

# Headlines

19<sup>th</sup> July 2024



## Dear Parents,

We have once again come to the end of a very busy school year. Flicking back over all the Headlines I've written this year I can see how very busy we have been and the last couple of weeks have been a whirlwind of events creating lots of memorable moments for staff and children alike.

As always, I want to say a massive thank you to everyone who has contributed this year. Firstly, to all of our children - the very reason we turn up every day. To all our families who support us and make up our community. To our dedicated PTFA, particularly Laura the chair who leaves us this year. To our Governors who provide me with support and guidance and ensure that the school is doing everything it can for our children. Finally, to all of our wonderful staff who work incredibly hard to ensure that every child feels special, is safe and enjoys learning and their time in school.

I hope you all have a wonderful Summer Holiday – and to those of you who are returning I will see you on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> at 8.50

## Year 6 Leavers

Our Year 6 are leaving today. I have many fond memories of all of them – from lunch and swim to the final assembly. They are a class who weathered the huge disruption caused by COVID and came out the other side smiling. They are an absolute pleasure to be around because of their kind natures, strong friendships and their great sense of fun. This week Y6 delivered an amazing assembly sharing their memories of Ongar, they went off to the cinema on Monday, Indoor golf and pizza on Wednesday, pool party yesterday and final assembly this morning.

They are all ready to move on to secondary school but we will miss them terribly. Every member of staff wishes all of them good luck and huge success – come back and see us soon!

## Staff Leavers

Yesterday we said goodbye to Mrs Sullivan who has been working in Nursery this year – we wish her lots of luck with her new business.

Mrs Reed leaves us as a class teacher – again - but will return in September to cover classes and teach French. Thank you for all your hard work this year – it has been much appreciated.

Miss Minto will be leaving us – again. Thank you for seeing Y6 through their final weeks and ensuring all the wonderful plans put in place by Miss Watts came to fruition.

Freddie Good will be leaving us as a full time TA, I'm sure we will see him about again. Thank you for your work with our children and for your computing skills!

## Grange Park Opera

Every week at Ongar some of our children are taught singing by a professional singer as part of Primary Robins. Primary Robins is part of Grange Park Opera and we were delighted when they invited us to be the opening act at their end of Year extravaganza. Last Sunday, following lots of organisation by Mrs Pirie, nearly 30 of our children in very smart school uniform and 8 rather well-scrubbed staff members took the coach to the Opera House. Our children opened the show and were absolutely amazing – behaving so well and singing beautifully. We all felt very proud of them. Thank you to the parents who came along. Definitely the best part of Sunday for me!

**Notes:** Please note school dinners will be increasing to £2.80 next term. Don't forget we start at 8:50 from September.



Our co-chair of governors, Mary Sharpe, left the Governing Body earlier this term. She has been working alongside me since I joined the school and I will miss her terribly. Here are some words penned by my current chair, Sherry Huselbury, "Our dedicated and highly professional Co-Chair of Governors at Ongar Place Primary, Mary Sharpe, has decided to resign after a decade of diligent service. We thank her profusely for her wise words and guidance throughout her time on the Board of Governors. We wish her well in her retirement"



### Tom Sewell Citizenship Award

A citizen is someone who belongs to a community. But communities do not just happen and just belonging to a community is not enough, well, not enough for the winner of this year's award. **Ethan**



is a true citizen of Ongar Place School. Ethan has a kind, helpful, caring and friendly nature. He will learn collaboratively with anyone – always listening and taking care to produce his best, in all activities, all of the time. He has strong friendships yet he is always open to new people and experiences. He takes challenges in his stride. Ethan understands and accepts the responsibility, he takes school life seriously and is diligent. If he is going to do something he always does it to the best of his ability - even if that means some extra work or commitment. Ongar Place is very lucky to have a citizen like Ethan who is, in his own quiet 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, if not their whole time in school, endeavouring to do their very best with an overwhelmingly positive attitude and with huge amounts of resilience.



This year the Endeavour Award goes to **Harry**. Harry is a remarkable young man whose commitment and enthusiasm for all aspects of school is an example to all. He is a proud member of our school community who has represented the school across a wide range of events including chess, sport and performance. He has been a real asset to the school as a School Ambassador and has impressed many adults with his knowledge and confident personality.

Harry refuses to miss out on any opportunity that is offered to him – his determination to overcome barriers is remarkable. Harry can be reflective and sensitive when the need arises but is best known at school for his wicked sense of humour and engaging charm! Harry is known throughout the school and is well-loved. I know his determination, infectious personality and love of life will benefit him and others as he moves into secondary school.

### The Sportsperson of the Year Award 2024

This has been won for the second year in a row by two people. Two amazing girls - **Lily and Summer**.



**Lily** has demonstrated a fantastic attitude to all sporting events during her time at Ongar Place.

Lily was captain of the football team this year. At times the team found the games challenging but Lily managed to keep the team going on each occasion showing resilience and determination. She also represented the Elmbridge and Runnymede District Football Team which won the Surrey Girl's League for the first time.

She has represented the school at Athletics and she has also taken part in Quadkids, Sportshall Athletics Dodgeball as well as the Dance Festival. Lily is also a valued and successful sports leader. She is encouraging and kind and has helped others to take part and enjoy sporting activity regardless of their ability. Thank you, Lily!



**Summer** has also represented the school very ably on the football field. She has been a passionate, ever present player in both the mixed and girls' teams.

She was a player who was sometimes reluctant to take part early in her Ongar Place time but it has been fantastic to see her develop her confidence across a range of sporting activities. Summer has represented the school in a number of events including football and athletics. Summer is also a sports leader who, along with her friends, have taken it upon themselves to organise younger children, and sometimes adults too! She has been a fantastic asset to the organisation of PE and sport this year and has helped children and teachers to be organised. Well done Summer!

Both of these girls have risen to a high standard in all aspects of physical activity, including leadership, and have embraced every opportunity to take part. We look forward to hearing about their future successes.

**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
ELG Met 2024	83%	93%	97%	83%
NA 2023	70%	77%	83%	67%

Phonics	2024	NA 2023
Y1	86%	79%

KS1 SATs	Reading	Writing	Maths	Sci
EXP 2024	76%	76%	82%	97%
GLD 2024	24%	14%	14%	NA
EXP NA	67%	60%	70%	79%
GDS NA	19%	8%	16%	NA

KS2 SATs	Read	Writ	Ma	Sci	SPAG
EXP 2024	90%	80%	73%	87%	77%
GDS 2024	33%	23%	27%	NA	17%
EXP 24 NA	74%	72%	73%	81%	72%
GDS 23 NA	19%	8%	16%	NA	36%