

King Offa Primary Academy Newsletter ~ March 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Many thanks to all of you who completed the surveys we sent out earlier this term. On pages two and three you will find the full results and our response to feedback that we received. We will always be working hard to make King Offa the best school possible but it is important that we also reflect on the hard work of the whole staff team and the incredibly positive feedback that you gave us. Many thanks for taking the time to complete the surveys and reminding us what we do well!

We have welcomed many visitors into school this term and are always pleased when they compliment our children for being hard working and polite. The musicians who visited us for assembly this week were no exception and they praised the children for their great

listening skills and willingness to join in with the music. If your child is interested in learning to play an instrument please look out for the information in this newsletter.

Please can I ask that you make every effort to get your child to school on time every day. On one day this term we had thirty four children arrive late. This makes starting the school day difficult for them because they will have missed important information at the start of the day and their arrival may disturb the learning of other pupils. The school gates open at 8:30, the main doors at 8:35 and pupils need to be in class by 8:45 in order to be marked in the register. Thanks for your help with this.

James Freeston - *Headteacher*



Learn to Play an Instrument at King Offa

All children at school benefit from a great variety within their music lessons and all pupils have the chance to play different instruments throughout their time at King Offa. If your child is interested in taking this a step further we are delighted to be able to offer tuition with specialist music teachers from Sussex Music School. Sussex Music School provide one to one or paired tuition in keyboard, guitar and violin. Other instruments may also be available on request. Half hour lessons cost £10 each and take place during the school day. For more information please visit www.sussexmusicschool.com and follow the school link to find out more.



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Parent Survey Results 2017

Thank you to all the families who completed the surveys we sent out earlier this term. Your feedback is really important to us and we have read every comment and shared these with staff. Below you will see the results of the surveys and our responses to the comments that were made. We were overwhelmed by the positive comments and are very grateful for the time that you have taken to tell us what we are doing well. Where there are areas we can improve upon please be assured that we will do all we can to address any issues raised. Don't forget that Mr Freeston and Mr Laker are available every morning before school and are always happy to speak with you.

	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree
Overall I am happy with my child's experience at King Offa Academy	93%	6%	1%
I am happy with the quality of teaching	96%	2%	2%
Communication from the academy is good	90%	9%	1%
My child enjoys the Paragon Curriculum	95%	3%	2%
I value the Paragon celebration events	94%	5%	1%
The leadership of the academy is good	95%	3%	2%
My child feels safe at King Offa	92%	5%	3%
My child enjoys school	91%	6%	3%
Behaviour at King Offa is good and well managed	89%	9%	2%

"I am very happy with the quality of the teaching and friendliness of the staff. Thank you for making my child's experience at school a happy one"

"I recommend this school to all my friends and family. I am so happy with the progress my son has made"

"No complaints from us. We are very impressed with how well Mr Freeston and Mr Laker have improved the school and how much they genuinely care for the children. We believe it is the best school in the town"

"There is a very caring atmosphere within the school. The staff from lollipop lady, receptionists, TA's, teachers and Headteacher are a fantastic bunch"

"We are fantastically pleased we chose King Offa for our child. We particularly like the opportunities for parental involvement, such as cooking classes and coming in for family breakfast"

You Said – We Did

You Said	We Did
<p>“Letters that need returning for trips are sent out far too late”</p>	<p>We had a few comments regarding the short notice given for some school events, particularly when pupils go on school trips. We have looked at the systems we have to make sure that we can give much more notice and staff have been working on their annual curriculum maps so that we are more organised in our planning. This is a really important area for us and we will improve!</p>
<p>“I don’t receive all newsletters or attendance certificates”</p> <p>“I don’t always get letters. Email would be better”</p>	<p>We use email and texting as our preferred method of communicating with you. It is quicker and cheaper than printing paper copies. This only works if we have the correct contact information for you and we keep databases up to date. Please let the office know if you change your mobile number or email address and tell us if you’re not receiving communications.</p>
<p>“I think the attendance certificates need looking at. Children shouldn’t be penalised for hospital appointments or being ill”</p>	<p>This is always a difficult balance to strike and we try to exercise discretion when we know pupils are genuinely ill. However the facts around attendance are clear. The number of days off from pupils at King Offa was significantly higher than schools nationally last year and this means that pupils were missing learning time. Please help us by getting your children in to school unless they are genuinely unwell and don’t take holidays during term time.</p>
<p>“Children’s language on the playground is poor and the little ones copy the older ones”</p>	<p>Bad language is not tolerated at school and when it is heard it is never ignored. Pupils never hear bad language from adults at school. We need help from all our families in reminding our pupils of what is OK and what is not acceptable. If you have a particular concern please speak to your child’s teacher.</p>
<p>“As a working parent I really do struggle getting to Paragon events, join in with a lesson and all the Christmas events.”</p>	<p>We understand this and do whatever we can to help share school events with parents who can’t attend. We often video events and share these when possible. If there is anything else we can do to help working parents feel involved please let us know.</p>
<p>“The surface of the pavement outside the reception gate is very bumpy and dangerous”</p>	<p>We are aware of this and have contacted East Sussex County Council asking them to help fix the problem. They were unclear about who owned the land and whose responsibility it was. We’re pleased to say that this week East Sussex County Council have agreed to make the necessary repairs.</p>



Remember to check out our Facebook page and 'like' it. You will then see any updates we make. You do not need to have a Facebook account to view our page - just search for

'Facebook King Offa Primary Academy'.



KEY DATES 2017

Friday 31st March	Last Day of Term 4
Tuesday 18th April	Children Return for First Day of Term 5
Monday 1st May	Friday Dancers performing at May Day Celebrations Barrack Hall Park, Bexhill Old Town
Monday 8th - Friday 12th May	Year 6 SATs Week
Wednesday 17th May	Years 3 & 4 Cooking with Mr Broccoli
Friday 26th May	Last Day of Term 5
Monday 5th June	Children Return for First Day of Term 6
Friday 9th June	INSET Day
Friday 23rd June	Year 5 Fun Day at Bexhill Academy
Wednesday 28th June	Paragon Spectacular at White Rock Theatre, All Yr 6 children and selected others (details at a later date)
Tuesday 27th - Friday 30th June	Year 5 Blackland Farm Activity Week
Monday 3rd - Friday 7th July	Year 6 London Trip
Wednesday 12th July	Sports Day - KS1 am, KS2 pm (exact times to be confirmed)
Thursday 13th- Friday 14th July	Year 6 Taster Days at Bexhill Academy
Thursday 20th July	Last Day of Term 6

New Phone Number? Moved house?

If you have changed any of your contact details recently please complete the form below and return to the office. Thank you.

Child's name and class:

Address:

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Phone Email:

Mobile: