



Oxon Church of England Primary School

RACECOURSE LANE • BICTON HEATH • SHREWSBURY • SHROPSHIRE • SY3 5BJ

telephone 01743 351948

fax 01743 272645

email admin@oxon.shropshire.sch.uk

website www.oxon.shropshire.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER Mr Mark Rogers B.Ed (Hons), NPQH

Newsletter – Summer Term 2016

Introduction

Summer term 2016 will undoubtedly be one of the most memorable terms for our school. Achieving outstanding in all areas of our Ofsted report combined with the wonderful commentary of the school has been a very proud moment for all of us. I would like to thank you for the huge number of positive messages that have been sent and for your ongoing support.

The 2016 summer term will be memorable for many other reasons. Academically, end of year test results were strong across the school with particularly high results from our current Year 6. Our fantastic arts week with a theme of 'Brazil' was extremely well received by children and parents. Our wide variety of sporting competitions including a football final at the Greenhouse Meadow, swimming, athletics, rounders, cricket and school games. Our excellent summer BBQ and sports days were all blessed with dry weather as was our Year 6 charity Fun Run. I hope this newsletter gives you a flavour of school life this term.

Curriculum Development – A brief summary

- **Our Vision** – We have reviewed our vision statement and made a number of changes to the wording. It has been displayed on the website since June and is stated below:

A happy and secure atmosphere

We aim for our school to have a happy, caring and friendly atmosphere underpinned by Christian values. We seek to provide a supportive learning environment that is calm, positive and purposeful.

Love of learning

We aim to foster within children a love of learning and a confidence in their own abilities that will stay with them throughout their formal education and beyond.



The best for each child

We value a spirit of mutual respect and inclusiveness. We strive to offer a rich and broad curriculum supported by a wide range of extra-curricular activities. It is our belief that these high quality experiences build character, strengthen self-esteem and help to prepare children to fulfil their personal potential in future life.

- **Assessment** – You will be aware that the old national curriculum levels have been abolished. We have new systems in place and during this term staff have spent significant time refining them. Parents of children in Year 2 and Year 6 were provided with the new style national assessment scores this summer.
- **Homework** – At Oxon, we consider that homework is very important in supporting your child’s learning. We have reviewed and updated our homework policy making some changes to ensure that what we are asking them to do contributes to the most important areas of learning. The revised arrangements were placed on the website last month and will be passed to you at the start of each term in the year group newsletters. Thank you for your ongoing support in this area.
- **Computing** – Over half term, our wireless network was fully upgraded and our broadband speed doubled to provide higher levels of connectivity for the new equipment that has been purchased in recent years.
- **PE** – Staff have spent time reviewing and updating PE plans.
- **Collective Worship and Spirituality** – We have reviewed this important area that includes whole school assemblies, key stage assemblies and class assemblies. Each class has a reflection area which has been enhanced and a new external reflection area (by the demountables) has been built. You will be aware that we operate a system of ‘Christian Value of The Month’ this term we have also added a section on the front page of our school website to enable you to see our current value. We have identified our core Christian values as love, hope, respect and faith.
- **Special Needs** – Staff have undertaken training from the Woodlands team on ‘attachment’ issues.

Year 6 Results

We were delighted with the performance of our Year 6 in the new national assessments.

	Oxon 2016	National 2016	Difference
Reading test – Expected Standard+	82%	66%	+16%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Test – Expected Standard+	86%	72%	+14%
Maths test – Expected Standard+	86%	70%	+16%

Staff Changes

- Mrs C Jones (Year 6) will be retiring at the end of this year. Mrs Jones has worked at Oxon for fourteen years spending most of them as a Year 5 teacher and in recent years working in a part time capacity in other year groups. Throughout her career Mrs Jones has been passionate about ensuring the children in her class make really strong progress and achieve their full potential and that has certainly been true of her years at Oxon. Mrs Jones will also be remembered for her significant involvement in, and enthusiasm for, our drama productions. I would like to thank her for all her hard work over the years.

