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OAKINGTON C of E (A) PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEAD TEACHER:
Mrs. Sally Daggianti

5th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers.

Welcome back to an exciting new school year. The federation consultation with our sister school Dry Drayton Primary will begin this coming Thursday, 7th September when further information will go out to parents in both schools. We welcome Mrs. Watts and Mrs. Taylor as part time Teaching Assistants in Acorn and Chestnut classes. Mrs. Taylor will also be working as a new MDSA. Miss Cormode has now become a permanent member of the teaching staff working mostly in Chestnut Class with a small amount of time being spent in in Years 2, 6 and 1. Mrs. Ryan and Mrs. Fisher are returning three days weekly to Acorn and Chestnut classes. Congratulations go to Mr. Clark who has recently been appointed as Deputy Head and Mrs. Clements-Davey who has been appointed as Senior Teacher for Key Stage 1.

I look forward to seeing you again over the next few days.

Kind Regards,

Sally Daggianti

PE bags and equipment

Please ensure that PE bags are sent in to school on Monday mornings and are taken home on Fridays so that cloakrooms can be cleaned. Please also make sure that all items of uniform are clearly named.

Swimming

Foundation and Key Stage 1 children will begin swimming again from week beginning Monday, September 11th. Reception children will be swimming on Tuesdays with Years 1 and 2 swimming on Fridays until the half term break.

Years 3 and 4 children will begin swimming again and travelling by coach to IVC on Tuesday mornings from 12th September until half term. Years 5 and 6 children will begin swimming on Tuesday mornings after half term until 5th December. There will be no cost to parents for swimming again this year. Please sign and return the permission slip for swimming to school as soon as possible if your child is in Key Stage 2.

Year 5 and 6 children travelling to and from school

Please ensure that a permission letter is sent into school if your child is in Year 5 or 6 and you wish them to travel home alone.

Harvest Festival and Harvest Day

All parents and carers are warmly invited to the Harvest Festival which this year will be on 22nd September at 9.30am in St. Andrews Church. Please send harvest gifts to school with your child(ren) on that Friday morning. The following Friday children from our sister school, Dry Drayton Primary, will be joining us for the day which will take the form of an exciting carousel of geography, RE, art, literacy and DT curriculum activities linked to harvest time. Everyone is welcome to come to the Harvest Concert in St. Andrews Church at 7.30pm on 22nd September when choir will be performing.

Family Support Worker Coffee morning

Cathrin Przywara, Family Support Worker, will be holding a drop in session/coffee morning on Wednesday, 20th September from 8.50-10.30am in the ASC room.

Data collection forms and asthma cards

Please ensure that any outstanding Admission Forms and Data Collection sheets which have not yet been returned to school are sent in as soon as possible. It is essential that emergency contact details and other important information which is held on the sheets are available in school.

If your child is asthmatic, they must have a GP or hospital prescribed inhaler in school. Please ensure you complete a Permission to Administer Medication form and complete an Asthma Card. Parents are reminded to check inhalers on a regular basis. Inhalers must be brought into school in original unopened packaging with a prescription label attached - one inhaler per child. Inhalers are kept in the school office or in the classroom by arrangement - this is so that medication administered can be supervised and recorded by a teacher or teaching assistant. If your child is asthmatic and has just started school please bring an inhaler into the school office and ask for a Medication Form and Asthma Card.

Communication

Thank you to those who returned the parent questionnaire during the summer term. The majority of the responses were positive and some helpful comments and ideas were given. There were several comments made about ways to improve communication between school and home even further and the Parents Forums towards the end of term focused on communication. It was suggested that newsletters being sent home in both paper and electronic (Letters Home) forms was helpful and so letters will be sent that way in the future. The 'A' board was also favored as a useful way of reminding parents about events and a request was made that class curriculum letters be posted on the school website which will happen from this term. It was requested that further information about the Family Support Worker and information about Cathrin Przywara's contact details were posted onto the website. This was done shortly after the Forum and can be found on the parents section of the website. It was also suggested that letters going out to whole school all go home on the same day whenever possible and so we will endeavor to do this. More information about details of clubs running was requested and an updated overview will be sent home about this term's clubs on offer in the near future.

Attendance

At Oakington C of E Primary School, we expect at least 95% and wherever possible 100% attendance from all children in order for them to be able to attain maximum achievement. All non urgent doctors or dentists appointments should be arranged after school or during holidays whenever possible. When a child is ill or unable to attend school we request that a message is sent by 9.15 am. We also request that a note is sent when a child returns to school in order that correct reasons for absence are recorded.

Please avoid taking your child on holiday during term time. Amendments to the 2006 Education Pupil Registration Regulations have removed references to family holiday as well as the statutory threshold of ten days. This means that leave of absence can no longer be authorized during term time except in exceptional circumstances.

Parent helpers

If you are able to help in school with hearing children read we would be very grateful. Please talk to your child's class teacher or myself if you are able to volunteer in this way.

Dates for your diary...

Tues., 5th September
Mon., 11th September
Fri., 22nd September
Fri., 22nd September
Fri., 29th September

Tues., 17th October
Thurs., 12th October
23rd Oct. -27th Oct.
31st October, 6.30pm
Tues., 19th December, 9.30am
Tues., 19th December

Pupils return to school
Extra- curricular Clubs begin
Harvest Festival 9.30 am in Church
Harvest Concert 7.30pm in Church
Harvest Day: Oakington
& Dry Drayton Schools together
Teacher Training Day
Cathedral Day visit KS2
Half Term
Light Party, school hall
Carol Service in Church
End of Term

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I give permission for my childto travel on a coach to and from IVC for swimming lessons on Tuesday mornings during the Autumn Term 2017.

Signed.....