

King Offa Primary Academy Newsletter ~ October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

The summer holidays certainly seem like a distant memory! In the seven weeks that the children have been back in school they have settled in extremely well and are enjoying being in their new classes. Teachers have quickly got to know their new children and looking through children's books you can see the great progress that they are making.

This term we have received the progress data for our Year Six pupils who left at the end of last year. You can find a full report on this on page two. The results show that King Offa is in the top twenty percent of schools nationally for the progress pupils make in reading and writing and the top ten percent for maths. These outcomes

are a real cause for celebration and show how skilled the teachers are and how hard our pupils work. Well done to all of you!

On page three you will find information about the key areas that we will be working on this year to continue improving King Offa and what the school has to offer. You should have received a parent survey this week. We really value your feedback and hope you can find time to complete one. If it hasn't made its way home please ask for a copy at the school office.

Enjoy the break,

James Freeston - *Headteacher*



Champions!

Last Friday our football team won the Bexhill inter-schools competition. The whole team played brilliantly but special praise must go to Lewis Mincher for an outstanding performance and super sportsmanship. Mrs Harman reported that the whole team were a real credit to the school and competed fiercely but with great attitudes and fair play. Huge thanks to Mrs Harman for organising the team and ensuring we could take part in the competition. Pictured below are our winning team alongside a photo of the King Offa team from 1923-24 that we found in our archives. It's interesting to see that despite the modern and fast paced world we live in some things stay the same!



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Amazing Progress

The Department of Education reports on the progress of pupils in all schools in England. They compare the SAT's score that a child got at the end of Key Stage One with the score they get at the end of Key Stage Two. Each child is then awarded a score. If this score is 0 it means that the child has made the same rate of progress as pupils do nationally. In other words they haven't done better or worse than other pupils. If it is a positive number it means that pupils have made more than the average rate of progress and if it is a negative they have made less. The tables below show the rates of progress for pupils at King Offa:

Subject	Progress Score	National Comparison
Reading	+3.31	Above national average
Writing	+2.36	Above national average
Maths	+3.76	Well above national average

We are delighted with these results and so pleased that they recognise the skill and hard work of the teaching staff and the focus and dedication of the pupils.

Paragon Fun

Thank you to everyone who has managed to attend this week's Paragon events and for the support you give at home in helping with the children's projects.



2017 – 2018 Areas for Development

Every year we reflect on the achievements of the school, identify any challenges that we have faced and plan which areas we will focus on for the next school year. This is then written up as the School Development Plan and shared with the school community so that we can work together to achieve the aims. Below are the areas for focus for this year, why they have been chosen and what we will do to ensure we are successful in achieving our aims.

Goal	Why?	How?
<i>To increase the number of pupils working at 'greater depth'.</i>	Assessment data shows that pupils at King Offa make great progress and reach expected levels of attainment but we want to ensure that pupils achieve the highest possible standards.	Training for teachers in making sure that they have the skills and resources to help pupils achieve the highest standards.
<i>To continue to develop 'Talk for Writing' so that English lessons are fun, challenging and purposeful.</i>	The Primary Writing Project training that staff have had has really impacted on the quality of pupils writing and the enjoyment they show in English lessons. We want to continue to focus on this.	All school staff will receive regular training this year from the school 'Primary Writing Team' and from our local lead school.
<i>To continue to improve the curriculum.</i>	The school curriculum is what children learn and experience throughout their time at King Offa and they deserve for it to be amazing. We have worked hard on our English and maths curriculums but now want to ensure that the wider curriculum is just as good.	Subject leaders will continue to develop the curriculum plans for their subjects. Class teachers will have support in planning great lessons. The curriculum will be enhanced in a number of ways. For example Mrs Andrews has just completed her 'Beach School Leader' training and this will be added into the curriculum.
<i>To increase the support for children and their families.</i>	We know that finding support when things are tough is a challenge for some parents and we want to be able to support families as much as possible.	Increasing the number of support services to parents. For example the Triple P parenting programme and helping to signpost families to outside support.



Focusing on making sure that we continue to provide an excellent curriculum will be a key area for development this year.



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 - 2018

Wednesday 8 th November	Flu Vaccination Reception-Year 4
Wednesday 8 th November	New Reception Open Session 9.30-10.30am
Thursday 9 th November	New Reception Open Session 5.00-6.00pm
Friday 10 th November	INSET Day
Thursday 7 th December	Year 6 Big Sing (details to follow)
Wednesday 20 th December	Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 20 th December	Last Day of Term 2
Wednesday 3 rd January	Children Return for First Day of Term 3
Friday 5 th - Thursday 11 th January	Book Fair
Friday 2 nd February	INSET Day
Wednesday 3 rd January	Children Return for First Day of Term 3
Friday 5 th - Thursday 11 th January	Book Fair
Friday 2 nd February	INSET Day
w/b Monday 5 th February	Paragon Events (details to follow)
Friday 9 th February	Last Day of Term 3

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: