

Overleigh St Mary's CE Primary School

MESSENGER

Friday 1st March 2024



Dear Overleigh Family,

Welcome back to everyone, we hope you enjoyed a good spring break. This half, is a very short term, only five weeks so we have a lot to fit in! We started with our first day back being a focus on *Friendship*, our Christian Value for this half term. Our PSHE focus for the half term is *Don't hold on to what is wrong*, which helps us to



learn from challenges we experience, refocus on the positive and to look forward to new challenges, rather than over worry about what has gone wrong.

We have also refreshed our understanding of St David's Day which is celebrated in Wales today! 'Dydd Gŵyl Dewi Hapus' to all children and families marking this special day—don't forget to share your pictures of any events.

Class Assemblies continue this half term:

Dates: All at 2.30pm (unless stated) in the main school hall.

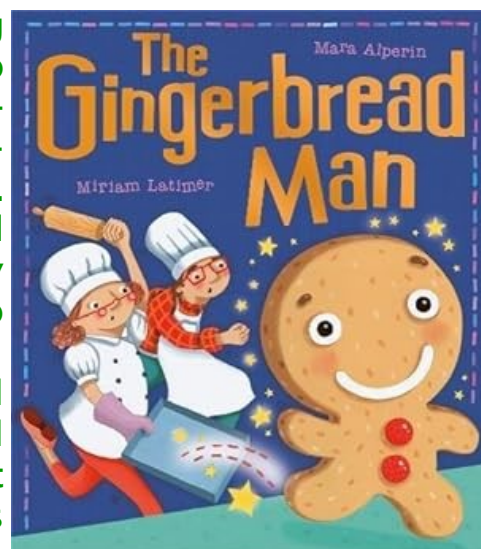
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| Tuesday 5th March:- | Y4 Maestoso |
| Tuesday 12th March:- | Y4 Note |
| Tuesday 19th March:- | Y3 Harmony |
| Tuesday 26th March:- | Y3 Maestro |

World Book Day

On Friday 8th March 2024, we will be celebrating World Book Day. This year's theme across school is to celebrate our Love For Reading. Children will be allowed to come to school on that day dressed as a chosen character from a favourite book they have read. They must also bring the book with them as there will be an opportunity for them to write and discuss why it is their favourite book, so they can recommend it to their peers.

If children do not want to come into school dressed up, they are to come in their school uniform but still need to bring their book with them. If they do not have the book at home, they can speak to their class teacher and we can try to order it from the library service in advance.

There will be lots of exciting activities planned on that day to celebrate our love for reading at Overleigh!



Staff News

We have had a lot of changes in our office team since Christmas and Mrs Norbury is on maternity leave.

Mrs Redmayne will be in the main office every morning and Mrs Smith is there every afternoon. They are both longstanding members of staff and know our families well so we hope this provides for some continuity as we all get used to new ways of working.



Mrs Furlong has been with us since last half term and joins the other staff in the main office. She is a very experienced administrative assistant and is quickly adapting to the peculiarities of education based office systems!



Mrs Horrocks continues as our school bursar. After Easter she plans to reduce her school contact days but has kindly agreed to continue, four days a week until then to help the transition for the new members of the team.

We are also very pleased that Mrs Parry has joined the senior administrative team since half term. She has worked as part of school staff for many years. This has been in secondary education so she is quickly getting up to speed with the primary school specific systems.



It will obviously take a while for everything to settle with so much change. However, please remember everyone is working very hard to get things right for our children and their families and we expect everyone to show respect to the staff team. Copies of the Code of Conduct, including behaviour towards staff and the Communication policy are on the school website.

WORLD DOWNS SYNDROME DAY

21st March—This is to raise awareness of Downs Syndrome. The theme for this year is *End The Stereotypes*. The children are invited to wear fancy or odd socks to show support. No donation required. However, we will be selling Gingerbread socks before and after school outside the school office.

Red Nose Day

On Friday 15th March, school will celebrate Red Nose Day by having a 'Wear Something Red day' (please as ever could we request not football shirts). If your child would like to make a voluntary contribution on the day then this will be collected for the Red Nose Day appeal.

