

# Oxon Church of England Primary School

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

## Newsletter – Autumn Term 2019

### Introduction

The fifteen weeks of the autumn term have been a busy and productive time. Highlights of this term, for me, have included a very successful year 6 residential visit to the Pioneer Centre, our great Christmas performances and the wide variety of educational visits taking place. The feedback we receive on visits out of school remains of the highest quality and has been replicated on the visits this term. I hope this letter gives you a flavour of the hard work, progress, fun and enjoyment of school life over the course of this term.

### Curriculum Development – A brief summary

- **Curriculum** - National changes mean that all schools are moving through a process of reviewing their curriculum. For almost two decades, Oxon has had a tradition of maintaining a strong broad curriculum rather than just focusing on English and maths. Over that time, we have invested very heavily in designing our own detailed plans and linked resources for the 'wider' curriculum (science, computing, history, geography, design technology, PE, music, art, RE, PSHE, and French.) This term we have been revisiting all our curriculum areas to ensure that we are able to articulate clearly what we believe are the important outcomes, in our local context, for the children in these subjects (intent). Alongside this, we are reflecting on how we best describe our sequencing of lessons and areas of study. As part of this process, we have made a number of small changes to the order in which some elements of work are taught.
- **History and Geography** – We used our October PD Day and some staff meetings to further develop plans for these areas. Hopefully, you will be aware of the new timeline we have constructed on the school playground. The timeline has been designed as a resource that can be used at the start of a new historical study to set the context of the period to be studied. We also hope that, over time, children will become increasingly familiar with the key events and dates. We have designed our timeline to include the key events that are studied within school and highlight some other important historical dates, particularly those with local links. My thanks go to Mrs Smith whose wonderful graphic design skills have helped me to produce this resource.
- **Computing** – We held another 'Internet Safety - Information Session for Parents' in November. The meeting was hosted by Mrs Smith, our E-Safety curriculum lead,

and an external consultant Richard Smith. Parents who attended, reported that the session had been very helpful. We are planning to run similar sessions in the future.

- We have also spent time working on English, maths, assessment, collective worship and reviewed a further 19 policies.
- **Website** – We update our website regularly. This term we have refreshed many of the photographs on the website. The search facility provides an excellent way to find out about different areas of school life.

## **Staff Changes**

- Mrs Gayle Hamond started work as a Year 1 Teaching Assistant.
- Ms Lucy Manning has started work as a Year 1 Teaching Assistant (Mondays and Tuesdays).
- Mrs Kate Roberts started as a Teaching Assistant working in Mrs Haycock's Reception Class.
- Mrs Denise Watson started as an Administrative Assistant in the school office to cover maternity leave.

## **Clubs**

Throughout the term the following clubs have been running:

Art and Crafts – Y1	Mr Beal and Mrs Beeson
Art Journaling – Y6	Mr Beal and Mrs Roach
Choir – Y5, Y6	Mrs Haycocks and Mrs Houghton
Craft – Y5	Mrs Smith
Football – Y2	Mr Mullinder and Mrs Quan
Football – Y3	Mr Mullinder and Mrs Quan
Football – Y4 Boys	Mr Braddock and Mrs Dugan
Football – Y4, Y5, Y6 Girls	Mr Braddock and Mrs Dugan
Football – Y5, Y6 Boys	Mr Jones
French – Y2	Mrs Aitken
Gym – Y3	Mrs Luther and Mrs Williams
Hand chimes – Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6	Mrs Burgess
MyMaths – Y2, Y3, Y4	Miss Jewsbury and Mr Beal
MyMaths – Y5, Y6	Miss Jewsbury and Mr Beal
Multi-skills (Sport) – Y1	Mr O'Reilly and Miss Lee
Multi-skills (Sport) – Y2	Mr O'Reilly and Miss Lee
Origami	Mrs Rayment and Mrs Quan
Prayer – Y3	Mrs Shirra and Mrs Bowyer
Tennis – Y3	Mr Creffield and Mrs Semple
Tennis – Y4	Mr Creffield and Mrs Dugan
Tag Rugby – Y5, Y6	Mr Morgan
Textile – Y3	Mrs Quan and Mrs Roach

## **Music**

The following music lessons have been taking place in school:

- Keyboard
- Guitar
- Percussion
- Violin

## **Visits out of school**

- Year 1 have visited Acton Scott Farm as part of their work about harvest and farming in the past.
- Year 2 have visited Shrewsbury library as part of their English and history work.
- Year 2 have visited Think Tank in Birmingham as part of their science work.
- Year 2 have visited Gains Park shops as part of their geography work about the local area.
- Year 3 have visited Chester to view some of the archaeological remains and take part in a number of interactive workshops to support their work on the Romans.
- Year 4 have visited the old Oxon School and the current church hall, as part of their local history work about the Oxon area in Victorian times.
- Year 4 have carried out research, using primary sources, at the county archives to further their studies about the history of the local area.
- Year 4 have visited Blists Hill Museum to experience a day as Victorian school children. The children enjoyed spending time in costume.
- Year 4 visited the Redwood Centre to sing two songs at the start of their carol service.
- Year 6 have visited the Shrewsbury Abbey to take part in an event for schools called 'Open Door'.
- Year 6 took part in a residential visit to the Pioneer Centre at Cleobury Mortimer. Their activities included climbing, abseiling, high ropes course, caving, archery and raft building.
- Year 6 visited the Shrewsbury Flaxmill and the Shropshire Archives as part of their history work studying 'Architecture through the ages in Shrewsbury'.
- Year 6 have visited Meole Brace School to watch a performance of 'A Christmas Carol'.
- The whole school will be visiting Theatre Severn during the last week of term to watch a performance of 'Aladdin'.

