child's name or photo being used on our facebook page, if you would like to.

Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/Overstone-Combined-School-106298447455751/> and

#### **SEN Meeting**

##### **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2.30pm – SEN meeting for parents**

Mrs Bendall would like to invite parents to our next SEND Meeting. There will be an opportunity to discuss SEND provision at Overstone and to share resources and ideas, over a cup of tea and biscuits.

We will also be lucky enough to have Vicki Melhuish, from CAMHS, with us. She will be running drop-in sessions for parents who would like advice about ASD or ADHD and will be here between 2:45 - 3:45pm.

**Please note that anyone is welcome to attend the drop-in sessions.**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January, 3pm – Elm Class – Meet the teacher**

An opportunity for parents of children in Elm class to come and meet their children's new teachers. This will be an opportunity to find out what the children will be learning about, but will not be an opportunity for individual discussions about children. If you need this then please arrange an appointment.

**New Phonics Scheme for Reception and KS1 – Parents' Meeting Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2.30pm**

We will be introducing a new phonics scheme for our pupils in Reception, and KS1 after the February half term. Following on from our training, we are hoping to hold an information session for parents to explain the scheme and how it will support your children to make progress.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2.45pm – Accelerated Reader Meeting**

During this half term we will be gradually introducing a new reading system to support pupil's decoding and comprehension from Year 2 and above called Accelerated Reader. This system is also designed to encourage pupils to read more frequently. It is most effective when it is also supported at home and we would therefore encourage parents to come and hear about how it will work in and out of school.

**W/c 27<sup>th</sup> January – Anti-bullying week (display for parents on Friday after school)**

We will be spending the week working with the children on anti-bullying. There will be a wide range of activities focusing on many aspects of this issue, with both real life and internet awareness considered. On Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January there will be an opportunity for you to come and see some of the work which the children have been focusing upon. This will begin at 2.45 pm with a short discussion with members of the Senior Leadership Team about what has been happening across the school, followed by an opportunity to see the children's presented work.

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February -**

**Parents' Evening**

Parents' evenings will be taking place on 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> February. The Tuesday session will run from 3:30pm until 6:30pm, the Thursday session will run from 5:30pm until 8pm. You will be able to book these sessions in the normal manner (letter to follow). Mrs Mercer will also be available if you would like to book an appointment.

### **Reception September 2020**

If your child will be 4 by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 (or if you know someone whose child will be 4 this academic year) don't forget to apply online to the County Council in which you live for a Reception place **by 3pm on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020.**

### **After School Clubs**

Just to clarify, netball starts again today, dodgeball tomorrow, craft club on Thursday and martial arts on Friday. Teddy tennis starts next Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January and football next Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Upcoming Dates**

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| <b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January –</b>                                 | <b>First day of Spring Term</b>  |
| <b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January -</b>                               | <b>First day for Nursery children</b>  |
| <b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2.30pm – SEN meeting for parents</b> |  |
| <b>W/c 27<sup>th</sup> January – school)</b>                            | <b>Anti-bullying week (display for parents on Friday after</b>                             |
| <b>31<sup>st</sup> January -</b>  | <b>Y 5/6 Residential trip (those who have signed up) - please pay in full by this date</b> |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Feb-</b>                           | <b>Parents' Evening</b>  |
| <b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb –</b>                                     | <b>Whole class Photos</b>  |
| <b>W/c 17<sup>th</sup> Feb –</b>  | <b>Half term holidays</b>  |
| <b>Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2.30pm –</b>                                | <b>Phonics meeting for parents</b>   |
| <b>Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> May –</b>  | <b>INSET day (school closed to children)</b>   |