

Red Oaks Primary School
4th September 2019
Newsletter



Welcome back!

Welcome back to a new academic year - we hope that you all had an enjoyable summer. We are very excited to be returning as the lead primary school in The Park Academies Trust. As usual, there is a busy term ahead with lots of exciting projects planned. You are able to see regular photos of your children at work on the website pages as well as an overview of what each year group will be learning. If you have any questions or wish to speak to your child's teacher, it may be possible to pass brief messages at the classroom door. If you wish to have a more lengthy discussion, please arrange a mutually convenient time to come in. Other contacts are available as follows:



Mr Lee - fsmanager@redoaks.org.uk - Foundation Stage queries - Nursery & Reception
Mrs Maxfield - Yr123@redoaks.org.uk - Years 1, 2 & 3
Miss Gerrard - Yr456@redoaks.org.uk - Years 4, 5 & 6
General queries - Admin team - admin@redoaks.org.uk
Mrs Surch - head@redoaks.org.uk
Mr Lee - deputyhead@redoaks.org.uk

You are also invited to year group welcome meetings to meet your child's teacher and to be given a little more information about the curriculum and expectations in this year group.

Nursery	Friday 20 th September 5.00-6.00pm
Reception	Friday 13 th September 1.00pm
Year 1	Wednesday 4 th September 3.10pm
Year 2	Thursday 5 th September 3.10pm
Year 3	Friday 6 th September 3.10pm
Year 4	Monday 9 th September 3.10pm
Year 5	Tuesday 10 th September 3.10pm
Year 6	Wednesday 11 th September 3.10pm

Chair of Governors

Now that we have joined The Park Academies Trust, the Governing body will be chaired by Mr Ian Burgess. Fred Child, our out-going Chair will now become a Trustee so will still have a close working relationship with the school. We would like to thank Fred for all his hard work as Chair of Governors and particularly all his work in the journey to academisation. Contact details for Mr Ian Burgess are: chair@redoaks.org.uk

Dates

Key dates for the year will be sent out as a separate document. We know that having as much notice for events is useful so we do try to set out dates for the whole year. However, please be aware that occasionally we do need to change dates as circumstances can change. If this is the case, we will always give you as much notice as possible.



Thank you to FORO

A huge thank you to FORO and all who have supported events at school. FORO have donated £1600 towards our new music room that is equipped with a piano, keyboard, drum kit and lots of tuned and non-tuned percussion instruments. Now that we only have one year group with 3 classes, we have a spare classroom and we are thrilled to have this as a dedicated space for teaching music. We are hoping to offer a much greater range of peripatetic music lessons in the coming year and will send out details when we have them.



School dog

We are very excited to introduce 'Dash' the miniature Dachshund who is currently a very small puppy and will be trained as a school therapy dog. We understand that not everyone likes dogs and for those who do not wish to interact with Dash, this is perfectly fine. Having a dog (albeit a very small one) is a big responsibility and a full risk assessment has been undertaken. The dog will mostly be in a variety of office spaces but children who want to will have the opportunity to visit him. Parents who would like to see him, may also occasionally see Dash on the school gate. Please see separate letter for more information.



PE Kits

PE is a compulsory curriculum subject and children should keep their PE kit in school all week. This should be in a drawstring bag that takes up minimal space as cloakrooms and lockers are very small. **Children are only permitted to bring rucksacks if they cycle or scoot to school.** If your child cannot take part in PE, a note signed by a parent/carer should be given to the class teacher. Children **MUST** wear a plain house coloured t-shirt so that teams can be easily identified and **football shirts will not be accepted as PE kit**. Trainers or daps must also be brought as suitable footwear and earrings must be taped up or removed. Children with long hair must have this tied up please.

Please ensure that ALL uniform is clearly marked with your child's name, including their shoes, as this will enable the quick return of any mislaid items. Many thanks.

