



MESSAGE FROM MRS LAVELLE

Wednesday 15th July 2020

As we come to the end of the Summer Term and academic year, I would like to say a massive thank you to all of our families for your amazing support, positive feedback and help in ensuring the new procedures in place run smoothly. You have kept us going through this difficult time and we really appreciate it.

As you will be too, I am so, so proud of our wonderful children who, whether back in school or still working at home, have demonstrated such a positive attitude, resilience and the ability to cope with change. I feel confident that when we return in September, our children will soon settle back in to the routines of school life and it will be lovely to see our classes back together again.

I am also very proud of our teaching and support staff members for the way they have risen to the challenge of a very different way of working, adapting to the new procedures and organization, working with different groups of children in addition to their usual classes and supporting children and families both in school and at home. Special thanks to our cleaning staff who have worked tirelessly to ensure that the very high standards of hygiene required in school are maintained and are now definitely ready for a break over the Summer! As are our brilliant office staff who have supported the running of the school so efficiently and have been there to answer calls and assist with any issues throughout this period.

The last pieces of news for this year are shared below. I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy Summer and I hope you are able to have time to relax as a family and enjoy some lovely summer activities. I will be sending an additional letter out this week to inform you of the organisation for September and will also provide any updates during the Summer as needed. Reports will be sent home today with children who are in school and also with the groups who are in tomorrow. Parents/carers of children at home can collect their child's report from the School Office tomorrow or Friday (9.30am to 2.30pm) or during the next two weeks between 9am and 4pm.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all of our children back in September and particularly our new Reception and Nursery children.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Lavelle

★ STAR AWARDS ★

The totals for my Friday Assembly on 10th July were:

Green = 12, Red = 9, Blue = 13, Yellow = 23

★ The final overall House Team Totals are now: ★

Red Team 130 + 9 = 139

Yellow Team 138 + 23 = 161

Green Team 118 + 12 = 130

Blue Team 111 + 13 = 124

So the **Yellow Team** are our winners for this year. A very big well done to all of you! Year 6 Yellow Team winners will each receive a gift voucher and in September, we will organise a yellow team non-uniform day and film afternoon with drinks and snacks!

GOODBYE TO MRS PRITCHARD

I would like to let you know that Mrs Pritchard will be leaving Ouston Primary School at the end of this academic year. Mrs Pritchard has worked as a Teaching Assistant at Ouston Junior School then the Primary School for 20 years and Durham County Council/Ouston for almost 30 years. I would like to thank her for her commitment and service to our school and community during this time. We will present her with some flowers from the children tomorrow and I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Pritchard all the very best for the future and her new adventures.

NEW BOILER & CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM

I am so pleased to inform you that we have been successful in a second bid for funding from the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF). This is to fully replace our boiler and central heating systems across the school. Work will be completed on this during the Summer Holidays, followed by a deep clean of each classroom.

FUNDRAISING

As we have not been able to hold our usual fundraising events such as the Easter and Summer Coffee Afternoons, I just wanted to let parents/carers that our school is now registered with Easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use Easyfundraising to shop with them - at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our Easyfundraising page at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/oustonprimary/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=gs-e1

Thank you so much!

MRS SCOTT'S CYCLE CHALLENGE



A reminder also of the treats that Mrs Scott's cycle ride has earned for the school in the Autumn Term. These are:



A Forest School Campfire Afternoon for each class



A Rainbows and Heroes Non-Uniform Day



A visit by the ice-cream van to each class (Year 6 are receiving this treat this week!)

AND FINALLY, FAREWELL YEAR 6



We had our first ever virtual Year 6 Leavers Assembly last night. A few technical hitches with streaming videos (!) but we were able to share the usual award ceremony and goodbye messages to year 6 and their families which was brilliant. Videos included a 'Year 6 Memories slideshow' and a very special performance of 'We go Together' from *Grease*. We have been able to show these videos to children in school and will send them to Year 6 parents/carers via Class Dojo- a lovely memory to keep of your child's last year in our school.

Our awards went to the following children:

- **Spirit of Ouston Award:** Imogen Mather
- **High Achiever Awards:** Henry Crane and Miley-Jo Wright
- **Brian Lowes Sports Award:** Lauren Gill
- **The Carley and Beth Cockburn Performer's Awards:** James Reay and Poppy Wake
- **Boys Football (Managers' Player of the Year):** Leighton Atkinson
- **Boys Football (Players' Player of the Year):** Zac Boddy

- **Girls Football (Managers' Player of the Year):** Lauren Gill
- **Girls Football (Players' Player of the Year):** Emmie Fenwick

All of Year 6 will be presented with a book tomorrow which they have chosen from the range of novels they have read during their time in Key Stage 2. These have been kindly provided by The Friends of Ouston Primary.

We are very proud of all of Year 6; they have had a very different Summer Term to the one originally planned but have coped with this with enthusiasm, humour and maturity. It has been brilliant to have all of Year 6 back together before the Summer holidays and I know they will have special memories of this very unusual but enjoyable finish to their time at Primary School. We wish them all the very best as they move to secondary schools in September where we know they will continue to demonstrate the spirit of Ouston Primary.