## **Performances, Worship (Assemblies) and Visitors to School**

- We were very pleased to welcome Rev. Charlotte Gompertz as the new vicar of Oxon Church. Rev. Charlotte started in her new post at the start of November. Since then we have been pleased to have her start leading worship (assemblies) in school each week, join us at a number of school events and lead our Carol service at the church.
- Key Stage 2 enjoyed a live music performance by a 'Folk' group of Shropshire Music Service staff.
- Rory McCann, who is a professional artist an ex-pupil of Oxon, has produced a wonderful painting to go behind our stage on the playground. If you look carefully at some of the characters you should see a link with many of our previous drama productions. We were delighted to welcome Rory to lead two assemblies to introduce his work and share a little bit about his life.
- Year three and four enjoyed a visit from the award-winning author Guy Bass.
- On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September, we held our Harvest Festival. Children in years 3 and 4 took part in the service, which was held at Christ Church Shelton and Oxon. The event went well and details of the charitable collection is listed in the section below.

- Egyptian workshop – children in year 5 enjoyed a day spent working with Egyptian artefacts that was led by the museum service.
- Year 1 enjoyed a visit from a vet from Copthorne Vets as part of their science work.
- Class assemblies have taken place for children in years 3, 4 and 5.
- Key Stage 1 Performance – this year’s performance entitled ‘A Midwife Crisis’ took place on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> December. It was, once again, great to see a performance of such quality taking place.
- Carol service – Years 5 and 6 led a traditional carol service at the church on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December. As always, the reading and instrumental contributions were of a high standard and the singing was fantastic.

## **Charity Fundraising**

- Our **Harvest Festival** supported a local debt relief charity called ‘Shrewsbury Food Bank’ and the children were asked to bring non-perishable produce. The quantity of produce taken to the church was once again amazing.
- **Children in Need** - We supported this charity with a non-uniform day and raised £437.
- **Poppy Appeal** – We raised £99 in support of this important national appeal.
- **Christingle Candles** – We are once again supporting The Children’s Society through this collection.
- **PTA Events** – The PTA held a storyteller event for Key Stage 1 and a film night for Key Stage 2 that raised £467. In December we held another very successful Christmas Fayre and raised a fantastic £2,500. This year a new initiative of designing Christmas cards was introduced. This has been very well received and has raised over £469. My thanks go to Mrs Gill and her team for all their hard work in organising these events that are enjoyed so much by the children. This term money raised by the PTA has been used to provide a generous subsidy of over £3,085 for our ‘Aladdin’ pantomime visit. The PTA have also been supporting a ‘reverse advent calendar’ for Shrewsbury Foodbank.

## **Sporting Achievements**

### **U11 Boys Football In The Community Cup (1st Round)**

Oxon 0 – 0 Harlescott

Oxon 4 – 0 Longden

Oxon 3 – 0 Prees

Group winners – through to final round!

### **U11 Boys Football In The Community Cup (Final Round)**

Oxon 0 – 0 Mereside

Oxon 0 – 0 Greenfields

Oxon 0 – 2 Priorslee

Oxon 0 – 1 St Georges

Oxon 0 – 2 Oakmeadow

### **U11 Boys County Plate (1<sup>st</sup> Round)**

Oxon 1 – 0 St Johns Baptist

Oxon 3 – 0 Newtown

Oxon 4 – 0 Oswestry School

Group winners – through to the final round!

**U11 Boys E.S.F.A Cup (1<sup>st</sup> Round)**

Oxon 0 – 0 Newtown

Oxon 0 – 0 Mereside

Oxon 1 – 0 Harlescott

2<sup>nd</sup> in group – through to final round!

**U11 Boys E.S.F.A Cup (Final Round)**

Oxon 0 – 5 St Georges

Oxon 0 – 1 Trinity

Oxon 0 – 0 St Georges (Telford)

Oxon 0 – 2 Greenfields

**U11 Girls E.S.F.A Cup (1<sup>st</sup> Round)**

Oxon 0 – 0 Condover

Oxon 0 – 1 St Winefrides

Oxon 0 – 4 Shrewsbury Cathedral

Special mention to the U10 Girls Team who played in this competition in the absence of the U11 Girls Team who were at 'Pioneer'.

**U11 Girls County Plate (1<sup>st</sup> Round)**

Oxon 0 – 0 Mereside

Oxon 0 – 1 Longden

Oxon 3 – 0 Condover

2<sup>nd</sup> in group – through to final round!

**U10 Girls County Shield (1<sup>st</sup> Round)**

Oxon 0 – 1 Harlescott

Oxon 1 – 0 Trinity

Oxon 0 – 2 Harlescott

Oxon 1 – 0 Trinity

2<sup>nd</sup> in group – through to final round!

**U10 Boys County Shield (1<sup>st</sup> Round)**

Oxon 1 – 0 Newtown

Oxon 1 – 0 Wilfred Owen

Oxon 1 – 1 Condover

Top of group – through to final round!

**U9 Boys County Cup (1<sup>st</sup> Round)**

Oxon 1 – 0 Prees

Oxon 2 – 0 Grange Park

Oxon 1 – 2 Longden

Through to final round!

**U9 Girls County Cup (1<sup>st</sup> Round)**

Oxon 0 – 2 St Georges

Oxon 0 – 0 Longden

Oxon 0 – 1 Grange Park

## Inter-House Y5 and 6 Football Competition - Boys

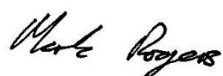
Position	House	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
1	Blue	6	0	0	18
2	Red	2	1	3	7
3	Yellow	2	1	3	7
4	Green	0	2	4	4

### Summary

I would like to say a big thank you to all those who have helped to support the school in so many different ways throughout the term. I will write to you early next term with information about the events that are planned for the spring term which starts on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

I would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Rogers