Homework

Your child's class teacher will explain the homework regime for the particular year group during the welcome meeting. We understand that parents hold differing views regarding homework but if you would like your child to do more homework, there are many links, ideas and resources on our website as well as log in details for a variety of educational apps and websites that the schools buys in to. Log in codes will be stuck in to your child's home/school contact book.



No Nuts

We politely request that no nuts are brought into school in lunch boxes as we do have children with severe allergies that can be life threatening. This includes peanut butter which we do not allow in sandwiches. Thank you for your help.

Details

If your contact details have changed over the summer, please inform the office as soon as possible. These details may be needed in the event of an emergency and will also be used for text and email communication. Thank you

School Lunches

Sodexo have requested that **ALL** meals are ordered for the week by a Sunday evening on ParentPay. This includes children receiving Universal Free School Meals (Rec-Year 2) and Free School Meals. **If meals are not ordered in advance, you will receive a text to bring your child in a packed lunch.**

Snack

Fruit snacks are provided for children in Foundation stage and Key Stage 1 at break time. Children in Key Stage 2 are welcome to bring a snack but we ask that this is a piece of fruit or vegetable please. Please do not send in cereal bars or snacks such as fruit winders or anything in a wrapper. We are trying to encourage our children to be healthy.



Car Park

We know that the car park is always very busy at drop off and pick up times. We run a 'Kiss and Drop' service in the layby at the top end of the car park. Please always park considerately and do not block other cars. We ask politely that **ONLY** vehicles with disabled badges park in the disabled bays as we have children and parents with genuine need.

Pupil Premium

Your child may be able to benefit from Pupil Premium money. This money comes into school for your child so that we can support your child in the best ways possible. You may be entitled to pupil premium money if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Children whose parent/s are in the armed forces
- Those who are subject to a care order or temporarily classed as looked after on a planned basis for short breaks or respite care.

If you believe you may be entitled, please see one of our office staff. If your child is starting Reception and previously had Pupil Premium funding in Nursery you will need to **reapply** for funding at the start of this academic year.

If you think your child is entitled to Pupil Premium funding or would like to know more about Pupil Premium funding please contact Mr Lee on deputyhead@redoaks.org.uk.

Reading

Reading is a fundamental key to accessing the curriculum and we encourage children to read as much as they can. Even the older children enjoy having a story at bedtime and that special time with a parent. There is a direct correlation between the academic achievements of children with how much they read. Early Excellence research shows that:



- By 22 months - a child's language development can predict outcomes at age 26
- By 2 years - 75% of a child's brain growth has already occurred.
- By ages 3-6 - a child's narrative skills are a powerful predictor of literacy skill at 8-12 years.
- By 4 years - the difference in the number of words children from disadvantaged backgrounds hear is 19 million.
- By age 5 - a child's vocabulary will predict their educational success and outcomes at age 30.

Upcoming Dates

- 4/9 Year 1 @ 3.10pm
- 5/9 Year 2 @ 3.10pm
- 6/9 Year 3 @ 3.10pm
- 9/9 Year 4 @ 3.10pm
- 10/9 Year 5 @ 3.10pm
- 11/9 Year 6 @ 3.10pm
- 13/9 Reception @ 1.00pm
- 20/9 Nursery @ 5-6.30pm
- 4/10 Black History Day
- 17/10 Individual & Sibling Photos (if they attend Red Oaks)
FORO Disco Y1-6
- 18/10 Harvest Festival
- 21/10 Parents Evening
- 22/10 Parents Evening
- 23/10 TD Day
- 24/10 Half Term Holiday
- 4/11 School Re-opens





Wednesday 4th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are very proud to be able to introduce our new school dog Dash. Dash is a miniature Dachshund and has been chosen for his size, minimal malting and calm temperament. Dash is currently only a few months old and so initially he will be coming into school daily to get used to his surrounds and become familiar with the pupils and adults. He will be kept in a separate room which will become his base. This is where the children will be able to visit him and help acclimatize him into school life. Both Dash and the children will have rules that they will need to follow when around each other and we have carefully risk-assessed these to ensure that all interactions will be fun and rewarding. Children will always be supervised by an adult when with Dash.