- Mrs Wyke has been appointed to teach each Friday in Year 6. She is an experienced teacher who has recently taught at Minsterley School.
- Miss Eaton returned from maternity leave at the start of July.
- Miss Hughes, who has covered Miss Eaton's maternity, will leave at the end of term to take up a new post in Telford. I would like to thank her for all her hard work over the year.
- Mrs Houghton will return from maternity leave to teach in Year 2 in September.
- Miss Galloway, who has covered Mrs Houghton's maternity, will leave us at the end of term. I would like to thank her for all her hard work over the year.
- Mrs Bogle will return from maternity leave in September and will teach every Thursday in Year 1.
- At the end of this term we will say goodbye to three of our teaching assistants who have supported a Year 6 pupil throughout school. Mrs Webb, Mrs Prosser and Mrs Pullen have all contributed to our school in a really positive and helpful way and I would like to thank them and wish them well for the future.
- Mrs Brace has joined us as a lunchtime supervisor.

Clubs

Art Club – Y1	Mrs Lovatt and Mrs Williams
Art Club – Y5	Priory School staff
Athletics Club – Y3	Miss France and Miss Lee
Craft Club – Y2	Miss Galloway
Cricket Club – Y5,6	Miss France and Mrs Dugan
First Aid Club – Y5,6	Mr Reynolds and Mrs Sear
Gardening Club – Y1	Mrs Shirra and Mr Laux
Gym Club – Y1	Mr O'Hagan and Mrs Lovatt
Gym Club – Y2	Mr O'Hagan and Mrs Lovatt
My Maths Homework Club	Mrs Davies and Miss Jewsbury
Rounders Club – Y6	Mrs Dugan and Mrs Semple
Rounders Club – Y5	Mrs Dugan and Mrs Semple
Summer Circuits (Fitness) – Y3	Miss France and Mrs Kolze-Jones
Summer Circuits (Fitness) – Y4	Miss France and Mrs Kolze-Jones
Tennis Club – Y1	Mr Creffield and Mrs Dugan
Tennis Club – Y2	Mr Creffield and Mrs Dugan
Tri Golf Club – Y4	Sports Jam and Mrs Davies
Tri Golf Club – Y5,6	Sports Jam and Mrs Davies

Visits out of school

- Year R have visited Park Hall Farm.
- Year 1 have visited the Wyre Forest and worked with the forest rangers as part of their science work about trees and plants.
- Year 2 have visited Shrewsbury as part of their history work about famous people.
- Year 2 have visited the parish church to explore the church as a place of worship.
- Year 3 have visited Telford as part of their geography work.
- Year 3 have visited Llangollen as part of their geography work.
- Year 4 have visited Egnuity to support their design technology work on moving toys.

- Year 4 have visited Attingham Park to support their art work by looking at natural sculptures and their PE work by completing an orienteering session.
- Year 5 have visited Cardingmill Valley to carry out a river study. This work was led by staff from the Preston Montford Field Study Centre.
- Year 6 have taken part in 'Crucial Crew' at Nesscliffe Camp.
- Year 6 have visited Priory School to watch a performance of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'.

Assemblies and Visitors to school

- Library staff worked in school with Year 5 and 6 on the Bookquest project.
- Year 6 have undertaken cycle training courses.
- Rev. David O'Brien has visited school regularly to lead assemblies. He has also spent time talking to Year 3 about colours in the church.
- The Shrewsbury Youth for Christ team have visited to lead an assembly and workshop for Year 6 about transition to secondary school.
- Imam Ihram from the Shrewsbury Muslim Prayer Centre worked with Year 2 exploring everyday life in a Muslim family.
- Mr Mark Michaels worked with Year 4 exploring everyday life in a Jewish family.
- Year 2 enjoyed a day finding out about Florence Nightingale with a member of staff from the Shropshire Museum Service.
- Staff and pupils from Shrewsbury High School led a drama session for our Year 5 classes.
- Mr Steve Bruce from the Quarry Pool led two assemblies on water safety.

