



Dear parents/carers

As we come to the end of our first half term after the summer break I would like to thank you all for your continued support for the school. You never cease to amaze me with your generosity, particularly at Harvest Festival time.

We have accomplished so much this half term and your children have been fantastic. They rise to all the challenges set to them in their learning and behaviour and they make us all so proud of their achievements.

I look forward to seeing you all after the half term break for lots of fun activities and events.
Have a lovely break

Clare Barber
Headteacher



Black History Month Home Project

The children have been learning about Black History Month in school this term. To further mark Black History Month we would like you to support your child at home by researching a historic black figure such as Rosa Parks or Martin Luther King. You could create a poster or fact file - be as creative as you like. You could even draw or paint a picture of them. This is an optional home school project but we would be delighted to see the children's projects after the half term break.

BBC Bite size has some easy to access information about Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks. Copy and paste the below link into a search engine on the internet.

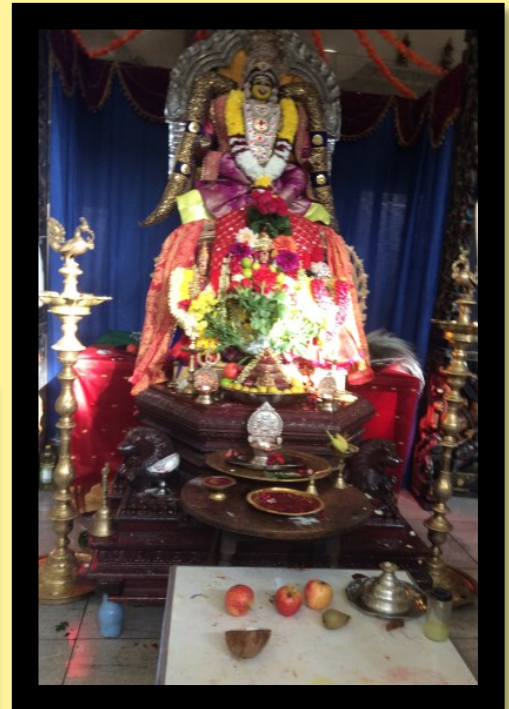
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zym3n9q>

There may be another black person you would like to research or your project could even be based on someone in your family? Up to you.



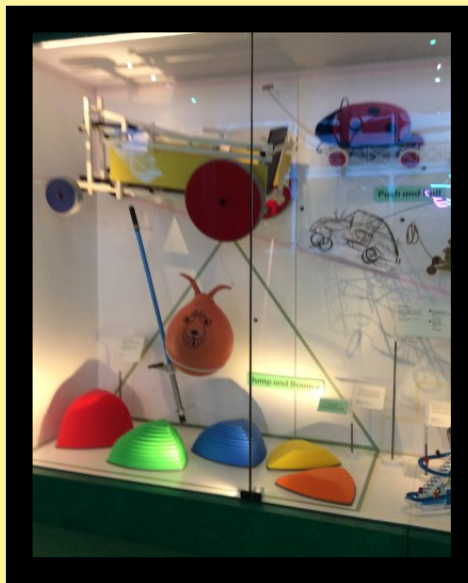
Sri Murugan Temple

Our year 2 classes had the opportunity to visit the Sri Murugan Temple in Manor Park, as part of their RE learning. At Odessa, every year group learns about the rich variety of religions as part of the agreed RE syllabus for Newham. The children demonstrated awe and wonder when looking at all the buildings fine features and statues in the temple. We were all welcomed and learned more about the Hindu faith.



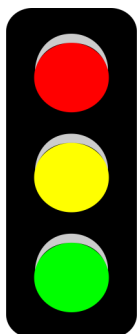
V&A Museum of Childhood

This term year 1 have been learning about old and new toys in History. They had the opportunity to visit the Museum of Childhood in Bethnal Green. They physically explored old and new toys. The children demonstrated curiosity in the toys that they saw and interacted with them, asking questions in order to learn more about them. They used their imaginations to construct some very interesting models using large blocks and could not wait to get on the stage to perform!



Attendance Matters

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



Bonsai Class - Mr. Brace	86%
Palm Class - Mrs. Tai	93%
Oak Class - Mr. Richards	90%
Maple Class - Mrs. Reshma	88%
Cherry Class - Ms. Anwar	92%
Maple Class - Mr. Mineiro	88%



Important Dates

- Monday 6th November - School opens
- Tuesday 14th November - Year 2 visit to the Brunel Museum - volunteers needed
- Friday 17th November - Children In Need Charity more details will be sent out nearer to the date
- Friday 17th November - Year 1 & 2 Diwali Assembly at 2.45pm in the hall
- Monday 20th November - International men's day parent & carer coffee morning (all welcome)
- Thursday 23rd November - Parents Evening. Appointment slots will be circulated nearer to the date
- Thursday 30th November - Year 2 Natural History Museum visit - volunteers needed
- Friday 8th December - Christmas Jumper Day. £1 donation towards the charity 'Save the Children'
- Wednesday 13th December - Year 1 & 2 Christmas Disco
- Friday 15th December - Christmas assembly in the afternoon at 2.30pm



Parent Teacher Association - PTA

We would like to start a PTA named Friends of Odessa for staff and parents/carers. You will be receiving a Google survey via email to find out if you would like to be part of this group. More information can be found when you open the survey.

Show Racism the Red Card

Thank you to all the families that ensured their children wore red today to show Racism the Red Card. We were blown away by the amount of staff and children that showed their support for this crucial campaign. It is truly fantastic to see our school community come together and unite against racism.



SHOW
RACISM
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RED
CARD



Internet Safety

As the half term break approaches we would like families to take this time to give more consideration on how to keep their children safe when online. Most children have access to vast variety of gaming devices and access to the internet and it for this reason we as adults need to be aware of how to keep them safe when online. Please take the time to access the below websites for some useful information for you and your children. Internet Matters has a section (see the link below) all about Roblox - this is a very popular online gaming platform but is vast with many opportunities for children to interact with strangers online. The video explains how to restrict access to certain features of Roblox to ensure age appropriate material is accessed.

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children - NSPCC

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

internetmatters.org

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/parents-guide-to-roblox-and-how-your-kids-can-play-it-safely/>

Hello Yellow

We marked Hello Yellow day in aid of raising awareness of children's mental health by dressing in yellow. It was a sunny day and having all the children and staff wear something yellow it really brightened up everyone's day! We raised £78 pounds for the Young Minds charity, which do lot's amazing work for children's mental health.



Any Updates

Please make sure your contact details are up to date, such as phone numbers, home address or email address by informing the office.



Healthy Packed Lunch

We have noticed quite a few chocolate snacks and juices are in packed lunches. As a school we do encourage all children to have a school lunch. But if you do choose to send your child to school with a packed lunch - it **MUST be a healthy lunch**. It could be rice, vegetables and fruit or something else home made. But we insist that water is the only drink they bring and that you please avoid putting chocolate and crisps in their lunch. On Fridays as a treat they can bring a packet of crisps or a snack bar. We will be monitoring the lunches closely over the coming weeks. Thank you for your support.



Spare Clothing

We would really appreciate any donations of clothing such as underwear, jogging bottoms, jumpers etc. Please bring them to the office. Many thanks

Who Can I contact if I have any concerns?

If you have any concerns that you do not feel the class teachers can assist you with please contact a member of our senior leadership team: The Head Teacher - Mrs. Barber or the Deputy Head Teacher - Mrs. Tindling. You can email parents@odessa.newham.sch.uk or call the school office to make an appointment.