

Headlines

27th January 2023



Dear Parents

While temperatures have risen slightly this week our children have kept themselves warm with lots of learning across the school.

Children have once again been busy in forest school, outside doing PE and I have also seen some wonderful art work across the school. We are looking forward to sharing some of this with you next week. Have a great weekend, Mrs T L Good

Attendance

The Inclusion Officer from Surrey came into school this week to look at our attendance figures with Mrs. Hall, in the office. Our figures are slightly below average at the moment, mainly due to the chicken pox outbreak last term and the concerns around infection. However, I am hoping that as children build their illness resilience and the weather gets warmer, more children will be in every day. We also noted that there is a constant stream of children coming in late every day. While it may only be a couple of minutes, it does disrupt the class and the child may miss the initial input of the day. If you need help to get your child to school on time don't hesitate to ask us in the office.

Industrial Action

Next Wednesday members of the NEU (National Education Union) have voted to take industrial action and are proposing that they will strike. Teachers at Ongar are sympathetic to the union's requests that a fully-funded increase in pay for teachers, which matches inflation, is agreed. To take part in the strike action is a personal decision that will be made by individuals belonging to the NEU. While I can ask teachers if they are preparing to be absent themselves from school on the days of the strike, the law states that they are not required to tell me. I am expecting minimal disruption at Ongar Place but it may be that I will have to give late notice of a partial closure. Please ensure that you have emergency child care in place if you require it. I will inform you as early as possible if there are any changes.

ERPSSA Dodgeball Competition

On Monday 23rd January, 10 children from Year 5 and 6 were pleased to get out of the Arctic weather conditions and enjoy the warm sports hall at Cleves to take part in the ERPSSA dodgeball competition. It was the first time this had taken place since 2019 so it was good to see the event return. 9 schools took part.

Each game lasted for 2 minutes and each school played 2 games against every other school. Ongar put in a fantastic performance. They played 16 matches winning 10, drawing 4 and losing just 2. There were bonus points for wiping out another team - Ongar managed to do this 4 times.

In the end the team finished in a fantastic 3rd place - well done. With a few more wipe outs then they may have finished even higher. None the less a fantastic achievement from a team who also played the whole tournament in exactly the right spirit. The team was Esther, Sophie, Lily, Mia, William, Ronnie, Isaac, Arthur and Blake.

Family Learning Week

Last week we sent out an invite for one parent (or relative) to join the children in school for a lesson. Please return to slip as soon as possible so we can organise space and chairs!

Parents' Evening 21st and 23rd February 2022 - Online Appointment Booking

Don't forget to book parents evening. The appointments are for parents to speak to the teacher, if you bring your children with you they must wait with you and not go into any other areas of the school. Appointments can be booked on scopy. If you do not have an account please email admin@ongar-place.surrey.sch.uk to request login details. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the school office from the 24th January between 9.30 and 2.30 and we will be happy to make an appointment for you.