

Overleigh St Mary's CE Primary School

MESSENGER

Friday 13th September 2024



Dear Overleigh Family,

We have had a fantastic fortnight back at school with the children. Throughout the first couple of weeks the children have shown great aptitude for settling back down to their work and behaviour around school has, in general, been exemplary. Lots of new children have been welcomed into our school and supported superbly in integrating into their year groups by our other children. This is of course something that we have come to expect from our Overleigh community but thank you to those children and families that have made a special effort to make any newcomers feel welcome.

Academy

We were notified yesterday that our date to transfer to the Academy (CDAT) has been moved back to November 1st 2024 to allow for all documents and relevant transfers to be successfully completed by the Academy and the Local Authority. As a result of this, please make sure you read all the information about SCOPAY below.

SCOPAY

We would like to extend a thank you to those parents who have been particularly patient with the SCOPAY system over the last fortnight. The system has been randomly and incorrectly charging some parents for dinner money and nursery money, particularly for children in YR, Y1 and Y2. Mrs Norbury and the admin team are continuing to work hard with the online providers to resolve all these issues. The gremlins do not quite appear to have been fully sorted just yet, so if you have been incorrectly charged then please do not worry as Mrs Norbury is doing regular checks to remove any overcharging and, where necessary, to issue refunds. We are hoping that all instances will be removed shortly. Please do not ring the office unless the amounts are not being cleared, as Mrs Norbury is aware and removing any that pop up as quickly as she can.

Please make sure that you are able to access SCOPAY and do not pay any money into Parentmail. Please remember we do not use Parentmail now.

SCOPAY NURSERY

SCOPAY payments for October will now be completed in October so please be aware of this if your child is in Nursery.

Y6 Residential SCOPAY



As a result of the Academy date being moved back, accessibility to SCOPAY to pay residential funds is now back available. Any funds paid in will be correctly deducted from the total amount from today onwards. If you cannot access this (RESIDENTIAL 2024) and wish to make payments then please let the office know and they will add your name. Do not worry if your child's name is not on the SCOPAY list as we have a separate list of those children who have indicated that they want to go and it won't affect their participation. Further information regarding appropriate clothing, medical, dietary arrangements etc. will be discussed at the Y6 Residential Parents Evening which you will be invited to very soon. Our Y6 team are visiting the Barnstondale Centre on Monday 16th September to gain the final details. Details will also be sent soon for those Y6 children who are not participating in the residential.

Attendance

Well done to everyone for their efforts with punctuality and attendance since the summer holiday. There is more information later about attendance, however, it has been delightful to see some children, who were struggling with punctuality last year, arriving bright and early and fully engaging with morning activities in their classes.



Class Assemblies

Class assemblies are back up and running earlier than ever this year. Please see below to see the other class assembly dates for Autumn Term 1. We are beginning with the lovely Blackman Class in Y6 on Tuesday 17th September in the school hall at 2.30pm. The main hall doors will open from approximately 2.20pm. All class assemblies will be on Tuesdays at 2.30pm unless you are notified otherwise. This year the children will also be performing their as-

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY



semblies to the wider school in the morning on a Tuesday to share their learning and allow siblings to see it. As ever, you are welcome to remain on the school site once an assembly is finished to pick up any siblings. We can't let siblings go early because of the disruption this causes around the wider school. Apologies for this.

Class Assembly Autumn Term 1 Dates:- 2.30pm unless stated in the school hall

Tuesday 17th September: Malorie Blackman Class Y6

Tuesday 24th September: Oliver Jeffers Class Y6

Tuesday 1st October: Jane Austen Class Y5

Tuesday 8th October: Anthony Horowitz Class Y5

Tuesday 15th October: Jeremy Strong Class Y4

Tuesday 22nd October: Michael Morpurgo Class Y4

More details will follow from each class when they are ready.

Nursery and Reception

It is always a delight to see our Nursery and Reception classes get back up and going under the watchful eyes of our EYFS team. We hope that your child has enjoyed attending the sessions and in lots of cases is starting to settle into Overleigh life. Our main focus on the class pages this week, which are later in the newsletter, is on our Eric Carle, Nick Butterworth and Story Creators classes.

