

# Headlines

10<sup>th</sup> March 2017



## Dear Parents,

A very exciting week at Ongar. Our kitchen for the children to use is practically finished and we are now planning an opening ceremony. This week we have also had a new sound system fitted in the hall. Hopefully, it will be the end of that horrible 'hummmm' we hear at some assemblies and stop the blank looks staff show when the whole system fails. Mind you, it's going to take a while to get our heads round all the buttons and sliders we need to learn how to use. We are confident that Louis in Year 6 will help us poor old teachers!

Both of these purchases have been courtesy of the PTFA fund. The PTFA and school fund both support us in buying and repairing things for the children that we can't pay for out of our school budget. Another example of this is the hefty bill we have recently had to pay to repair the swimming pool ready for the children to use after Easter.

Thank you to everyone who has organised and supported a PTFA event and to all of you who have paid your school fund donation.

## IMPORTANT DATES INFORMATION

You may remember that at the beginning of term I said I was going to look at the term and holiday dates for the next academic year. This year we found that a lot of our children were tired and ill in the last week of term. Over a quarter of the school were off sick for 1 or more sessions and altogether 191 sessions were lost (this is double average absence). We also had some families who had to take unauthorised leave in order to meet up with families for Christmas as we did not finish school until the 21<sup>st</sup> of December and returned on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January. This led to a further 113 sessions being lost. The Surrey calendar is very similar this year. Therefore, I have decided that we will only have staff INSET training in the final week of term and children will begin their holiday earlier.

### Term Dates 2017-2018

Monday September 4<sup>th</sup> – Staff INSET  
Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup> – Children return to school  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October – End of half term  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October - Back to School  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – End of term for children  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Back to school  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February - End of half term  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Back to school  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – End of term  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April - Back to school  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May – End of half term  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June - Back to school  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July – End of term for children  
Please use these dates or speak to the office if you are planning holidays and childcare.

## Last week's attendance

Year R	2½ days absence	3 lates
Year 1	1 days absence	1 lates
Year 2	7½ days absence	5 lates
Year 3	0 days absence	2 lates
Year 4	4 days absence	5 lates
Year 5	5½ days absent	2 lates
Year 6	3½ days absence	1 lates

Well done Year 3 - No absences this week.

**Year 3 and 4 attended a Rugby Festival**, held at Weybridge Vandals, on Monday afternoon. Everyone was very excited, as it was the first sporting event for most children. The children practised skills for the first part of the afternoon and then played some matches against other schools. Although it was a festival and not about competition it is great to report that we did win some of our matches.

Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to parents for transportation and sideline support.



## Interhouse Day

15<sup>th</sup> March is Interhouse Day. The children will take part in a range of activities, competing for their house. Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school and if possible a t-shirt the colour of their house

Scott – Red, Mandela - Green,  
Curie – Yellow, MacArthur - Blue

## Dates

Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 2 Class Assembly 9.15 am
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Interhouse Day – all children
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 author visit
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Surrey Youth Games Assembly

**Ongar Place Primary School,**  
Milton Road, Addlestone,  
Surrey KT15 1NY  
01932 842785

[admin@ongar-place.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ongar-place.surrey.sch.uk)