



Dear parents and carers

As we come to the end of another term I would like to wish you all a very happy Easter break. For those families celebrating Easter I wish you a very happy and peaceful celebration with family and friends and for those currently in the middle of Ramadan I wish you all Ramadan Mubarak. This has been another very busy term with lots going on at school. Thank you for all your support over the last term and I look forward to seeing you in school next term for our summer activities.

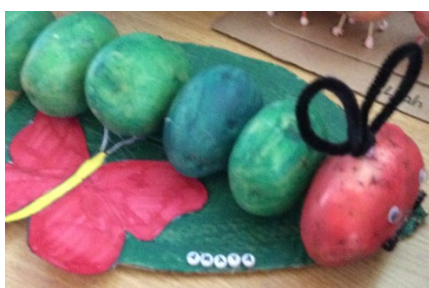
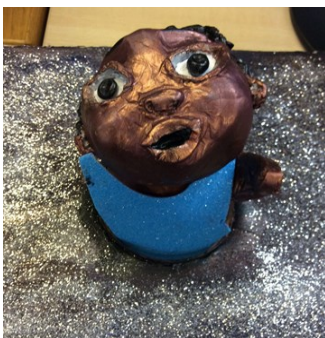
Thank you

Clare Barber
 Headteacher



World Book Day at Odessa

We had the most wonderful entries for the potato challenge! Children worked with their main carers to create story characters. Have a close look and see if you can recognise any of them. We celebrated everyone's entries during our World Book day assembly and the winners got to spend some time in the ball pool. Much fun was had.



World Book Day at Odessa

Here are our winners, they thoroughly enjoyed their time in the ball play! They rolled, jumped and dived in. A great way to get some physical fitness as well as socially engage with their peers.



Playing in a ball pit allows the children to strengthen their muscles. Throwing and rolling the balls supports their fine motor development. Ball pits are also a great activity for sensory play.

World Book Day at Odessa

The children also dressed up as book characters and told their teachers all about why they had chosen to come as them. The children took part in literacy based activities all day and had a cosy reading session in the hall with bean bags and a wide selection of stories that they shared with each other. Teachers also swapped classes for story time, which surprised the children greatly. World book day further embedded our love of reading at Odessa. Thank you to Mr. Mineiro our literacy leader for organising another successful world book day!



Art Week

The children had the opportunity to get even more creative during art week. They experimented and explored with colour. They also tried out different techniques for painting. Some children experimented with mixing colours using different medias and were in awe of some the effects that mixing has.



Autism Awareness Day

Autistic children are happy in their own way and some qualities of their personality are that they are honest, pay attention to details, passionate about their interests see patterns in their surroundings and everyone is unique. Mrs. Parvez our SENDCO held a workshop for parents to raise their awareness of intensive interactions and how sensory experiences are crucial to children's development and how these experiences improve language, physical skills and emotional well-being which in turn enables children to be regulated. Thank you to all the parents and carers that came and got involved. The whole school embraced what makes us unique and had the opportunity to make bubble blowers and use them to blow bubbles.



H- honest

A- attention to detail

P- passionate

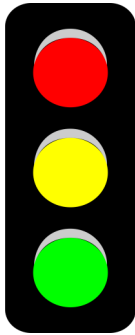
P - patterns

U- you and me are both unique



Attendance Matters

All classes need to improve their attendance. We understand that sometimes children may need time off of school if they have something like chicken pox, but a common cold is no reason to keep them home. We need to work together to improve our attendance as a school.



Ms Tai class 1	87%
Mrs. La Ronde class 2	85%
Ms. Anwar class 3	80%
Mr. Mineiro class 4	75%
Mr. Richards class 5	84%
Mrs. Codjoe class 6	79%



Important Dates

- Monday 17th April - school opens
- Monday 24th April - Science week at school
- Tuesday 26th April - Eid school dinner
- Friday 28th April - Eid assembly in the hall 2.45pm
- Monday 1st May - May day bank holiday (school is closed)
- Monday 8th May - The King's coronation bank holiday (school is closed)
- Friday 26th May - is the last day of school before the May half term break



Attendance/Punctuality

Recently we have seen a **significant** 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.



Easter & Ramadan

As you know some of us are celebrating Easter or Ramadan. So to mark both of these special celebrations we would like you to share the below video links with your children so they can learn more about these special times.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zyb4q6f/articles/zwkfp4j>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/23286976>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02mww94>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztkxp4/articles/z4t6rj6>

You could also make some of the following:



A good deed tree for Ramadan or a Ramadan lantern card.



A paper plate per plate Easter chocolate nests. To make the nests all you need is shredded wheat or cornflakes, melted chocolate and mini eggs to decorate. Method melt the chocolate, stir it into the cereal and decorate with eggs, spoon into cupcake cases and place in the fridge until set!

Easter Assembly

Thank you to everyone who came to watch the Easter performance. We are very proud of the children who had speaking parts. All the children worked hard to learn their songs. It was a pleasure to hear them sing. Their Easter bonnets looked great too!