In Love & Peace,

Emma Drew

Key Dates:

| | |
|--|---|
| Monday 26 th February | First Day of Half Term – Values Day - Friendship |
| Friday 8 th March | World Book Day |
| Friday 15 th March | Red Nose Day ‘Wear Something Red.’ |
| Wednesday 20 th and Thursday 21 st March | Parents Evenings (Booking slots will become available at some point on Monday 4 th March. Also see below.) |
| Thursday 28 th March | Last Day of Half Term 2.30pm finish |
| Monday 15 th April | First Day of Half Term - Values Day Wisdom |
| Monday 6 th May | May Bank Holiday |
| Monday 13 th May to Thursday 16 th May | Y6 SATs Week |
| Friday 24 th May | End of Half Term—usual 3.20pm Finish |
| Tuesday 4 th June | Start of Half Term |
| Monday 10 th June | Y1 Phonics Screen Test Begins (ongoing) |
| Tuesday 4 th June to Thursday 14 th June | Y4 Multiplication Tables Check |
| Monday 24 th June to Friday 28 th June | Sports Days (Exact Year Group date to follow) |
| Monday 8 th July to Friday 12 th July | Health and Safety Week |
| Tuesday 23 rd July | Last Day of Half Term 2.15 Finish |

Parent’s Evenings:-

After school on Monday 4th March we will make booking slots available on SCOPAY for your children. The exact timings for each class will be available on the booking form with a slot available to book for each child. Once the bookings become available on Monday, if more than one slot is required for your child, then please could you let the office know and we will inform the class teacher to arrange an additional mutually convenient time to see you. The parent meetings will be held on Wednesday 20th March and Thursday 21st March. Mrs Jones, our SENDCo will be available for drop-ins at various times over the two days, when she is not conducting her own parent meetings for her class. These times will be on the email sent out through SCOPAY on Monday.

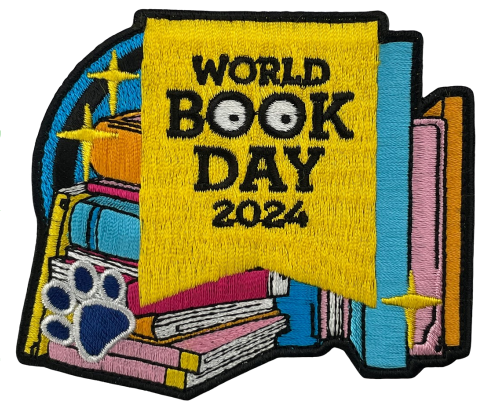
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Book Fair

From Thursday 14th March until the 21st March, we will be holding the Scholastic Book Fair in school! We did this last year and it proved to be a big success. The book fair is where children can buy a range of Primary books, all of different genres. We will be holding the fair after school, so this is the appropriate time that pupils can purchase items. The annual £1 World Book Day tokens will be provided to the children and these can be deducted from books purchased at the Book Fair, worth over £2.99. Children will be able to browse through the different books at lunch times so that they can see what is available.

Pop Up Shop

On Monday 4th March our pop up shop will be back available in the school canteen at 9.00am through the canteen door on the Nursery side of school. There are various clothing items that are available for anybody that needs them.

Friendship



Our Christian value this half term is Friendship. Everyone likes having friends, even grown ups. In fact when we feel like we haven't got friends we feel very sad. When we are having a hard or difficult time it's usually our friends we turn to. When we have a dilemma and aren't sure what to do or how to go about something it's our friends we need for support. When God created people the Bible tells us that his intention was that we were not alone, that we had friends and community: In Genesis, as God was creating Adam He said...

“It is not good that the man should be alone” (Gen. 2:18).

On Monday, we were all thinking about what does true friendship look like how can we be true friends? We learnt that if we help to support others in need, meeting their emotional and physical needs as if they were your own then that is a true Christian Friend, being a good neighbour. Maybe a phone call or message to someone to say that you are thinking of them. Maybe someone's parents are ill and they need someone to walk to school with or get groceries from the shops. Maybe something has happened and they need someone to talk to, changes in their lives or just worries about everyday things. Sometimes it's as simple as a smile and word of encouragement.