School Clubs

Many of our school clubs are back up and running, including our lunch time clubs. Gardening Club have been really active in the first week back with Miss Drew, Mr Flynn and Ziggy helping to harvest some of our fruit and turning it into a variety of tasty treats out of them.



Key Dates

On the following pages please see the key school dates. Year groups will add further dates for excursions and other special activities as they are confirmed. Please keep an eye on your SCOPAY messages for this.

The rest of the newsletter will be sent out, as always, via SCOPAY.

In love and peace,
Miss Emma Drew

Key Dates For Autumn Term 24-25

Monday 2nd September	INSET Day for Staff
Tuesday 3rd September	First Day of Autumn 1 Values Day: Christian Love
Wed 4th-Fri 6th Sept	PSHE Themed Days Begin Again
w/b Monday 16th Sept	Meet the Teacher presentations sent out to parents
Mon 14th to 16th Oct	Y6 Residential at Barnstondale
Mon 14th-Thurs 24th Oct	Zoom Parents Meetings
Thursday 24th Oct	Last Day Autumn 1 3,20pm Finish
Friday 25th October	INSET DAY SCH CLOSED
Monday 4th Nov	INSET DAY SCH CLOSED
Tuesday 5th Nov	First Day Autumn 2 Values Day: Hope
14th & 15th Nov	Anti-Bullying & Anti-Harassment Focus Days
Friday 20th Dec	Last Day Autumn 2 2.15pm Finish

Academic Year 2024-2025 continued:

Monday 6th Jan	INSET Day for Staff
Tuesday 7th Jan	First Day Spring 1 Values Day: Respect
Friday 14th Feb	Last Day Spring 1 3.20pm Finish
Monday 24th Feb	First Day Spring 2 Values Day: Integrity
Friday 4th April	Last Day Spring 2 2.15pm Finish
Wednesday 23rd April	First Day Summer 1 Values Day: Service & Stewardship
Friday 23rd May	Last Day Summer 1 3,20pm Finish
Monday 2nd June	First Day Summer 2 Values Day: Thankfulness
Tuesday 22nd July	Last Day Summer 2 2.15pm Finish
Wednesday 23rd July	INSET SCHOOL CLOSED

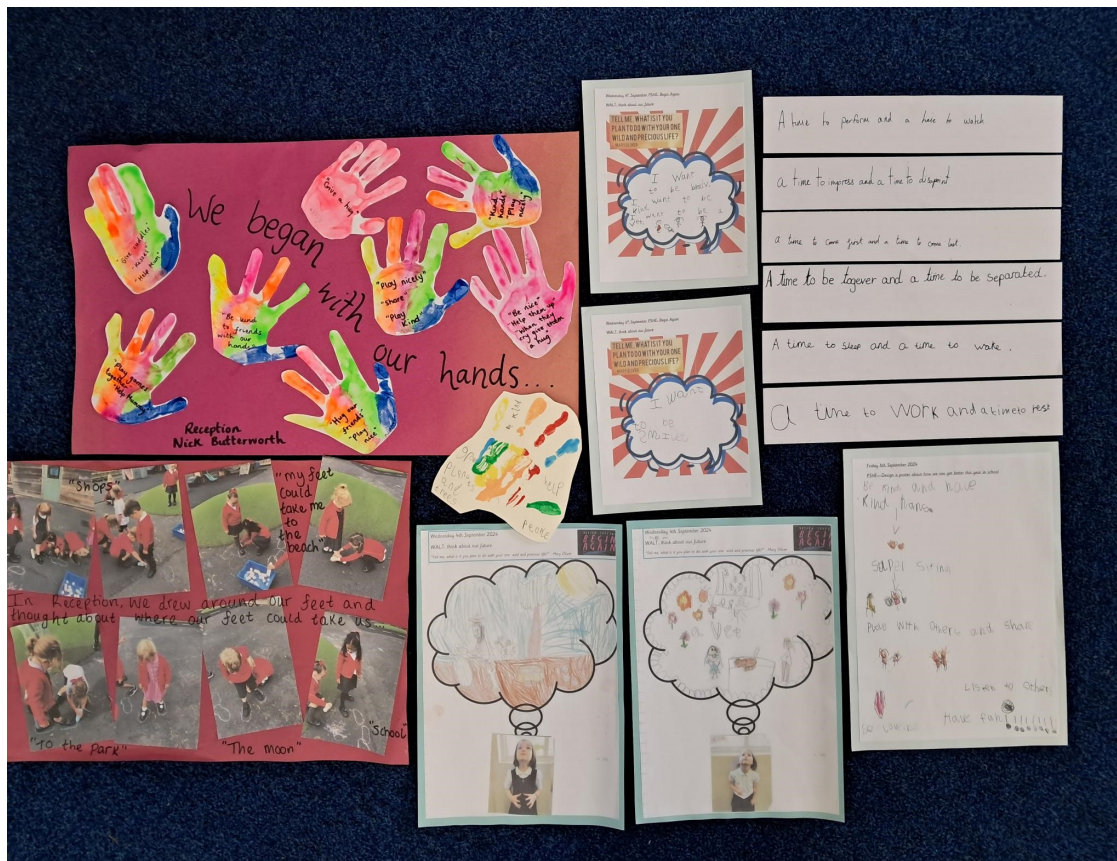
For the first week back in September, we all worked on the theme 'Begin Again', focusing on what we want our new year in school to look like and how we want to shape our life and the world – inspired by the Oliver Jeffers book.



