



Ormskirk Church of England Primary School

Greetby Hill, Ormskirk. Lancashire L39 2DP

Tel: (01695) 574027

e-mail: head@ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk

web-site: www.ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr G.Storch B.Ed. (Hons) P.G. Dip. Psych. N.P.Q.H.

6th December 2024

Dear Parents,

Here is a festive update, including some preparation information for the Spring term.

Nativity Events:

The first Christmas event was few days ago when Y5 singers joined a few other local primaries and sang their hearts out at Ormskirk High School. They were accompanied by some of the high school pupils, which included some ex-pupils of our school, and the evening started with Amelia Nolan singing a beautiful solo. It is a great feeling when watching ex pupils shine and excel as they move on to high school.

- **Nursery:** Pre-School Christmas songs 9am Mon 9th Dec. Christmas party on the morning of 17th Dec
- **Reception:** 6pm Thu 12th Dec Nativity in main hall, parking on infant playground. Then Christmas party on the morning of Wed 18th Dec (a letter containing more specific details about Nativity arrangements for this evening will be coming home this week)
- **Y1:** 3.45 to 4.15pm Tue 17th Dec Carol Service on the infant playground. Then Christmas party on the afternoon of Thu 19th Dec
- **Y2:** 3.45 to 4.15pm Tue 17th Dec Carol Service on the infant playground. Then Christmas party on morning of Tues 17th Dec
- **Y3:** 6pm 11th Dec Christingle in Church. Then Christmas party on the afternoon of Wed 18th Dec
- **Y4:** 6pm 11th Dec Christingle in Church. Then Christmas party on the afternoon of Tue 17th Dec
- **Y5:** Singing event last night. Year group party on Tues 17th Dec. (Y5 lead the whole school Easter Service at church – likely to be on Friday 4th April 2025)
- **Y6:** Year Group Party Fri 13th Dec. (Y6 put on an end of year production – likely to be at 6pm on Wed 9th July 2025)

Christmas Lunch for children of all ages (including nursery): Wed 11th December.

9am Thursday 19th December **Church Service for children of all ages** (including Reception but not Nursery). Drop off at church from 8.40am onwards for a 9am start. Parents welcome to join us.

'Moments of the Month' (used to called 'Monthly Snippets') and Parent Meeting re Y5 & Y6 residential

This is a collection of images and celebrations of children and different magical moments of each month. These are visible on the school website under the same section as newsletters. When looking back at each month it is incredible how much we fit in.

I do hope your child enjoys all the trips and visits. Remember class trips in the autumn and spring term are absolutely free; it is only the summer term trips that parents are asked to contribute towards.

We are already making bookings for the Y5 residential to York and the Y6 residential to London. We are holding a short meeting for both Y5 and Y6 parents on Thursday 12th Dec at 5.30pm (parking will be possible on the infant playground).

Ofsted Report and SATs Results from 2024

As mentioned in a newsletter, our recent Ofsted report is out and is full of praises for school and your children's attitude to learning. Later this month our SATs results are published, and we did particularly well

Inspire

Aim High

Achieve

Shine



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in English compared to the national average. For the last few years we have had a high number of pupils joining our school so it has been interesting to unravel how well pupils do when they have been with us since Reception, which is of interest to parents thinking about which school to send their pupils. I am proud to say that of the pupils who were at our school since Reception 90% achieved the Expected Standard in reading, grammar, spelling and writing (well above the national averages) and they were also above the national average in Maths. The Ofsted inspector was very impressed with the standard of work in both maths and English in all of the classes he observed being taught and we are on course for some great results in 2025 (keep working hard Y6 😊).

Attendance Policy (including holidays in term time) and Communication regarding absences)

We have updated our attendance policy which includes details about fines and other consequences of taking children out of school for continuous or accumulative days within a school year. It based on the recommended policy for all schools in Lancashire. Please take note of these as the policy has now been approved by the governors and will be enforced from the 1st January onwards. Please note that this policy does not include the nursery. If your child is in the nursery and your child is not going to be in due to a holiday you do still pay for their place when away, but there is no fine and no concern, just let us know in advance when your child will be away.

An email to office@ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk is the means of communication for any future absence regarding a holiday absence and a Gateway message for any illness absence. Please note that it is ESSENTIAL that if your child is ill, you tell us what symptoms your child has. We have a few children and some close relations to children who have a very low immune system so certain viruses which are normally harmless are dangerous for them. In addition, I need to inform any staff who may be pregnant if certain viruses are present in certain classes. Winter is the most important time to look out for each other and accurate information really helps. Thank you.

A Few Changes for the Spring Term

Miss Woods has been teaching 2W on a temporary contract and I am happy for her that she has been successful in securing a permanent contract but sadly it is in a different school, starting in January. Miss Blake will be the main teacher for 2W from January to the end of the school year, with Mrs Routledge teaching on Thursdays whilst Miss Blake be teaching Spanish to Y3/4 and 6. The class will be getting to know Miss Blake on a few mornings in the next few weeks. Mrs Tugwell will be teaching a little more in Y6 as we re-arrange the teaching timetable for Y6 as Miss Blake turns her focus to teaching 2W.

Mrs Monks has started her maternity leave and she is planning to return ready to start teaching in September 2025 along with Mrs Redfearn, Mrs Forshaw and Mrs Heaven ready for September 2025.

It is hoped that most timetable arrangements such as the days children swim will be very similar to before. There will be no after school sports in the first week back in January.

I WISH YOU ALL (a bit early, but let's make the most of it!) A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

Mr Storch