

Headlines

12th November 2021



Dear Parents

It is looking very wintery now and the nights are drawing in.

Please ensure your children bring a coat into school as we try to go outside every day. If your child walks home on their own you may want to remind them about road safety and wearing some sort reflective items as the evenings are getting darker and gloomier. Here at Ongar though we are cheery and having fun!

Football- Cup Match

On the last Thursday before half-term (21st October), the Ongar Place football team travelled to Hersham to take on Burhill in a cup match. The team, this time, was made up of players from both Year 5 and 6.

The team produced some outstanding football. Playing with neat passes, great understanding of each other and showing creativity as well as technical flair. The score was 7-0 at half-time and ended up with an 11-0 scoreline. The players lost track of who did the scoring but I'm sure if you asked them they would let you know! Well done to the whole team even though our goalkeepers Eric and Kieron had a cold afternoon standing in their goal!

On Saturday Leo and Matthew represented Elmbridge and Runnymede in the first round of the U-11 ESFA National Cup. They played against Aldershot and Farnborough. Mr Smith emailed after the final whistle to inform me that the team had won 5-0 and that both our players had been exceptional. Matthew informed me that he had scored and Leo told me that he had been captain and scored twice. Well done boys and good luck in the next round against South London.

Peer Review

On Thursday I invited three local Headteachers to come and visit Ongar Place. They spent time talking to me, Mrs Pirie and teachers. They looked at planning and, most importantly, spoke to children and went into class to watch them learning.

The Headteachers' were all very impressed with what they saw and the behaviour and comments from our children. I was very proud!

Remembrance

On Thursday 11th November just before 11 o'clock Mr Knott gave an assembly about remembrance and hope. It was so lovely to see our children listening so attentively and showing great respect during the silence.

Junior Citizen Year 6

We had a fantastic and informative day at Junior Citizens at Thorpe Park. We moved in groups from station to station learning about the dangers of electricity, trains (did you know they take the length of 20 football pitches to stop?), how to report where you are if you need help on a beach and how we should nag our parents to test their smoke alarms.

Our favorite station was the Fire Brigade tent where we were sprayed with 'smoke' and had to crawl out.

We also reflected on how easily we could be lured away from the group by a stranger who promised a go on the rides! We were compliments on how well we behaved and listened. A great day!

Winner

Congratulations to Emily – she won the Jubilee High School Revolution Art competition! The picture has now been given pride of place in their new business centre.



Fame!

Well done to Bella in Year 3. She was selected by Synergy dance to perform with them on the television for Children in Need with Tess and Claudia from Strictly! It was lovely to see her smiling face on TV! Look out for her again this weekend.

ERPSSA Under 11 Football Tournament

Thursday 11th November was a busy day for the Under 11 football squad. Having been to Thorpe Park in the morning, the Year 6 footballers were then transported to Royal Holloway for the prestigious ERPSSA football tournament. After having been diverted half way around Surrey - well done to parents for finding the way - the team got set for their campaign.

The first match was against local rivals St Paul's with Ongar dominating the game. Ongar hit the post and the keeper made some good saves but Leo's goal was enough to seal a 1-0 win. The second match was against Stepgates and Ongar Place ended up comfortable 3-0 winners with the goal scorers Leo (2) and Cooper. There followed a further 3-0 win against Bell Farm with this time Matthew scoring twice and Leo getting the other. In the final group game Ongar played Stepgates again, this time resulting in a 4-0 win with Leo scoring all four.

This meant that Ongar topped the group and were playing some fast, attractive football which people from the other groups were marvelling at. Things looked good.

The previous day the team had talked about how good a chance they had and that the biggest danger would come from a penalty shoot-out.

Ongar played against St Anne's in the quarter final and took an early lead through Arthur. Ongar continued to press but St Anne's tried to hit Ongar on the break and with 2 minutes to go, their forward just seemed to flip the ball over Kieran into the Ongar goal. Further pressure came from Ongar especially in extra-time but they couldn't quite seem to get the ball in the net.

The game went to the infamous penalty shoot-out. The first 3 penalties went in and St Anne's missed one of theirs but then Ongar had a chance to win the game but the ball rebounded away off the post. As the game goes on, people move out of their comfort zone. People are asked to do things they really don't want to do. Unfortunately, in a penalty shoot-out, one team always loses out and on this occasion, it was Ongar Place. What a frustrating way to lose.

The boys must remember that they are all part of the team. They all played their part in the victories they had and supported one another when things didn't go as they had hoped. I am extremely proud of the way the boys played, not just at this tournament, but throughout the last half term. We have talked about the tournament and their feelings this morning and are looking forward to what we hope to achieve in the next part of the season.

