



A message from Mrs Jones

Hello everyone, it has been lovely to see so many of you in school this week for nativities, helping with parent events and for assemblies. I really feel like the soul of our school is back!

Next week is just as jam packed so please make sure that you look out for communications sent your way.



Gifts for staff

You are more than welcome to bring Christmas presents for staff in school we really appreciate these (although of course it's not expected!) and it is very kind. In the past we have asked for presents that can be easily cleaned for Covid safety and this would be great this year too. Thank you in advance for your kindness!



Oxenhope Worship Team

These are a group of children who work alongside Mrs Brown to help spread spirituality through school. Next half term we will be sending out a newsletter about what they are focusing on.



Ready, Steady, Go! For school meals!

Have you got a **child in school** or about to start?

Why not find out whether you can get **free school meals?**



•You could save **£100 per term!**

•Plus the kids are getting a really **healthy meal every day!**

Please speak to our school office staff for more information

Children's devices

Over the last few of days, we have had a few incidents around text messages and images being sent to children which could cause concern. In each of these incidents we have managed to sort things out because children and parents have come to talk to us about them. It is really important that you monitor what your children are talking about and sending on their devices. This is not an invasion of privacy this is you parenting your child and safeguarding them. Please make it part of your routine to check their phones etc. If you need help please come and speak to us straight away.

Job opportunity

We are looking to appoint an Apprentice Teaching Assistant. Please see our website for details or call into the main office for a chat. Closing date 17.12.21

<https://www.oxenhopeprimary.org.uk/our-school/vacancies/>





Parent's
Questions

Why does my child's attendance matter so much?

Going to school regularly is important for your child's future. Parents are responsible for making sure their children receive full-time education. Parents are legally responsible for making sure that children attend school. If your child doesn't go to school, you could get fined or prosecuted. Good attendance at school is not just valuable, it's essential. Going to school is directly linked to improved academic performance which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities and better job prospects. As well as this, going to school helps to develop; friendships, social skills, life skills, cultural awareness and career pathways. All schools must record details of pupils' attendance and absence at school. They do this at the beginning of morning and afternoon sessions meaning that each day your child receives two half day marks.

If your child is going to be absent from school, (e.g. for an unavoidable appointment) then you should let the school know as soon as possible. If your child has been absent due to an unexpected event such as bereavement or illness, then you must also let the school know on the first day of absence in line with the school's attendance policy. The school will then record the absence. If you fail to tell the school as to why your child has not been present, then the school may record that period of absence as being unauthorised. The Education Welfare Service (EWS) has access to all attendance information for each pupil and if your child is missing school without good reason, schools and the EWS have the authority to find out why.

Achieving 90 per cent in an exam or test is a fantastic result but if your child is at school for only 90 per cent of the school year then they will have missed 19 days - almost four whole weeks of school.

For primary-age children, this can mean almost 120 guided learning hours. This is a big gap for any child to make up.

We understand at the moment Covid is causing absence however we are providing home learning for children isolating. We have a great deal of parents asking for term time holidays. These will never be authorised in accordance with our attendance policy and we will fine parents who take children out of school for long periods of time. If you are concerned about attendance please speak to us.

Safeguarding Section



If you are concerned about the safety of a child, act!
Named Persons for Child Protection are Alice Jones, Gillian Dyson, Caroline Auty, Joanne Brown, Laura Smales and Oliver Thurlby

Useful phone numbers:

School – 01535 642271

Social Services Initial Contact Point 01274 437500

NSPCC – 0808 800 5000

West Yorkshire Police – 101 or 99