Sporting Achievements

- **Swimming Gala 2016** – We were one of ten teams competing at the gala this year. Huge congratulations to our swimming team for finishing in 5th position with a grand total of 14 points. We were one of only four schools in the competition to have representatives in all four scoring relay finals – a terrific achievement. Particular mention to Katie Underwood – 5th in the back crawl final, Cerys Daniels- 3rd in the butterfly final and Jonny Underwood – 2nd in both the butterfly and freestyle finals.
- **Rounders Tournament 2016** – Our Year 6 team really enjoyed the competition held at Prestfelde. Seventeen schools were represented at this event. We were unbeaten in the group stages and qualified for the final stage as group winners. We won two out of the three games played in the final stage only losing to the eventual winners by a single rounder! We finished in 2nd place overall – our best ever placing at this event – wonderful!
- **School Games Day 2016** – A group of 18 children enjoyed the experience of competing at the event. We had competitors in the golf and cricket competitions who gave their absolute best. Special mention to the Year 5 cricket team who lost just one game in the entire competition and finished in 2nd place overall. The golf team enjoyed success also. Nine teams competed in the event and we finished in 4th place with a points total of 785- well done!
- **Area Sports 2016** – A team of 26 children enjoyed the opportunity of competing at this event involving twenty schools. A particular well done to Luca Barber, Ruby Fulgoni and Jake Wilcox for getting to the finals of their individual events. A special mention also to Beau Cook-Bartholomew for coming 3rd in the long jump – the first time that Oxon has ever been placed in this event. It was wonderful to see Kyle Wilcox

finishing in 1st place in the U12 sprint final- magnificent! Credit also to the U12 Boys and Girls relay teams who also progressed to their finals finishing 2nd and 4th respectively.

- **Boys U11 County Plate Final** – A place in the county cup final played at the Greenhous Meadow Stadium was a fitting reward for the effort that the team had put in on a consistent basis throughout the season. The boys enjoyed the occasion very much – walking out of the tunnel and being announced to the enthusiastic crowd. The team played really well but unfortunately, it wasn't to be our day in terms of the result – losing to Baschurch 2-0.

Other Achievements

- **Arts Week** – We took the theme of 'Brazil' this year. Class teachers planned a wide variety of activities to develop this theme and we invited professional artists to further enhance the week. A particular focus was the sessions led by a professional dancer who taught the children some fantastic 'samba dances' with the children. My thanks also go to Mrs Smith for her work in organising the week. Once again it was extremely successful and the feedback from children and adults was excellent.
- **Year 6 Leavers Assemblies** – The Year 6 leavers delivered two great final assemblies. It was fascinating to look at the many photos included in the PowerPoint presentations showing the huge amount of different activities they have been involved in during the last twelve months. We will certainly miss them when they move to secondary school.
- **Redwood Centre Arts Celebration** – Mrs Thurston's class sang fantastically well as part of an arts event at the centre.
- **Big Pedal** – We did very well to be awarded an excellent sixth place in the West Midlands for this competition which measured the number of children cycling to school over a period of time in May. Please remember that children cycling to school should have a cycle permit, an application form is available from the school office.

Fundraising

- **Summer Fayre** – We enjoyed a fantastic, well supported, summer fayre. My thanks go to Mrs Nicholls, her team and all those who worked to make the evening a success. I am delighted to inform you that the event raised a fantastic £3,367 (the highest figure ever). It is planned that a large amount of this money will be used to subsidise the pantomime visit at Christmas.
- **School Disco** – The PTA held two successful discos these events raised £622.
- **Sports days** – My thanks go to the PTA who sold drinks and ice pops at both sports days.
- **'Year 6 Charity Fun Run'** – Year 6 children completed a sponsored run to raise money for The Birmingham Children's Hospital. My thanks go to Mrs Kolze-Jones who worked with the children to organise this event. The event has raised an amazing £811 so far.
- Thank you for bringing in the many different school vouchers which are being put to good use. We had 15,796 Sainsbury vouchers which will be put towards PE equipment. Many thanks to Mrs Webb who counted the vouchers!

Summary

The autumn term starts on Tuesday 6th September.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all the support the school has received, in so many different ways, throughout the year. I trust that you and your children will have a great summer vacation and look forward to seeing you in September.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M' and 'R'.

Mark Rogers