

11th November 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Information

In my attempt to keep everybody up to date as much as I can the following includes useful information and important reminders.

Uniform:

I have noticed that there is a growing number of girls wearing red cardigans to school that are not our uniform. At Oaks we have tried very hard to ensure only certain items of uniform have to have our logo. These are the cardigans, the sweatshirts and our PE kit. Purchasing these items are through our suppliers details of which can be found on the website or you can ask at the office.

If there is a problem with suppliers please let me know and I will contact them directly. Also I do understand that sometimes the alternatives are cheaper and this is why the rest of our uniform does not have a logo to keep costs down. Friends of Oaks will be having uniform sales, as suggested by Mrs Goodwin, and this may be another way of keeping costs down. If you have good quality uniform that your child has grown out of and wish to donate please send it in.

I have also just found out that you may have to pay post and package which adds to the cost so I will be going back to the suppliers to try to change this on your behalf.

It is important that only our logo cardigans and sweatshirts are worn. I have been in meetings with other schools where our lack of pride in our uniform has been commented on and you can imagine how I reacted! I feel that in the majority of cases your children wear their uniform with pride and look very smart. If we accept alternatives then we start to see all sorts of variations.

Can I thank all of those parents/carers whose children are wearing our correct uniform.

Pupils' Safety:

Since the start of term we have found that many children are being dropped off at the shops or gates in the mornings. Children as long as 6 are being left to walk down or cross the road which is unsafe and presents a safeguarding issue. The academy will not take responsibility for your children until 8:50am when they come into school.

It is our expectation that all children, apart from Year 6 children with permission to walk to and from school, are brought into school in the morning and are supervised by the parent/carer.

If we feel that any child is being placed in a vulnerable position and is unsafe we will have no alternative other than to make a social services referral. I would hate to have to ever inform a parent that their child has been in an accident or not arrived in school. Please help us to ensure your child's safety.

Children In Need

This year the School Council has decided to support Children in Need. They have decided to keep things simple by asking all children wishing to take part to pay £1 to dress in something spotty on Friday 18th November. They will also be organising 'spot related' games during break and lunch e.g. guess how many smarties in the tube. The games will be 20p a go. Obviously they may HAVE TO charge staff more to participate!

Events:

As you are all aware we have worked hard to ensure you have dates in advance to events as much as we can. This is a reminder that as we move in to the Christmas season there are quite a lot of events despite my attempts to 'ban' Christmas once again I am outnumbered! So if you wish to attend these events get them in your diary now. I would also like to let you know the Friends of Oaks will also be organising events separate from the School Council and information for these will come out directly from them soon.

New Principal

I am delighted to inform you that we have successfully recruited a substantive Principal for Oaks Primary Academy. Mrs Jane Tipple will be taking over the day to day leadership of the academy from January 2017. I will revert back to my Executive Principal role across the four LAT academies. I will work closely with Mrs Tipple to ensure that the academy and your children continue to grow from strength to strength.

Can I thank you all for being so supportive of me and the changes I have made since September. Of course Oaks remains close to my heart so I will still be around and probably interfering from time to time. I know you will make Mrs Tipple welcome and I have already let her know how supportive you are.

Lastly can I thank those of you who have turned up to any of our events so far and I look forward to seeing more of you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D A Biggenden
Executive Principal