



Olney Middle School

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a *CARING* school

Headteacher: Mr Glenn Young

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well and have had a good weekend. It was wonderful last week to see the children settled back into the school routines and enjoying their learning and having the clubs up and running again. I have to admit, for me, this was put slightly out of kilter with teaching PE to a dinosaur on Friday morning, but the beauty of working in a school is that every day is different!

Term Dates

This week it has come to our attention that the term dates for Ousedale next year are different to the MK Council published dates for February half term and Easter. As an Academy, and part of IfTL, our dates (and Olney Infant Academy) are set by the Trust. We usually (like all MK schools) are in line with Milton Keynes Council, however, it is important as a feeder school to follow the Secondary school, and as such we, in agreement with IFTL, have moved our dates to be in line with Ousedale. I appreciate that this for the majority may be a significant relief and for others, may cause a problem. Please don't panic about this, we will happily work with you in the run up to February 2022.

Self-Isolation

Please can I remind you that if you or any family member starts to display symptoms, you should follow the national guidance of self-isolating immediately, and book in for a test. We, as a school, are doing all we can to stop the transmission, but it is important that self-isolation takes place immediately and not to wait for the positive test result before acting. In other schools, not following the guidance has already caused the closure of bubbles, and we are desperate to keep the children in school as much as possible.

Red Nose Day

It was fantastic to see all the children dressed up as rock stars (and dinosaurs!) to relaunch TTRockStars as part of Red Nose Day. The children enjoyed watching the battles between children in each year group which culminated in a fantastic final. Well done to all the children who took part and in particular, the children who represented their class and Miss Kent for organising the day.



Inspiring Futures
Through Learning

Clap for unsung Heroes

Tuesday marks a year since we first opened as a key worker provision and life changed for schools dramatically over the year. As we believe this is a moment in history that we don't want to go unmarked we have decided to recognise it in the following way.

At 11.00am on Tuesday, we will take all the children onto the playground, socially distanced, for a minute silence followed by a clap for all the unsung Heroes within schools and the wider community. In addition to this, all the children will make a mask to wear during the clap. The event will be filmed and/or photographs taken, so if you do not wish for your child to be identified, please let your child's teacher know.

Arrival times

Please can I remind you that the doors open from 8:20am for the children to come straight into school. They close again at 8:45am. This is to ensure that the children do not gather on the playground before school and to keep their bubbles secure. There is no reason to be on school playground before this time.

Safety

Unfortunately, last week, outside of school, whilst waiting at the traffic lights to cross the road there was an incident where a child was bitten on the arm by a dog. Although this is a rare occurrence, please can I ask that if you are walking your dog that they are kept under control to avoid this happening again. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

And finally

As we begin the last week of term before the Easter holidays, I look forward to seeing what the pupils can achieve. Although they are tired - they have been amazing!

As ever, should you need anything, please do not hesitate to contact us at school,

Best wishes

Glenn Young