We were inspired by the incredible words of Oliver Jeffers and produced creative, thoughtful work. Children wrote poems, thought about their dreams and created artwork.

What will you do with your one wild and precious life?

Here is a sneak preview of some of the work... keep your eyes peeled for the whole school display which will be on show in the corridor and shared on a newsletter soon.



Love Day

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and
with all our soul and with all your mind.

Love your neighbour as yourself.

Matthew 22: 37 and 39

Love God, Love Ourselves, Love People

Our Christian value this half term is **Love**.

We began this half term with a day focusing on this value and what we mean by 'Christian Love'. When we are talking about the value of love we are not talking about the sort of worldly love – love for a football team or your favourite food or even love of a person. It's the love that God wants us to have. The love for God, the love for others and love of ourselves. It's the kind of love that wants to help, support and care for others. It's the kind of love that does the right thing even when it's tricky, it's the kind of love God shows to us. It's love of all people, those we know and those we have never met even love of those we don't like very much.

We have thought a lot about our school value and the most important commandment or rule from God Written above Love the lord your God with all your heart with all your soul and with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself.—Love God, Love ourselves and Love people. This Love day however, we thought a little bit deeper about what that means for us in our everyday lives. We looked at the Bible verse in Paul's letter to the Corinthians:-

“We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. 2 Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. 3 But whoever loves God is known by God.”

We thought about this and what it means that even if we know something another person does is not right and you actually think it's really silly. We should still be very careful not to disrespect or upset the other person because this is not acting in love. We may think/know they are wrong but we need to be careful about how us expressing our opinion or exercising our rights impacts and affects

others, because if it hurts them then this hurts God and is not acting in love.

The children were set the challenge that if they had to chose between knowledge or love to chose **Love**.



Gardening Club: We have had a very busy start to the school year. Firstly, the children cleared all the fallen and rotten apples and separated the good ones as well as picking the rest. We have cooking apples as well as eating apples. The eating apples were shared across KS2 and we received very positive reports on the flavour of our home grown fruit. The cooking apples were prepared and cooked by the children to make apple crumble.

Later the group moved onto the plums and again cleared all the fallers, a very sticky job, and saved all the good ones. They made jam from these to enjoy at home. The remaining plums were turned into plum cake for the whole school to enjoy.

Finally they have also cleared and weeded through the allotment beds and planted radishes and salad leaves to keep the kitchen supplied in the month ahead. A fabulous start to the new school year and great team work and problem solving!





Secrets to Success Autumn 1 Challenge

Don't Give Up



At Overleigh St Mary's we don't give up

Successful people have set backs but always find their way around a problem. Children need to bounce back with bigger and better ideas, along with self worth and belief.

