



Dear parents/carers

As we come to the end of another, rather short, half term I would like to thank you once again for your continued support for the school.

We really need to recruit some **parent governors** for the school. If you are interested please come and speak to myself, Mrs. Tindling or Ms. Harrison for more information.

We will be sending out expression of interest forms after half term so please do consider taking on this very interesting and rewarding role. The meetings are generally after school and fit in with working hours.

We have celebrated Lunar New Year this half term and you will see photographs in the newsletter.

**I would like to offer my sincere best wishes to all of our Turkish and Syrian families who have been affected by the terrible earthquake this week.**

I wish you all a very happy and restful half term break and look forward to working together again after the holiday.



Clare Barber  
Headteacher

## Year 1s Educational visit to the Gurdwara



Year 1 visited the Ramgarhia Sikh Gurdwara in West Ham as part of their learning on the major world religions. They showed respect for Sikh traditions by removing their shoes, covering their hair and washing their hands before entering the prayer room. The head priest talked about other Sikh traditions and answered children's questions, before they were given a snack and drink in the communal kitchen (the langar), where anyone from the community can go to eat.

## Meet our elected School Councillors!



Our school councillors from each year group were deliberating on how the moral compass is being practised in and out of Odessa School.

The school council discussed how children are using their inner moral compass to make good choices such as sharing and being kind to one another. The year 1 councillors, were celebrating how children are being Odessa superheroes by showing good manners and making good choices, such as saying please and thank you. Children were also using the 'Learning Powers' to promote independent learning. The year 2 councillors, were expressing how children are being 'Champions' by instilling the moral compass into others through compassion and being supportive. Children are helping their peers to finish their work when they are done and ensuring everyone has a friend to play with at playtime.

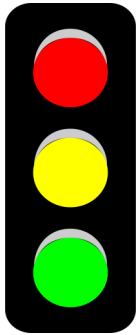


We are all 'Proud Peacocks' at Odessa Infant School.



## Attendance Matters

Let's see which class has the best percentage. The class with the highest receives certificates to celebrate.



Ms Tai class 1	85%
Mrs. La Ronde class 2	87%
Ms. Anwar class 3	100%
Mr Mineiro class 4	85%
Mr. Richards class 5	90%
Mrs. Codjoe class 6	90%



## Important Dates

- Monday 20th February - School reopens
- Friday 3rd March - World Book Day - dress as a story character day
- Wednesday 8th March - International Women's Day - coffee morning for all parents & carers
- Thursday 23rd of March - Parents Evening
- Thursday 30th of March - Autism Day
- Friday 31st March - School closes for Easter break
- Monday 17th April - School reopens



## Odessa Baby and Toddler Group

9.00—10.45  
every Friday

Come and play, meet new friends  
in a safe, happy environment.  
Tea, coffee and biscuits will be  
provided.

We appreciate a donation for this group -  
anything from 20p to £1 would be wel-  
comed. Thank you



At Odessa Infants School  
Wellington Road E7 9BY

## Stay & Play sessions in the EYFS

It has been great to see the return of our parent stay and play sessions in nursery and reception. The sessions have been well attended. The parents and carers have been working with their children and have had the opportunity to spend time learning more about active learning in the early years. Teachers have also used this time to share more information about the curriculum and phonics scheme.



## Attendance/Punctuality

Recently we have seen a dip in attendance, if your child does not have a fever or sickness/ diarrhoea they are fine to attend to school. At Odessa we have high expectations for attendance and punctuality and want to work with our families to ensure that all children arrive on time. Being late or missing school has a negative impact on their learning, causing gaps in knowledge which can slow academic progression. Lateness and absence is VERY unsettling for the children. Please do your best to get your children to school on time as well as attend every day. If your child has a runny nose or a minor cold please send them to school and we will monitor how they are. **The gates open at 8.45am.** If you are running late please let the office know.

If you are running late when collecting your child you must also let us know. If you do not inform us and we can't reach you or your emergency contacts this becomes a serious safeguard concern and we have to **report it to social services**. Not being collected on time is very distressing for children and we need you to work with us to ensure this does not happen. The government expectation for attendance is over 96% - let's work together to achieve this. Thank you.