



Olney Middle School

Yardley Road, Olney, Bucks. MK46 5DZ

Telephone : 01234 711323

Fax: 01234 714389

Email: office@olneymiddle.milton-keynes.sch.uk

www.olneymiddle.milton-keynes.sch.uk

a *CARING* school

Headteacher: Mr Glenn Young

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you have all had a lovely Summer break, and it was a pleasure to see so many of you this morning.

The start of a new year brings together many exciting elements that make a School a fantastic place to be, and I would like to take this opportunity to update you on a few things.

Welcome

Can I firstly take the opportunity to welcome all the new pupils and parents from Year 3 to OMS. I hope you have a great journey with us, and I and the rest of the team look forward to working with you over the coming years.

I also welcome pupils and parents that have joined us in other year groups, and we equally look forward to working with you over the coming years.

At the start of a new year we also welcome new members of staff and I am sure you will join me in making their start to the School as enjoyable as it can be.

We welcome Miss Sapwell who is joining the teaching team in Year 3, Miss Sheaf who will also be in Year 3 training. In our kitchen team we welcome Mrs Mortlock and Mrs Matthews, and finally Mrs Eldridge into our office team. Mrs Collyer will be continuing with her role as our PE teaching assistant, but will also be in the office on a Monday and Tuesday.

Please note also that Miss Bingley has changed her name, and has become Miss Circuit.

Pupils Learning Information

This week, each year group will send out a newsletter informing you not just of the topics that will be covered this term but also homework expectations, PE days, and other relevant year team specific information. Curriculum maps and other useful information are also available on the website.

As mentioned last year, this week marks the launch of our new curriculum, so please look out for all the key information. It is an exciting time for us, and I hope the information gives you a clear picture of the learning journey of your child.



Inspiring Futures
Through Learning

This year, the children at OMS will be learning spellings in a slightly different way. In order to improve the children's ability to apply the spelling rules they are learning in class, we are going to investigate spellings more closely. Every week, each year group will be learning a spelling pattern, rule or convention in classrooms. They will investigate ways of spelling different sounds, and come up with rules and exceptions. This is a continuation of the way spelling has previously been taught, but will have more emphasis on the different ways we spell the sounds in words and breaking down words to hear the correct sounds. The main difference is that children will not bring home a list of spellings to be tested on each week. They will be tested on a rule, pattern or convention from a random selection of words. This is so that we can really see if the children understand the rule, rather than just learning words by rote. Your child will still have spelling activities to complete at home each week, as part of their homework. If you have any questions about the words or spellings, please do not hesitate to speak to your class teacher.

School Contact and Social Media

Communication between parents and school is vital to the success and development of your children. We are so pleased with the uptake we have had with the online services that allow us to send you email copies of school letters. We have also begun to use social networking to allow you collect electronic copies of letters from both twitter and Facebook. We will also bring other news items to your attention this way. We hope you will 'like' us and 'follow' us - however to communicate with us, especially about your children, please use the telephone or email as usual this year.

<https://twitter.com/olneymiddle> | <https://www.facebook.com/OlneyMiddleSchool>

We are also pleased to send home our planners- this will be another form of communication and will allow pupils to record homework and expectations. Please take time to go through the planner, and sign the Home School Agreement and ICT Agreement.

Uniform

It has been lovely to see all the smartly dressed pupils coming to school, and I would like to politely remind you of a few things. All uniform should be as per the school's policy: shoes should be black leather shoes and not trainers, and long hair must be tied back (I wish I had that problem!). The expectation of PE Ready is that pupils come in dressed in their PE kit as smartly as when they are in the classroom with similar expectations. Please note uniform can now also be purchased at Maisies in Wolverton as well as online at Price and Buckland. PE lessons will be recorded in the planners, and will be available on both the year specific newsletter and website each term to avoid any confusion.

For your reference I have also included them here:



Monday - 4RH/4TB, 5AP/NK, 6KT/LC
Tuesday - 3AS/3LC, 4HH/4KD, 6CF/6JH
Wednesday - 3LG/3RS, 5HB/5NRA, 6CL/6KT
Thursday - 3AS/3LC, 5AP/5NK, 6CF/6JH
Friday - 3G/3RS, all of Year 4, 5HB/NRA

Should you have any queries about PE ready, please communicate directly with your child's class teacher.

We also politely request, that following a significant increase last year, should children for comfort need to bring a toy into school for playtimes, it should be one small toy that can fit in their pocket. We politely request that trading cards and putty are not brought to school because of the potential issues they may cause. Thank you for your understanding.

School Photographs

Our Photographer will be taking pupil photos on Monday 24th September as normal and we would request that anyone wishing to have a family photo with siblings from the Infant Academy or Secondary schools, please arrive at the hall for 8.30am for your photo to be taken. PUPILS WILL BE EXPECTED TO BE IN SCHOOL UNIFORM AND NOT PE KIT (PE lessons will be amended for this day and the year groups will be updated on any further details).

Clubs

Clubs start next week- should you need further details or require a place-please contact the office.

Parent Pay

Thank you to all those who have logged on to Parent Pay- I hope everyone who has needed to has managed to order lunches etc- should you need any assistance, the office are more than happy to help. As the school year rolls forward, we will be looking into using Parent Pay more, so if you have not yet registered, it may be worth doing so as trips, consent forms and other events will be completed eventually through the system.

And finally I very much look forward to working with you in the coming year; as ever I aim to be on the playground or at the front of school before and after school and I always welcome the opportunity to discuss the school with you.

Best wishes

Mr Glenn Young

Headteacher