For this challenge can you think about ways in which we could improve our attitude and learning at school to be the very best we can. Think about our core values- ready, respectful and safe and how we could encourage ourselves and our friends and peers to find a way around or to overcome any problems they might face in school. You could do this in the form of a poster, video, a piece of art work or any other way you wish to.





Parking Conscientiously

We have received a polite request into school from the Chair of the Local Residents Committee asking our parents to please park with consideration for others in the neighbouring streets and roads. There have been a number of occasions this term already where double parking has blocked residents from accessing their homes and in some cases private driveways have been blocked. Please can we try our best to be considerate and understanding to those living in the area surrounding school. Many thanks.

Attendance

School attendance has been much improved at the start of this academic year. There has clearly been a concerted effort from families to arrive in good time and to try to avoid unnecessary absences. The only obvious day on which we did notice an issue was the day of the torrential downpour. Please be aware that when there is severe inclement weather in the area the roads around Handbridge are much more difficult to navigate and journey times are significantly increased. We would ask you to try your best to give yourself extra time on days such as these.

To secure your place please book via our website bishopschester.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

YEAR 6
OPEN EVENING
Tues 24th Sept 5.45-8.30pm

Open Evening

This information may be of interest to any Y6 parents who are considering which high school to send their child.

Bishops have asked us to share this poster to you. If we are sent any other requests from other local schools we will forward the information to you.

Friday Certificates 6.9.24



Class	Value	Comment
Bond Mrs Birchall Mrs Barnes	Love	Iris, for making a wonderful start to Year 1. Iris has a great attitude to learning and has had a constant smile on her face. She is a helpful and kind member of the class. Well done Iris, we are very proud of you.
Nicoll Miss Noakes	Love	Evie has made a fantastic start to her time with us at Overleigh. Her smile and kind personality means that she's quickly made friends after joining our class this week. Well done Evie on your brilliant, positive attitude. We are so pleased to have you at Overleigh!
McKee Miss Morgan	Love	This week's star of the week is to Rory for love. Straight off the bat, Rory had not forgotten our school rules of ready, respectful and safe. He has been nothing but loving and caring towards our two new additions to McKee class this week, and it has been amazing to be so reassured I have someone like Rory in my class. You are a superstar Rory and I am looking forward to being your teacher this academic year. :)
Gravett Miss Griffiths Mrs Jones	Integrity	Zoey has had a fantastic start to year 2. She is such a brilliant role model to her friends, she is always making the right choices and is happy and always excited to tackle the next activity. What a super star!!
Hughes Miss Hunter	Service and Stewardship	This first week back, Elena has been a superstar helper! Whenever I have needed a hand in class, I knew who I could count on and often she has helped out using her own initiative. She has shown care and consideration for her class and school community. This week, Elena even spoke in front of the whole school in assembly, sharing her experience of secrets to success! Very brave! Well done, fab first week back!
Meadows Mr Mander	Wisdom	Eva has been a real role model for other children this week, putting her hand up, working well with others and making sure she is always doing the right thing at the right time. She also thinks carefully about what we are learning and gives fantastic answers.
Strong Mr Skinner	Love	Esme is a kind and conscientious member of our class who has made a great start to the term. In particular, we've been so proud of the support that Esme has given to her classmates and her amazing attitude. She has welcomed our new friend Anna into the class and made sure that she always has someone to play with. Well done Esme!
Morpurgo Miss McFaul	Friendship	Heleena has been a fantastic friend this week as she has helped welcome a new friend to our class this year. She has been helping others to feel included and inviting others to play at lunchtime. She is supportive and encouraging to everyone in Year 4 and she is a credit to Morpurgo Class.
Horowitz Miss Holdstock	Wisdom	George has settled into Year 5 beautifully, sharing his contributions to values day and our focus of Begin Again. He has approached his new year group with a mature attitude and great sense of humour.
Austen Miss Axam	Wisdom	Grace has really impressed us with her fantastic contributions to all discussions on our values days. She has demonstrated excellent awareness of our Christian values and a thorough understanding of all the work she has been doing in Heartsmart over the past two years. What a brilliant start to Year 5
Jeffers Miss Jones	Love	Lily has come to school bright and early each day with such a positive attitude. She has been actively putting her hand up to answer questions and she has been eager to complete her work, and show it to the adults in the room. It is lovely to see how much Lily
Blackman Mrs McGoldrick Mrs Dickson	Love	Oliver for settling in so well to Y6 and contributing with such enthusiasm and thoughtful ideas this week.

