

# Headlines

26<sup>th</sup> January 2018



## Dear Parents,

It's been miserable outside but in school we have been keeping warm and happy with all our learning! Can I take this opportunity to remind parents that during this uncertain weather children need a coat in school every day as we try to ensure they go out for break and lunch as often as possible.

## Parents Evenings

Parents Evening's for this term will be **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 3.40pm – 5.50pm and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 3.40pm – 6.50pm**. This is a very important meeting where you and the class teacher will share a report detailing the progress your child has made so far this year, how they are expected to progress in the next few months and what the school and parents can do to support this progress. The sign-up sheets will be available outside the front office (or just inside if wet) from Monday morning. If you are unable to sign-up personally or cannot ask another parent to sign up for you then please call the office between 9.30am -2.30pm from Tuesday. Many thanks.

## Ongar Values Respect

This week we learned about respecting our elders ...

## School Review

You may recall that I invited a colleague of mine, Mrs Hannam, to visit Ongar and review all aspects of the school. I was delighted with what she found.

- She saw that the children's behaviour was good throughout the school including in lessons and moving around the school.
- She visited almost every class and found our English and mathematics teaching to be good across the school.
- She could see that our reception class provided an excellent place for the children to begin their education and the phonics lessons she saw being taught were very good.
- She looked at some of the comments and pictures about our healthy living sports weeks and talked to Mr Good and was very impressed with the activities and opportunities the children had access to.
- She looked in some children's maths and English books and could see the progress the children were making.
- She saw that our curriculum looked exciting and children were enjoying their learning
- She talked to some of our governors and found that they were well informed about most aspects of our school.
- She talked to me and Mrs Pirie about the way we assess children and saw it was very clear and helped teachers and parents understand what the children need to learn next.
- She could see that our teaching assistants worked hard and helped children to learn (we knew that!)

Of course she also had some points for improvement (there's no point in doing these things if you don't find out how to get better!)

- Handwriting and presentation in some children's books was not as good as it could be.

We agree with her and so, in the next few weeks, we will be having a 'push' on children presenting their learning as well as they can. This means that children in years 4, 5 and 6 will be expected to write in pen.

- Some of our children need more challenge in maths.

We are thinking carefully about the resources we use and how we help children improve further.

It was lovely to see our school through someone else's eyes and hear all her positive comments.

At parents evening I will be again be issuing a questionnaire to give all parents an opportunity to give their opinion about our school.



There is still some science week money outstanding please can you check that you have paid.

## Snow Policy

Please make yourself familiar with our Snow Policy on the website which deals with what will happen if we have snow

<http://ongar-place.surrey.sch.uk/ridhosted.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Snow-Policy-Dec-16-TG.pdf>

## Diary

Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Y5 Football match at Stepgates School
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Year 5 assembly 9.15 School Hall
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Y5/6 Sport Hall athletics
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 6 to High Ashurst
12 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> February -	Half Term back to school 19 <sup>th</sup> February
20 <sup>th</sup> and 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Parents evening (see above)
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	PTFA Quiz Night

Have a good weekend. Mrs Good

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