



OUSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL: KEY DATES FOR PARENTS/CARERS 2023-24

Welcome to a new school year! I hope you have had a great Summer; it's been lovely to see the children return to school this week and to hear their holiday news. A big welcome also to our new Reception and Nursery pupils and new pupils who have joined classes across the school. To help you plan ahead, I thought it would be useful to inform you of key dates for the coming year. More details about these events will be given nearer the time. We will try to keep to these dates, however circumstances may alter our plans as we progress through the year and we will keep you informed of any changes. Please note that this year County Durham schools have been asked to take **four** training days within term time.

Our 'Welcome to the New School Year' meeting for parents/carers is on Monday 18th September from 5pm - 6pm. This gives you the opportunity to:

- meet your child's teacher
- hear about how the class have settled in so far
- find out about the work and topics your child will be covering this year
- find out about homework and organisation for the year ahead
- meet other parents/carers in your child's class (especially useful for new Reception/Nursery parents!)
- ask questions and discuss any areas of concern

Please note that this meeting is for parents/carers only ideally. Children should not attend wherever possible, unless you have no other childcare at this time. Let us know if you have any issues with this as we may be able to provide some places in our Kidz Club during the meeting.

We do advise that if you have two children in school, two parents/carers attend so that you can cover the meetings for both children (as these happen at the same time). If you have more than two children in school, you can still meet with your child's class teacher briefly following your first meeting and receive all the information needed.

Other reminders and information:

- If Year 5 and 6 pupils who walk home alone wish to bring a mobile phone into school, the sheet sent home this week should be completed by parents/carers and returned to school.

Children will be asked to come to school on their PE day in their PE kits. **Please note that we expect all children to wear the school PE uniform** which is a white t-shirt and black shorts or jogging bottoms. Class Teachers will let you know your child's PE day. Where children come to school in PE clothing that is not our PE uniform, we will contact you and ask you to bring their correct uniform to school.

It is really important that children continue to look smart and part of our school community on PE days also and do not stand out because they are wearing different items of clothing. It also removes the pressure to keep up with current trends/wear more expensive and/or designer items.

- A reminder about healthy packed lunches. Chocolate, sweets and fizzy/high sugar drinks **should not** be included in lunch boxes. Please try to include fruit and vegetables and keep crisps and biscuits/cakes to a minimum. We have children in school with nut allergies so please be vigilant and do not include nuts/nut products in packed lunches.
- Our drop off procedures seem to be going well as we begin the new term and children are getting used to their new routines. Collection times can be busy so please ensure that you are looking out for your child when the teacher brings them out and stand near to the collection area rather than at a distance. It is really difficult for teachers to spot parents/carers on a busy yard, particularly on rainy days with the added disguise of raincoats and umbrellas!
- Please ensure also, that children are supervised by parents/carers when waiting for older siblings to come out. Children should not be running around on the grass in front of my office and near the car park. They should also not be running onto the school fields. Children are not permitted to ride bikes/scooters within school grounds or use the Timber Trails before and after the school day.
- Please complete the Health/Medical Info sheet sent out as soon as possible and return to school.
- Children do not need to bring their own pencil cases and stationary into school. Individual pencil cases and pencils, rulers, pens etc are provided by us.
- Please note that pupil attendance is closely monitored and where this drops below the expected level, I will need to contact parents/carers to discuss this issue and how it can be resolved.
- Please ensure that children arrive at school on time, ready to start the school day by 8.55am. Once the doors close at 8.55am, parents/carers need to bring their children round to the main entrance and we will need to record your child as a late entry. Where our records show that this is a regular occurrence, I will need to contact parents/carers to discuss this issue and how it can be resolved.
- A reminder that earrings should not be worn in school. Where ears have only just been pierced and parents/carers feel they cannot be removed at this time, children will need to wear a plaster to cover these.
- The majority of our After School Clubs will start from October onwards. We will send an information leaflet out later this half term which gives details about the clubs that will be on offer for your child.