Friday Certificates 13.9.24



Class	Value	Comment
Bond Mrs Birchall Mrs Barnes	Respect	Rowan Sims Williams for his amazing writing. Rowan wrote a lovely description of Nibbles the book monster and included some wonderful adjectives to describe him. Well done Rowen, we are very proud of you and your excellent attitude to learning.
Nicoll Miss Noakes	Integrity	Every day, Avie can be seen doing the right thing. She is always listening beautifully and knows exactly what to do. Avie is a role model to others with her wonderful behaviour. Well done, Avie you are a superstar in Nicoll class!
McKee Miss Morgan	Integrity	Miss Corry and I, are beyond proud of Alfie's fantastic start to Year 2. He has been showing super listening, following instructions, showing kindness on the playground, and working hard in lessons. Please keep up all this hard work Alfie, because we are extremely proud of you.
Gravett Miss Griffiths Mrs Jones	Integrity	Termeh has had a fantastic start to year 2. She has shown integrity by following the instructions and listening to the teacher, making the right choices and being a fantastic role model to her friends. Well done Termeh!
Hughes Miss Hunter	Integrity	Jordie has had a super week and I am very proud of his hard work and determination! This week, in every lesson he has shown enthusiasm and hard work across all subjects and particularly in his maths working on his numbers to 100. Jordie has been setting a great example to his peers, and I am confident he will have a great year this year in Y3. What a superstar - keep it up!
Meadows Mr Mander	Integrity	Ezhan is always trying his hardest in his work. He has been making sure he is always doing the right thing at the right time and thinking carefully about everything he is doing with great enthusiasm. Well done Ezhan.
Strong Mr Skinner	Wisdom	Finley has made a great start to the term and is someone who always displays a positive attitude when in class. He loves a challenge in Maths and I have been particularly proud of Finley's times table knowledge. He has spent much time over the summer practicing his times tables on Times Table Rock Stars and has made great progress. Well done Finley. Keep it up!
Morpurgo Miss McFaul	Integrity	Jacob has come back into Year 4 ready to achieve. He has been working incredibly hard to be ready, respectful and safe throughout the entire school day. He has been an exceptional line leader and has been helping to show others how a model Year 4 behaves. Keep up the great work Jacob! You are a superstar!
Horowitz Miss Holdstock	Wisdom	Star of the week is Mostafa for the value of wisdom. Mostafa has returned back to school after the holidays with a hard-working attitude and determination to do well. He has also been demonstrating the school rules of ready, respectful and safe at all times. Well done, Mostafa!
Austen Miss Axam	Respect	Alice has really impressed me by always being ready to learn. She is attentive to the lesson and instructions and is really focussed on her task. This is a really mature attitude to have as she enters Year 5. Well done Alice
Jeffers Miss Jones	Integrity	Iola is such a positive and polite young girl, who has really hit the ground running starting Year 6. Everyday, she comes into school with a love of learning and has been actively participating in class. She is really pushing herself to achieve her best and this attitude is a credit to have. Well done Iola, keep up the hard work!
Blackman Mrs McGoldrick Mrs Dickson	Integrity	Jessica has made such a great start to Year 6, is being enthusiastic and engaged in all our learning, sharing her ideas and taking care with presentation, and we can't wait to watch her flourish throughout the year. Well done Jess.

Nursery



What a wonderful first couple of weeks we have had in Nursery!



Year R

We have had a fun week starting Reception. We have learned about one of our school values of love, read the book *Begin Again* by Oliver Jeffers and thought about where our feet could take us, what we can use our kind hands for and what we want to be when we grow up!



Year R

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