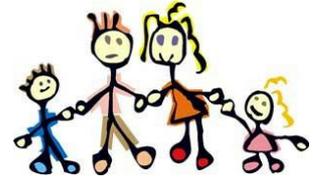




Outwoods Primary School Newsletter

8th February 2016



love for learning learning for life

Dear Parents/Carers

We are rapidly approaching the end of the first half term of 2016 and the children have been working really hard in school. It is lovely to see them all learn and grow and enjoy their education. Over the last couple of weeks we have been looking at the children's work and measuring progress, ready to report to parents on the 15th of March. Of course without your support at home it is difficult for us to secure progress in school, so thank you, as always, for your hard work in supporting your children with their learning. If there is anything you would like us to help you with, or give you more information about, please do not hesitate in asking. In the next term we will be offering some meetings for parents where you can learn more about the work of the school and how we approach learning with your children, we have also been uploading important curriculum information on the school website.



Safer Internet

Tuesday February 9th is Safer Internet Day and here at Outwoods we will be taking this opportunity to work with our children on keeping safe online. Safer Internet Day (SID) is organised by Insafe in February of each year to promote safer and more responsible use of online technology and mobile phones, especially amongst children and young people across the world. Social media plays a huge part in most young people's lives and can be a wonderful thing! However, it can lead to some upset and distress also, and we as responsible educators will do all that we can to protect our young people online. This week, there will be e-safety assemblies for the children and they will be taking part in special work in school. You can help by asking your children about their work and their online habits and looking at the resources and information on the saferinternet.org website or thinkuknow.co.uk - both websites are a wonderful source of advice and information for parents and children. *Please see overleaf for information about video games.*



Our Code of Conduct

Follow the Outwoods Way

At Outwoods we have a code of conduct called 'The Outwoods Way'. In school we want all our children to feel safe and happy. We expect good behaviour and good manners. **We** know you feel this is important too. The **majority** of our children do follow the school **rules** and are praised for doing so. When the rules are not followed the children have to **accept** the consequences. We are currently reviewing the policy, as we do every year, and we will be talking to the children and parents about the expectations and how we as a school can promote and reinforce positive behaviour.

We recognise that positive behaviour plays a key factor in establishing the best learning environment within our school and we expect all adults within our school community to support this. Adults should be good role models for the children and this includes parents and visitors to the school site. I am delighted to say that for the most part, this is the case. Please remember that when you are on our school playground, the code of conduct applies to everyone and that the school reserves the right to take action should the behaviour of any visitor on school premises breach the code of conduct. With this in mind can I please remind you that when you are on school premises, pre-school children are your responsibility and should not be allowed to run in and out of the building and into working areas? This is primarily to ensure everyone is kept safe. Thank you.



Video Games

Recently we have had a few incidents of boisterous play on the playground that have resulted in small accidents or the potential for children to get hurt. Often when we investigate these incidents, it has come to light that the children are re-enacting video games they play at home. Many of these games have an 18 rating or a PG rating and therefore are inappropriate games for the children to be playing. As a parent, I know how difficult it is to shield children from inappropriate content, and to know exactly what content there is in the most popular video games. Our children put pressure on us for these popular games and sometimes older brothers and sisters have them and allow their younger siblings to play them - it is difficult to monitor every game our children have. As responsible adults, it is our duty to ensure that children are protected from harm, and that includes exposure to inappropriate materials. Most people are aware that many computer and console games come with a PEGI age rating (Pan European Game Information.) Even with an age rating attached, parents/carers may want to know more about the content which can be found within a game that their child wants to play. The Internet Movie Database (www.imdb.com) is a huge website with information about everything to do with movies. It also contains information about many games, including a Parents' Guide which details some of the content which may be of concern. This helps parents/carers make a more informed decision about whether the game is appropriate or not. If your child does have a games console, I would advise you to explore the content of the games either by watching them play, or by looking on the recommended website. Thank you for your support on this matter.



Please Help!

Our Eco Club are collecting plastic milk containers -the 4 pint size. If you have any you could donate please wash them out and hand them in at the office. Thank you!

DISCO

There will be a 'Valentines' disco for all children on Thursday February 11th in the upper school hall.

Infants - 4:30 -6:00 pm

Juniors 6:30 - 8:00 pm



£2.50 on the door (to include tuck)

Children can bring more money if they want to spend in the tuck shop; friendship bracelets will also be on sale for £1 each.

All children must be collected promptly by a responsible adult.

Important Dates

- **Tuesday 9th February 9am -Meerkats class assembly**
- **Tuesday 9th February 1:15pm school closes early for Atherstone Ball Game**
- **Wednesday 10th February 9am - SATS meeting for Year 2 parents**
- **Wednesday 10th February 2:30 pm Parents Protective Behaviours Meeting**
- **Thursday 11th February 9am Sealion's Class Assembly**
- **Thursday 11th February DISCOS**
- **Friday 12th February - NON UNIFORM DAY**
- **Friday 12th February - school closes for half term**
- **Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day**
- **Thursday 3rd March -Nursery closed**
- **Tuesday 15th March Parents Evening**
- **Friday 18th March School closes for Easter**
- **Monday 4th April School reopens after Easter**



World Book Day -March

3rd

Our children look forward to World Book Day every year as we all dress up as characters from our favourite books. This year, to mark the 100th anniversary of the scouting movement we are having the theme of "The Jungle Book" as the scouts have used this as their theme since 1916. Perhaps you could help your child make an animal mask, or allow them to wear their favourite animal onesie? More details will follow.

