

Headlines

11th September 2026



Dear Parents

What a lovely first week back in school we have had. Everyone is getting back into the routines of the school day and remembering the rules and enjoying the rewards. Walking around this morning it was great seeing Year 1 and Year 2 being taught by our new PE Coach, Will, and hearing his complimentary comments about their effort and behaviour. It was also good to see children in Primary Robins singing and enjoying their time with Harriet. All this effort means there might be some early nights needed this weekend though for staff and children!

We have had two lots of our Chestnut children start already this week and they have settled amazingly well. It has been wonderful seeing them joining in with assembly and learning their way around the classroom and the school. Our final group will start on Monday.

We have also welcomed new children into nursery. I hope you found the curriculum letters useful last week and they have given you an overview of what the children are learning. This week the class teachers will be sending out the first Learning Letters of the Year (not reception your first letter will be next week).

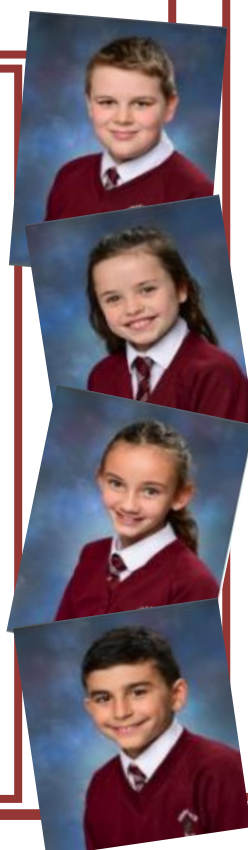
To the left are a list of dates. We already have many of our major events booked in and hopefully this will help you to plan your year. There will be 1 more INSET day when the school will be closed to children. As soon as I know this date, I will inform you. There are lots more exciting things to add as we move through the year.

Have a good weekend Mrs. T L Good

Ambassadors

Today we announced our first positions of responsibility for our Year 6 children. Children were asked to apply for the role of Ambassador in writing to me. The Senior Leadership Team and Mrs. Dreher read all the wonderful letters and it was a pleasure to hear how much the children love Ongar, want to help the younger children and how proud they are to belong. As I said to the children in assembly it is always a hard task to choose just four. Many congratulations to this year's Ambassadors: **Max, Evelyn, Jessica, Nectarios**. I look forward to working with you.

Next week, we will be asking Year 6 to put themselves forward as House Captains and there are other positions of responsibility.



Description	Date	Time
Full Governing Body Mtg	15/09/26	18:30 - 20:30
Yr5/6 Residential meeting in Hall	16/09/26	15:30 - 16:00
Y6 Bikeability	28/09/26 - 02/10/26	
Perform Drama workshop YR - Y3	06/10/26	09:00 - 11:00
Harvest Assembly	07/10/26	14:30 - 15:00
Y5 Fire Safety	08/10/26	13:15 - 14:30
Parents Eve 1	13/10/26	15:30 - 18:00
STEM workshop Year 4 + 5	14/10/26	all day
Parents evening 2	15/10/26	15:30 - 18:00
Halloween Mufti PTFA	16/10/26	08:30 - 15:30
PTFA tuck shop at end of day	16/10/26	15:00 - 16:00
Half Term 19/10/26 - 30/10/26		
Individual Photos	09/11/26	08:30 - 13:00
Bags2school	11/11/26	08:30 - 15:30
Dentist visit -Y4/Y5/Y6	13/11/26	08:30 - 12:00
Sports Crew Training	13/11/26	08:30 - 12:30
Year 4/5 Rose theatre	08/12/26	13:00 - 17:30
KS1 Nativity	09/12/26	14:15 - 15:20
KS2 Carol Concert rehearsal	10/12/26	09:30 - 12:30
KS1 Nativity	10/12/26	14:15 - 16:20
KS2 Carol Concert	14/12/26	17:45 - 19:15
Pantomime - Wizard of Oz	16/12/26	all day
Nursery Christmas party	16/12/26	14:00 - 15:00
Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day	17/12/26	all day
Christmas Holiday 19/12/26 - 03/01/27 (finish 1.30pm 18/12/27)		
High Ashurst Y5 & Y6	13-15/01/27	
Y3 Feet First Walking Training	28/01/27	10:00 - 12:00
Half Term 19/10/26 - 30/10/26		
Notre Dame dance festival	04/03/27	all day
Easter Holiday 26/03/27 - 11/04/27 (finish 1.30pm 25/03/27)		
Bikeability Level 1	27-28/04/27	09:10 - 12:10
May Bank holiday	03/05/27	all day
Half Term 31/05/27 - 04/06/27		
Last Day of Term 23 rd July 1.30pm		
26 th , 27 th , 28 th July Inset days		

Attendance

In your emailed letters this week there will be a letter about attendance from Surrey and the school. Please read the full letter but the message in brief is:

A Penalty Notice may be issued to a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school in the following circumstances:

1. Pupils identified on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.
2. Leave of absence in term time of 5 days or 10 sessions or more. Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis
3. Where it is judged that a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance. eg: when a pupil has incurred 10 or more unauthorised sessions in the previous 10 school weeks, which may include a pupil arriving late after close of registration.

As a school we are required to follow the rules.

At Ongar we do our best to make school unmissable with a wide range of learning and activities, fun and memorable moments. If you are struggling with attendance don't hesitate to talk to us.