We are looking forward to another exciting and successful year. I'm sure our children will settle back into school really well and I will send a newsletter in the coming weeks with further information and news about school events so far. In the meantime, please contact us as usual if you have any questions or concerns.

Best Wishes, Mrs Lavelle

OUSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL: KEY DATES 2023-24

SEPTEMBER

4th : Training Day, School closed to pupils

5th : New Term starts

18th: New School Year meetings with parents, 5pm

28th and 29th : School Photographer

OCTOBER

9th: Book Fair Week

16th : Harvest Festival Week. Parents/carers may wish to send in donations with their child

20th: Year 3 Harvest Assembly 9.10am/EYFS/KS1 Harvest Assembly 2.30pm (Parents/Carers invited to these)

27th : Mr Storrar's Class Assembly and end of half-term

NOVEMBER

6th : Back to school

13th : KS1 and EYFS Parents Evening (2.30-5pm)

14th: KS1 and EYFS Parents Evening (3.30-6pm)

13th : Anti-Bullying Week. Theme- 'Make a Noise about Bullying'

17th: Friendship Friday - end of Anti-bullying week. Children may wear non-uniform if they wish - bright colours.

20th: KS2 Parents Evening (2.30-5pm)

21st : KS2 Parents Evening (3.30-6pm)

24th : Training Day - School closed to pupils

DECEMBER

1st : Christmas Lunch (children may wear Christmas jumpers, hats etc)

Tues 5th pm - KS2 Christmas Show (Y3/4 parents/carers)

Wed 6th pm - KS2 Christmas Show (Y5/6 parents/carers)

Thurs 7th pm - EYFS/KS1 Christmas show (EYFS parents/carers)

Fri 8th pm - EYFS/KS1 Christmas show (Y1/2 parents/carers)

11th: Christmas parties this week

19th : End of Term.

JANUARY

3rd : Training Day - School closed to pupils

4th: Start of Spring Term for pupils

FEBRUARY

6th : Safer Internet Day

16th : Miss Allen's Class Assembly at 9.10am, Mrs Baum's Class Assembly at 2.30pm and end of half term.

26th : Back to school

26th : One Britain Week

MARCH

4th : EYFS/KS1 Parents Evening, 2.30 -5pm

5th : EYFS/KS1 Parents Evening, 3.30 -6pm

7th : World Book Day

8th: Mothers'/Grandmas'/Aunties etc Breakfast

11th : KS2 Parents Evening, 2.30 -5pm

12th : KS2 Parents Evening, 3.30 -6pm

25th and 26th: Pupils decorate eggs in school

27th : Easter Coffee Afternoon & Performances for EYFS and KS2 Choir Parents/carers

28th : Mr Walsh's Class Assembly, 9.10 and Mrs Dadswell's Class Assembly 2.30pm. End of Term

APRIL

15th : Back to School

MAY

1st to 3rd : Year 5 at Residential, PGL Newbe Wiske

6th : May Day Bank Holiday

13th: Y6 SATS Week

24th : Miss Stebbings' Class Assembly at 9.10am, Mrs Exley's Class Assembly at 2.30pm and end of half term

JUNE

3rd: Back to school

3rd to 5th : Year 6 at Residential, PGL Ford Castle

3rd : Year 4 Multiplication Check within next two weeks

6th : New Reception Parents/Carers meeting, 5pm

10th : Science Week

10th: Year 1 Phonics Screening this week

14th Fathers'/Grandads'/Uncles etc Breakfast

20th : KS2 Sports Day pm

21st : Training Day - School closed to pupils

27th : KS1/Reception/Nursery Sports Day pm

JULY

8th : Careers and Enterprise Week

18th : Ouston Art Gallery and Cafe, 3.30-5pm (Mainly Year 2 and Year 6 pupil work displayed but all welcome!)

22nd : Year 5/6 Disco 4.45pm-6pm

22nd : Reports to Parents/Carers. EYFS Picnic pm (Alice in Wonderland 'Mad Hatter's' Tea Party theme) to share reports with parents/carers.

23rd : Y6 Leavers Assembly pm and **End of Term**