October Newsletter

Dear Parents and Families,
The autumn term is always one of the longer ones, but the children have risen to the challenges of the new school year. Today is the last day before half term – we wish you all a restful break. As the weather continues to be unpredictable, please ensure your child / children are equipped for all weathers. We hope you like our new style newsletter!

Staffing Update:

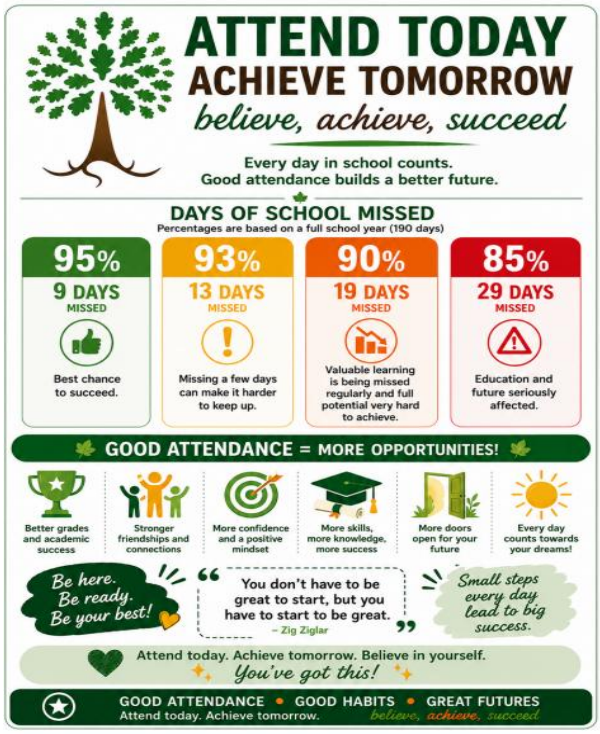
As the half term draws to a close we are delighted to welcome Mrs Hastings, our new School Business Manager and Mrs Warriner, an additional Family Support Worker. Both have lots of experience and are excited to be part of the Oak Green team. Congratulations to Mr Winyard and his partner on the early arrival of their baby girl and also to Mrs Marsland and her husband on the birth of their second child.

Safeguarding update:

With Halloween just around the corner, we want to ensure all our families who chose to celebrate it have a safe time. As the dark nights draw in, please keep these essential safety tips in mind:

- **Be Bright, Be Seen:** Halloween costumes are often dark. Add **reflective accessories, stickers, or glow sticks** to your child's outfit, and carry a torch to ensure they are completely visible to motorists.
- **Check Costume Labels:** Fancy dress costumes can be highly flammable. Always check labels for a **UKCA or CE mark** to ensure they meet safety standards. It is also a great idea to have children **wear normal clothes underneath their costumes** to provide an extra layer of skin protection and warmth.
- **Supervise & Plan Routes:** Children under 12 should always be accompanied by a responsible adult. If you have older children trick-or-treating in groups, make sure you **agree on a clear route and a firm curfew time** before they leave home.
- **Be Respectful to your Neighbours:** Remind children to only knock at homes that are well-lit or clearly decorated for Halloween. Please teach them to **respect 'No Trick or Treat' signs** and bypass homes in darkness, as some vulnerable or elderly neighbours may prefer not to be disturbed.

Attendance:



Behaviour:



Parents Evening:

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the Parents Evening appointments this month. We love to share with you how well your child has settled into their new year group and the progress they have made so far this academic year.

Diary dates:

22nd October – Children break up for half term
23rd October – INSET day
26th October – Half term (one week)
30th October – Last day to submit secondary school application (Y6 only)
2nd November – Return to school
5th November – Primary school applications open
6th November – Outdoor classroom day

My Child At School App (MCAS):

Please ensure you have signed up to our MCAS APP as this is how we aim to share our main communication with you. Thank you to all who have already done so. Please pop into the office if you need help to access this app.

Parking:

A polite reminder to park respectfully around our school site. Please do not park on the zig zag lines or block our neighbours' driveways.

Fundraiser for Mrs Jackson:

Thank you so much to everyone who wore purple to school and brought in money to raise funds to purchase a purple bench for our playground. We are delighted to inform you that we raised almost £700 which means that we can buy the bench that we really like.



