



17th February 2023

NEWS FROM...

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

Happy half term!

We have had such a busy half term that we can't believe we are already at the end of it! Thank you for all of your support with the events that have taken place since Christmas—we were delighted that parents were able to join us for **Number Day** to share how they use Maths in their work and daily life and to those who came along to the **Winning With Numbers** workshop. We hope that you have all managed to get to grips with Winning With Numbers—we understand that there have been a few glitches with the app, please email any queries or questions directly to the WWN team, who will be happy to help. Please encourage and support your child to go on **every day for at least 10 minutes**—little and often is the best way for them to consolidate their key maths knowledge.

We took part in **Online Safety Day** earlier this month and the NSPCC came into school to deliver workshops to the children. Please see our latest online safety newsletter for support and guidance to keep your child safe online.

At the moment, all classes are busy getting their reading corners ready for the **World Book Day** competition that we are holding in school—we will be asking parents to vote for their favourite area on WBD. See page 3 of the letter for more details about our WBD activities.



This week our Year 1/2 children visited Rickleton Primary to take part in the music festival, *Infantasia*—it was the first time that many of the children had taken part in a school trip and they all had a wonderful time. Apologies for the miscommunication about the return bus times—we will ensure that these issues are ironed out for future visits. 😊



Thank you to Seurat who led our liturgical prayer on Friday—the theme for their liturgy was *Journeys*. They reminded us that God is always with us on our journey through life. This followed on from our whole school worship on Tuesday where our mission was to share Jesus' love with those we meet on our journey to make our world a better place.



After the holidays, we will begin our Lenten journey in school. Children and staff will all have a 'prayer partner' who they will try to do little acts of kindness for and pray for during Lent. Before we break up for the Easter holiday, prayer partners will make a little card which will be presented to the partner, along with a small treat (which the school will provide) revealing who has been praying for them. We hope that this will encourage us to *do more for others* during Lent just as Jesus sacrificed himself for us on the cross. ✚

Wishing you all a happy half term, *J McGill*

WE ARE LIVE!

We now have a new, improved and up to date website—hurrah!!!
Please visit us at: www.olqoprprimary.org.uk





THANK YOU and GOODBYE

Today we said a fond farewell to Mrs Richardson, one of our teaching assistants, who is leaving us to pursue a different path away from education. We thank her for all that she has done for our school community and wish her every happiness and success for the future.

OUTDOOR PLAY

As the weather is getting warmer, we are hoping to use the field more regularly for lunchtimes. This will give the children more space to play and more opportunity to play team games and sports. Unfortunately, our field is often muddy and in order to reduce the mud being trailed into the building, children will need to have a change of footwear if they wish to play on the field. We appreciate the implication for parents and do not want to place an additional financial pressure on you at a time when budgets are squeezed. There are a couple of options available: bring an old pair of trainers or wellies in a bag to play on the field in, have a pair of indoor shoes (plimsolls) and go on the field in your school shoes or trainers.

We hope to build up a collection of spare wellies during the summer term and have a welly swap—if your child has grown out of their wellies, please send them into school rather than throwing them away.

You may notice that your child comes home a little grubbier than before when they have been on the field—we apologise for this but hope you appreciate that this is likely to be a sign that they have had lots of fun!



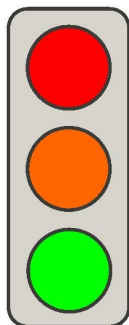
Our School Council have begun their outdoor play project—**Operation Outdoor Play**.

They have tasked each class with designing and creating an outdoor play space for all children to access during lunchtimes. Ideas include: den building, sand and water play, small world area, creative station, board games,

singing and dancing, target sports, obstacle course making, role play, mud kitchen, amongst others. Watch this space for appeals for items that we will be looking for and you may want to recycle—tarpaulins, long pieces of decking, tyres, suitcases, old dressing up items (hats, hand-bags etc), no longer used outdoor toys and equipment...



Thank you in anticipation of your support.



Below 90% - persistent absence ☹️

90—95.9% - below target ☹️

96—100% - on target 😊

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance is currently **95.1%**.

This is below the DfE target of 96% and our school target of 97%

- please help us to get back into the **green zone** by Easter—thank you.

Good attendance supports success

**EVERY MINUTE
in school MATTERS**

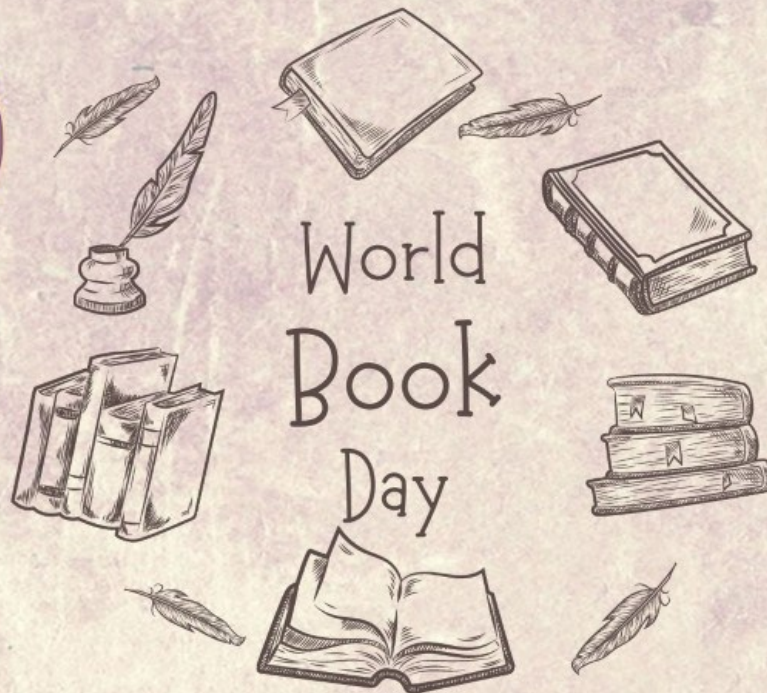


STRIKE ACTION UPDATE

The NEU have planned further strike action for **Tuesday 28th February**.

At the moment, staff have indicated that they will not be taking part in the strike action and therefore, **we do not anticipate that any classes will be closed on that day**.

Please bear in mind that this may change—we will inform you immediately should that happen. Thank you for your patience and understanding.



World Book Day

Thursday 2nd March 2023

Spending the day celebrating the wonderful world
of books and stories.

Breakfast with Books 8.45-9.10: The day will begin with a special opportunity to come into school and share your favourite family books in your child's classroom.

Book Swap: Have you finished an excellent book recently that is still in good condition and you would like to swap for a new one?

Please bring in your books from Monday 27th February so that we can organise them ready for our big book swap shop. We will also have a parents book swap table - we know that we are the best role models for our children in reading so come along and pick a few new novels or non-fiction books for yourself too. A £1 donation is asked for entry to the book swap on the Thursday with all proceeds being used to restock our classroom libraries.

Seven Stories Challenge: over the day the children are being challenged to read from each of the seven stories genres. If they complete their task one of the brand new World Book Day books is waiting for them to take home.

Finally World Book Day is a day for celebrating books not costumes so please remember there is no obligation to dress your child up. We would much rather that you used your time, funds and efforts on sharing books.