^{31st} January 2022 Headteacher's Monthly Newsletter

Twitter:@OutwoodPriSch

www.outwood.stockport.sch.uk

General information:

<u>Wrap around care bookings</u> As Plan B restrictions are lifted in England, will you be returning to your place of work? Don't forget we

offer a good quality Breakfast Club and After School Club at an affordable price. If you would like to book a place at either club, please make sure that you have booked a place on ParentPay in advance as places are limited!

Places need to be booked by Thursday to secure a place for the following week. You can make block bookings too. We also accept Childcare vouchers and Government Tax Free Credits. After School Club—£6.00 per session

Breakfast Club—£3.50 per session

<u>Attendance</u>

Attendance so far this year stands at 92% which is much lower than pre Covid times. We understand that sometimes children will be absent due to sickness however we do not want any of our children to miss any valuable learning time as they have missed so much already. The class attendance figures this year so far is:

FS2:	95.9%
Year 1:	89.1%
Year 2:	94.9%
Year 3:	84.9%
Year 4:	89%
Year 5:	90.3%
Year 6:	89.2%

Please remember that if your child is unable to attend school for any reason that you must inform the school office by 9am.



We care, we learn, we grow

Kung Hei Fat Choy!

As we move into the year of the tiger it has already been a month since we entered 2022! Each class has introduced their new topics in very creative ways. In EYFS they have a magic story box, Year 1 and 2 have been out in our local community researching what has changed over time, Year 3 and 4 sailed off in their Viking ship and Year 5 and 6 found out that the wolf wasn't as guilty as they thought when they found themselves in the middle of a scary crime scene. After investigating the clues, the children realised we were at the crime scene of the three little pigs! The children certainly haven't wasted anytime during this short term, please have a look at our Twitter account so see some photos of the exciting learning that has taken place.

Animals take over EYFS!



The EYFS children had a visit last week from Animals Takeover. They learnt all about rainforest animals including finding out about their special features. Did you know Millie the millipede had over 260 legs? And snakes smell using their tongue. It was a fantastic learning experience for the children as they got so close and handled so many different creatures.

Outwood's achievements

Please look at our Twitter feed and class pages of our school website to see photographs of exciting events that are taking place at Outwood. You'll find us at <u>https://twitter.com/</u> <u>Outwoodprisch or @OutwoodPriSch</u>

Stockport's Mayor Congratulates Year 6



The Year 6 children of Outwood Primary School were each given the challenge of taking £2 and using it to make the maximum amount of money, with the profits being given to the Sector 3 charity. The winning child raised £224 and, altogether the children raised over £1,000. The Mayor of Stockport visited the school to congratulate them on their fantastic results.

Year 4 visit Lowes Farm and Peover Hall

Year 4 enjoyed their trip to Lowes farm and Peover Hall this term. At the farm the children learnt about the importance of farm to fork and eating locally grown, seasonal vegetables. They learnt about the carbon footprint that importing food can create and also the massive importance of animal welfare. They also visited Peover Hall where they experienced dining in a great hall that dated back to medieval times!

Covid-19 Update

At present, the number of positive cases in our school community remains low at 4%. We know, however, that this is an ever-changing picture therefore we are continuing with these measures to help keep everyone safe:

- Phase bubbles staggered breaks / lunchtimes
- Ventilated classrooms
- Regular cleaning throughout the day
- Online assemblies

These will be reviewed after the half term break.

Here is some information about activities and support available over the half term break



Holiday Support Vouchers

Stockport Council are pleased to announce that families of school-age children who are eligible for income-based Free School Meals and those in early years with equivalent eligibility, will receive vouchers to the value of **£60 per eligible child** to help with the cost of food, essential utilities and other essential living costs this February half term and Easter holiday.

Please note, vouchers received at February half term cover both February half term and the Easter holiday.

Families do not need to do anything to apply and will automatically receive a voucher for any child for who they have claimed income-based free school meals. Vouchers will only be sent to families who had a claim on or before 24 January 2022.

For families where the council holds an email address, will receive an electronic voucher via the Post Office. For those where the council does not hold an email address, will be sent an Aldi supermarket voucher in the post.

Vouchers will be sent out **from 9 February 2022**. The council will send an email directly to families to notify them once the vouchers have been issued.

Email vouchers will be valid for **3 weeks** from the date of the email.

If you are eligible but have not received your voucher by 11 February 2022, be sure to check your spam/junk folders. If you still cannot find your voucher, visit www.stockport.gov.uk/free-school-meals/holiday-support-voucher for more information. The webpage also has suggestions and tips for finding, opening and redeeming your voucher.

Other support available:

Holiday Activities

Over the Easter holiday, there will be free and fun holiday activities and food for school-age children who are in receipt of means tested free school meals. To find out more visit: https://www.stockport.gov.uk/haf. If you need help to find information or to sign up for clubs and activities, please email HAF@stockport.gov.uk.

Your Local Pantry scheme

The 'Your Local Pantry' scheme by Stockport Homes Group helps people access affordable food from 5 locations across the borough. Memberships range from standard (£3.50 per week) to family (£6.50 per week). In return members can select up to 10 items with a standard membership or up to 20 items with a family membership. Members can select from a range of non-perishable items, fresh fruit and vegetables, as well as chilled and frozen items. During February half term, there will be more support for Pantry members across the 5 Stockport locations. For more information, please follow the Your Local Pantry Facebook pages or visit www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk.

Stockport Council Support Fund

If you're a Stockport resident, you can apply to Support Funds for help such as a food bank referral; help to find items that you may need in your home (cooker, fridge, washing machine); gas and electricity top up for prepaid meters; help paying your Council Tax; payment of a shortfall in rent; or help to apply to a charity or trust fund. For more information and to apply for help visit: <u>https://www.stockport.gov.uk/financial-support-in-a-crisis</u>.

Advice and Support

Additional support and advice can be found at: <u>https://www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/money-advice-and-support-</u> <u>coronavirus</u>

Healthy Start Vouchers

Families who have a child under the age of 4 or are pregnant, you may also be eligible for further support through the NHS Healthy Start Scheme. More information can be found at <u>www.healthystart.nhs.uk</u>. You can also ask a midwife or health visitor for help or phone the Healthy Start helpline on 0345 607 6823.

Foodbanks

To request a food bank referral, contact Stockport Citizens Advice on 0808 278 7803.

Stockport Council Welfare Rights Team

A team of experienced specialist advisers can represent you at benefits appeals or if you have a problem with your benefits. For more information, visit: <u>https://www.stockport.gov.uk/help-with-benefit-appeals</u>. If you need any help completing the form, you can contact the Welfare Rights Team by email at <u>welfare.rights@stockport.gov.uk</u> or by calling 0161 217 6003.

If you need help getting online, contact the DigiKnow Helpline on 07537 127095.