Secondary Applications:

All Y6 parents and carers need to ensure their child's secondary school application is completed by **31st October.** Please ask at the office if you require any help with this.
https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-libraries-and-parks/school-admissions-and-appeals/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/

Hello Yellow:

Thank you to everyone who supported our Hello Yellow day where children were asked to wear something yellow to school to raise awareness so no young person feels alone with their mental health.

Harvest Festival:

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated food which we have donated to Bridge the Gap to support families in the local area. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Disco:



Information about our upcoming school disco on Tuesday 8th December will be sent out to KS1 and LKS2 (Y3/4) parents after half term.
The Y1/Y2 disco will be from 4:00-5:00pm and the Y3/Y4 will be from 5:15-6:30pm. We are excited to announce that this year we will have local DJ, DJ Dan Blaze attending, he will be entertaining us with a selection of music and games. Please make sure you sign your child up on Parent pay by **4pm on Friday 4th December,** as no tickets will be issued after this date. We hope the children enjoy the event. The Reception and Y5/6 disco will be held in the summer term.
Many thanks from the KS1 team



FSM/PPG info:

Did you know that your child can get a free school meal if you receive Universal Credit? If you earn less than £7400 then you could be entitled to Pupil Premium and a free school meal. Please ask at the front office for further information.

Smartphone Free Childhood:

We were delighted to welcome Smartphone Free Childhood to our Thursday parents evening. Thank you to all of those who made time to stop and talk to the representative. For further information please click on https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/

Glow in the Dark sports fun:

A group of Y5 children recently attended the Mandeville School for a Glow in the Dark festival. Thank you to the sports leaders at the Mandeville School who supported and encouraged our pupils during the event. Our pupils and staff had an amazing time!



Trip pot:

School trips form a large part of our curriculum, providing our students with invaluable hands-on learning experiences and lifelong memories. However, we also fully understand that the current cost of living can make paying for these trips a financial strain for many families. We are deeply committed to making sure no child misses out on these opportunities due to cost. To support this, we aim to provide as much advance notice as possible for upcoming trips, offer flexible payment plans, and keep costs to an absolute minimum. We also want to extend our heartfelt thanks to those families who are able to contribute a little extra to our trip funds—your generosity directly helps us ensure these experiences remain accessible to all of our children. Every contribution, no matter how small, will make a meaningful difference and help ensure every child can share in this valuable experience. Last year we received a total of £670.00 to support our children to be able to attend trips.
If you ever have concerns about trip fees or need to discuss financial support, please contact the school office in complete confidence. Please be aware that, unfortunately, school trips may be at risk of being cancelled if insufficient payments are received.

Cake sale:

Join us for our annual school Cake Sale on **Tuesday 17th November** in the **playgrounds** starting from **3:10pm**! Every penny raised goes directly back into the classroom—funding exciting new books and learning resources for our children. Pop by, grab a delicious treat, and help us make learning even sweeter! Thank you for your generous support in helping us enrich our children's learning journey.
All donations must be brought in by Friday 13th November.

Come and Learn:

We are delighted to inform you that we will be sending out information shortly about our first Come and Learn sessions of this academic year. Each Assistant Headteacher will lead a session for parents and their child/ren based on phonics and reading. Please sign up when the information comes out if you can attend. Parents reported last year that they found these sessions really informative.

Hindu Assembly:

On Friday, 16th October, we had the pleasure of having Dr. Sita Anala from Aylesbury Hindu Temple for assemblies in Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Dr. Sita spoke to the children about the upcoming celebration of Diwali in November and explained its origins and how it is celebrated amongst families. The children were enthusiastic to learn all about it and were eager to ask her lots of questions. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Sita for visiting Oak Green School and talking about this important religious celebration.

Parent Governor Vacancy:
Thank you to everyone who has already expressed an interest in joining our school governing board. This role offers a fantastic opportunity to contribute to the strategic leadership of the school and help shape its long-term direction. You do not need specific qualifications or an educational background; we are simply looking for individuals who can offer a parent's perspective and work collaboratively as part of a team. Serving as a governor involves attending regular meetings and dedicating a few hours a month to support and challenge school leadership on budgeting, policy, and educational standards. Please note that all applications now need to be submitted by Friday 6th November. If elected, the expectation will be for you to attend the next Full Governing Board meeting on Wednesday 18th November. If you would like to apply or require further details regarding the nomination process, please email Mr Mark Bateman, Chair of Governors, via office@oakgreen.bucks.sch.uk .

Have a wonderful half term

Mrs Beesley and Mrs Kelloway
Co-Headteachers