



Ovingham CE First School

Weekly News

20th January 2023

Dates at a Glance

Mon 23rd Jan – Reception & Y2 NUFC Dance Sessions

Mon 23rd Jan – Chinese New Year Lunch

Tues. 24th Jan – Kielder Observatory Workshops

Thurs 26th Jan – Uniform Giveaway after school

Mon 30th Jan – Y2 & Y3 NUFC Dance Sessions

Fri 3rd Feb – NSPCC Number Day

Mon 6th Feb – Y2 & Y4 NUFC Dance Sessions

Mon 13th Feb – Y3 & Y4 NUFC Dance Sessions

Tues 14th Feb – Wear Red for CHUF

Tues 14th Feb – Valentine's Lunch

Thurs 16th Feb – Pancake Flip

Fri 17th Feb – Disco (afternoon in school)

Visit of Bishop of Berwick

Wednesday was a very exciting day in school as we celebrated our 60th Anniversary and marked the completion of the building works. We had many visitors in school including Mark Wroe, the Bishop of Berwick, Alice Witherow and other members of the TCLT board, employees from the building team and Julie Raistrick our previous headteacher. It was a day full of celebrations and cake! A memorable day enjoyed by everyone.



Pantomime

Our New Year took off with a bang, with a fantastic production of Sleeping Beauty performed by M&M Productions. The event was much enjoyed by all. Many, many thanks to the PTA who financed the panto, we hope that this can be repeated next year.



Winter Conditions – snow/ice

The snow this week caused problems for many people getting into school. Please remember that should we experience severe weather conditions

and have to close the school, you will be informed via Parentmail and details will be put onto the school website. If school remains open, you should be aware that you and your children's safety is paramount, do not worry about being late.

The snow did however give a lot of pleasure to the children when they could play outside. Please remember to send your child into school with wellies etc. at this time of year.



Climbing frames in school

With our lovely new climbing frames in place I wanted to take the opportunity to outline how this equipment should be used as we move towards warmer and drier weather. In order to use the equipment safely, we have undertaken risk assessments, sought advice from Northumberland County Councils Health & Safety team as well as organising regular inspections from qualified sports equipment safety consultants. We are delighted to have the climbing frames in place, they are a great addition to school and will be even better once the Portakabin has been taken away.

In terms of how they will be used, pupils will be able to access them at break times and lunch times. We will not be using them when wet or icy but we will aim to use them as much as possible. Pupils will be reminded about how to use them safely, staff will always oversee the use of the equip-

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Clubs:

Karate – Mon 3.10 – 4.10 – open to children from Y1-Y4

Reception Art Club— Tues 3.10—4.10

Y2 Multi-Skills—Wed 3.10—4.10

Y3 Story Sack Club— Thurs 3.10-4.10

Weekly Events:

Monday - Guitar Lessons with Mr Newbrook

Wednesday – PE with Newcastle Utd

Thursday - Keyboard Lessons with Mrs Shevlin

ment, our younger age groups will not be using this equipment and we will be clear that pupils should not be using them in an unsafe way, ie climbing to the very top, too many children on at once etc.

We understand that pupils may want to use them at drop off and pick up times. We are happy that this happens, as long as children are fully supervised by an appropriate adult, and we would expect that the equipment is not used in wet or icy conditions or by our younger age groups (Year One & below) following the school's example.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation, we look forward to seeing the climbing frames being used and enjoyed by all our pupils.

Chinese New Year Lunch

Mrs Pizzey and the catering team will be providing a special Chinese New Year lunch on Monday 23rd January. Please remember to complete the online form to indicate your child wants to take part.

Planetarium Sessions

Astronomers from Kielder Observatory will be visiting school on Tuesday 24th January to give a series of workshops to all classes. The space themed workshops with subjects such as the solar system and space rocks are sure to give us lots of things to talk about and work on in school.

NUFC Dance Sessions

The Newcastle United Foundation have started to provide us with a series of dance sessions, sport is not the only way we can keep fit and dance movements can be as beneficial and very enjoyable. All classes will have

the opportunity of taking part over this half-term.

NSPCC Number Day

We are planning to join schools and nurseries across the UK on Friday 3 February for the NSPCC's mega maths day.

We will be dressing up for digits and have planned a fun-filled day of maths activities and games. If you wish to donate to the NSPCC please send this into school in a sealed envelope either on, or before, Friday. Thank you.

Uniform Give-Away Event

Next Thursday, 26th January, the PTA will be holding a Uniform Give-Away Event in the school hall after 3.00pm. We have a range of pre-loved jumpers, cardigans and t-shirts of various sizes. Bring a bag and fill it with any items you may need. This is a free event but should you wish to donate to the PTA there will be collection boxes in the hall.

Possible Strike Action

As you will probably be aware from the news, one of the main teaching unions is planning strike action over the next few months. The first strike date is 1st February. We are currently consulting with staff who may be affected and we will provide you with an update regarding any impact early next week