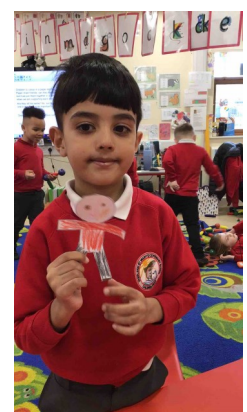
What a gift our friends are and what a gift we can be if we are a good friend.

In Nursery we made friendship recipes outside!



Aariv drew his friend Malakai. He is a good friend because he plays games with Aariv.

We made paper chain friends that couldn't stand up on their own in a straight line but when we joined them together in a circle they were stronger. We are stronger when we are supporting each other.



Friday Certificates 1.03.24



| Class | Value | Comment |
|------------|------------|---|
| Crotchet | Integrity | Star of the week is Agnes. She consistently tries hard in all her work, especially her writing. She has enjoyed learning about our new book The Journey Home and can independently write irregular common words. She is always respectful around school and has lovely manners. Well done, Agnes. |
| Minim | Integrity | Rory can always be spotted doing the right thing in class and he is also a good friend to others. It is lovely to see how Rory has grown in confidence recently with his increased communication with teachers and other children. Well done Rory! |
| Ballad | Friendship | Akshara for being a kind and caring friend. During our friendship values day, Akshara came up with some lovely ideas of what it means to be a good friend. She always demonstrates these ideas throughout the day. Well done Akshara, you are a super member of our class. |
| High Note | Respect | Aflie has made a great start back after the half term break! He has been great at sitting and listening during our time on the carpet in lessons, and putting his hand up to answer lots of questions. He has been kind and respectful to his class friends - Well done Alfie keep it up, what an amazing start back! |
| Melody | Compassion | This week's nomination is to Mert for Compassion. Mert always shows he is listening hard and trying his best in everything he does. He has been trying especially hard to improve his handwriting recently. This is something that hasn't come easy to him and his compassion and determination has not gone unnoticed. Please keep it up Mert! |
| Glissando | Wisdom | I would like to nominate Nancy for the value of Wisdom. Nancy always listens well in class and has demonstrated an excellent understanding of money in maths. She has applied her knowledge to answer some tricky 2-step problems. Well done Nancy! |
| Harmony | Friendship | Aminah always stands out to me as being an excellent friend with everyone else's best interests at heart. She demonstrated her kindness and the qualities she has of being a good friend on friendship day, through sharing and making others smile. Well done, Aminah. |
| Maestro | Friendship | Sophia is a great friend to everyone in Maestro class and she has been making sure this week that everyone has someone to play with and that no one is left out. She is a kind and caring child who is always thinking of others. She is a great example for what a super friend looks like and we are glad to have her in Maestro class because she helps to put a smile on everyone's face. Keep being your wonderful self, Sophia! |
| Note | Peace | Izabella is the Star of the Week in Note class for the Christian value of Peace. Izabella is a wonderful member of our class and always works hard. She is kind to others and a good friend to many children across Year 4. Izabella is also always respectful to all grown-ups around school. Well done! |
| Maestoso | Wisdom | My star of the week is Leila for Wisdom. Leila always works hard in all her learning. She shares her wisdom with others and behaves impeccably. Well done Leila, |
| Pizzicato | Integrity | The nomination for Pizzicato class this week is Evie. I have been really pleased with how she has been working really well in class and trying her best to work more independently in class. |
| Allegro | Respect | Lily has impressed me with her very positive mindset. She always arrives at school early, waits at the door with a huge smile on her face and greets the staff enthusiastically. In lessons, her manners are superb and she always tries her best and listens to any advice given. Lily is also a lovely friend to many people in our class. What a superstar! |
| Joyeux | Friendship | Una is a loyal friend to all of her peers. She will always look out for them and give them the support they need. Una is the first to help her friends and bring a smile to their faces. Keep on being a fantastic friend Una! |
| Heptatonic | Integrity | We are so impressed with Reuben's ongoing attitude to Year 6. He is kind, supportive, helpful and respectful to others and always tries his best. We love hearing him clearly explaining his methods in Maths, and sharing his creative ideas (using ambitious vocabulary!) in English. Keep it up Reuben! |
| Finale | Integrity | Mert is an exemplary member of our class who ALWAYS leads by example. He is always on task and determined to put his best into everything. He inspires those around him to consistently aim for the higher standards in their own work and in the way they conduct themselves. |