

# Headlines

19<sup>th</sup> July 2023



## Dear Parents,

We have come to the end of a very long and busy year. If you are an avid reader of Headlines you will know how many wonderful events and successes we have had and how many memorable moments we have created. I want to say a massive thank you to everyone who has contributed to this year. All of our children who try their very best (nearly!) all the time. All our families who support us and make our school more than just a place of learning. Our Governors who have worked incredibly hard this year and have provided much needed support and advice to me. And, of course, our wonderful staff who have gone above and beyond in so many ways to ensure that every child has fun while they learn and progress. I hope you all have a wonderful Summer Holidays – and to those of you who are returning I will see you on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> at 8.55 am. With all best wishes Mrs T L Good

## Year 6 Leavers

Our Year 6 are leaving today. They have been a fantastic year group. They delivered a brilliant assembly on Monday reminding us of their time at Ongar and the memories they would take with them as they moved on. Top Golf Monday morning, cinema Tuesday morning, pool party Tuesday afternoon and final assembly this morning. They definitely know how to say goodbye! We will be very sad to lose this wonderful group of children who have approached everything with enthusiasm and a sense of fun but they are all more than ready to move on to secondary school. Miss Watts, myself and every other member of staff wish all of them good luck and huge success.

## Staff Leavers

For the first time in the 11 years I have been here we have a number of staff who are leaving Ongar Place this year. As I've mentioned in earlier newsletters, some have taken redundancy and some are moving on to other jobs and roles. In our Year 6 leavers assembly earlier this week the children told us that 'Ongar is like a family', 'Ongar is like a friend'. Friends and family never really leave you because the memories made and the parts they have played in creating those memories stay with you. These staff may not physically be in the building next year but everything they have done, all they have contributed to Ongar and all the memorable moments they have created will remain. We wish all of you the very, very best of luck and want you to know you have an open invitation to drop in for coffee and laughs at any time.

**Mrs Norman** has been an integral part of Ongar for over 26 years. Her calm, kind and caring manner have been wonderfully appreciated by both staff and children.

**Mrs Brown**, leaves us after 22 years, a fantastic HLTA who has the ability to go into any class and teach (almost) anything. We have relied on you and will miss your knowledge and skill!

**Miss Woolnough**, 16 years, so creative and so warm and friendly. Individual children and classes have really benefitted from her help and support.

**Mrs Slater**, 16 years, cookery expert and one of the most serene TAs ever – individual children she has worked with have made wonderful progress and gained huge confidence due to her lovely approach.

**Mrs Tuttle**, 15 years. She will always be remembered for her fantastic sewing club and the work she has done with individuals and groups of children which have led to amazing progress.

**Mrs Straker**, 13 years, Mr Knott's right-hand woman and a TA who can turn her hand to anything. Wonderfully organised and a delight to be around. We will miss everything you do for the school and every role you play.

**Miss Meyer**, beloved of many children. We will miss her creativity, her energy, her fashion sense and her ability to scale a climbing wall while still looking great. Good luck in your new job.

**Mrs Denyer**, is truly a force to be reckoned with, determined and resilient – her high energy, love of life and loud laughs will be missed. Her work in forest school and the gardens have benefited all of us.

**Miss Jackson**, has only been with us a year but her work in nursery has been phenomenal - setting us on a road to success.

**Mrs Duke** has been with us less than a year but joined us when we really needed someone. She has been a real help in Year 1.

And finally, **Mrs Reed** who started her teaching career at Ongar. She is taking a break from class teaching but we have persuaded her to return in September and teach French for us. See you then.

To all of you THANK YOU

### Tom Sewell Citizenship Award

Citizenship is not only about enjoying the fruits of the community but also about giving to the community, making a contribution, so that there are fruits to enjoy. **Elexa-Rose Alexander** is a true citizen of the community of Ongar Place School. Elexa enjoys her school community. She always arrives at school with a smile and keeps it throughout the day. She has a generous, helpful, caring and friendly nature. She will always offer to help and assist. Elexa shows empathy for others and an altruistic approach, where other's needs will come before her own. Her actions may sometimes appear to be small but are deeply appreciated by those they benefit. A community is only as good as its citizens and Ongar Place is very lucky to have a citizen like Elexa, who is, in her own unassuming way helping to build the community of Ongar Place School.



### Ongar Place Endeavour Award

To endeavour is to try hard to do or achieve something. The recipient of this award has spent the whole year endeavouring to do their very best and always with such a positive attitude and a smile. Her endeavours have led to huge successes both academically and socially. This year the Endeavour Award goes to **Sophia Dreher**.

Sophia is a delightful young lady whose kind, caring nature and enthusiasm for our school, and all it has to offer, is contagious. She is proud member of our school community, has represented the school on many occasions and been a real asset to the school as a School Ambassador. Sophia's self-confidence has grown this year and really shone through when she took a leading role in the school production.

Sophia is a worthy winner of this year's Endeavour Award.



### Sportsman of the Year 2023

The Sportsperson of the Year Award for 2023 has been won for the first time by 2 people.

**Isaac Korimbocus and Arthur Grace.**

**Isaac** has demonstrated a fantastic attitude to all sporting events during his time at Ongar Place. He was made captain of the football team which retained their League championship this year. He represented the Elmbridge and Runnymede District Football Team. He also represented the school at Athletics Quadkids, Sportshall Athletics, Dodgeball and was a member of the dance troupe which won the District championship. He is also a sports leader and has made many valued contributions to helping adults and younger children to be able to take part in sporting activities.

**Arthur** has excelled on the football field. He too was a member of the League winning team and he also represented the District. He scored the decisive goal in the final of the Southern Cup which the District won. Arthur has also represented the school at Athletics Quadkids, Cross-country Sportshall Athletics and Dodgeball. He is a determined character on sports field and always gives his best. This coupled with strong determination has helped him to achieve some fantastic results this year. Both of these boys have risen to a high standard in all aspects of physical activity. We look forward to hearing about their future successes.



### Star Group Infant Sports Festival

Despite a prediction of scattered showers the teachers went ahead with the Infant Sports Festival held at The Grange School on Friday. The event was a series of athletic activities which were run in a carousel. There were 180 children taking part from 4 schools-The Grange, Stepgates, Meadowcroft and Ongar Place. The Year 2 children were brilliantly led by sports leaders from Year 6 at Ongar Place and Stepgates.

There were no winners and losers but the children were rewarded with stickers for showing the values of honesty, passion, teamwork, self-belief, respect and determination. It did rain (a little!) and the children (and teachers) didn't moan! In fact Freddie heard one of the children say, "I'm so wet but I just don't care!" A big thank you to all the children and the adults who attended on the morning. A lovely way to finish another highly successful sporting year at Ongar Place.

**Results** The SATs and tests children completed seem like forever ago, but last week we received the final scores which I am delighted to share with you. The percentages are how many children met the expected level and the NA is the national average either last year or this year. Well done to everyone!!

EYFS	LIT	MAT	PSE	GLD
GLD 2023	83%	83%	90%	83%
NA 2022	68%	76%	83%	65%

Phonics	2023	NA 2022
Y1	83%	75%

KS1 SATs	Reading	Writing	Maths	Science
EXS 2023	80%	77%	73%	90%
NA 2022	67%	58%	68%	77%

KS2 SATs	Reading	Writing	Maths	Science	SPAG
EXS 2023	83%	70%	87%	93%	77%
NA 2023	73%	71%	73%	80%	72%