We are aware that some of our children may have allergies to dogs and although Dash malts very little, no dog is fully hypoallergenic therefore we would be grateful if you could inform the office of these allergies if we do not hold this information already.

As a school we have carefully looked into why having a school dog will be beneficial for us. Research has shown that having a school dog impacts positively on many aspects of school life. Here is a summary: (more information can be found in our School dog policy)

- 1) Improve academic achievement
- 2) Increase literacy/oracy skills
- 3) Calming behaviours
- 4) Increase social skills and self-esteem
- 5) Increase confidence
- 6) Teach responsibility and respect to all life
- 7) Help school attendance
- 8) Motivate children who find learning tricky



We hope that the children will help walk him and learn about the responsibilities of caring for an animal. In addition to this, we hope to train Dash as a therapy dog for the children to read to him and for him to be used in 1;1 session to help the children socially and emotionally. We are very excited to be welcoming Dash to our school and cannot wait for all the children to meet him. However, we are very aware that we have some pupils who are nervous or afraid of dogs. This is something we hope that Dash will be able to help the children with and we will design a slow interaction program to support this. If you do not want your child to have any interaction with Dash then please inform the school office.

Best Wishes

Rachel Surch



Executive Principal: Mrs R Surch
Deputy Head Teacher: Mr J Lee
SENDCo : Mrs K Clarke

Redhouse Way, North Swindon Learning Campus, Swindon, SN25 2AN
Tel: 01793 493920
Email: admin@redoaks.org.uk



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2019-20	Parent Version
Sept	
Mon 2 nd	TTD – Staff training
Tues 3 rd	TTD – Staff training
Wed 4 th	School back 3.10pm Y1 Welcome meeting
Thurs 5 th	3.10pm Y2 Welcome meeting
Fri 6 th	3.10pm Y3 Welcome meeting
Mon 9 th	3.10pm Y4 Welcome meeting
Tues 10 th	3.10pm Y5 Welcome meeting
Wed 11 th	3.10pm Y6 Welcome meeting
Thurs 12 th	
Fri 13 th	1.00pm Reception Welcome meeting
Mon 16 th	
Tues 17 th	6.00-8.00 Governors Meeting
Wed 18 th	
Thurs 19 th	
Fri 20 th	5.00-6.00pm Nursery Welcome Meeting
Mon 23 rd	
Tues 24 th	
Wed 25 th	No Pens Day
Thurs 26 th	
Fri 27 th	
Mon 30 th	
Oct	
Tues 1 st	
Wed 2 nd	
Thurs 3 rd	
Fri 4 th	Black History Day
Mon 7 th	
Tues 8 th	
Wed 9 th	
Thurs 10 th	
Fri 11 th	
Mon 14 th	
Tues 15 th	
Wed 16 th	
Thurs 17 th	Individual & Sibling Photos FOR Disco
Fri 18 th	Harvest Festival assembly 9.30am
Mon 21 st	Parents' evening
Tues 22 nd	Parents' evening
Wed 23 rd	TD Day
Nov	
Mon 4 th	Back to School
Tues 5 th	Firework night FORO

Wed 6 th	
Thurs 7 th	
Fri 8 th	
Mon 11 th	Anti bullying week
Tues 12 th	
Wed 13 th	
Thurs 14 th	
Fri 15 th	8.30am Parent book look
Mon 18 th	PJ and popcorn night FORO
Tues 19 th	6.00-8.00 Governors Meeting
Wed 20 th	
Thurs 21 st	
Fri 22 nd	
Mon 25 th	Rec-Y6 Flu Vaccinations
Tues 26 th	
Wed 28 th	
Thurs 28 th	
Fri 29 th	TD Day
Dec	
Mon 2 nd	
Tues 3 rd	
Wed 4 th	
Thurs 5 th	Foundation Stage Performance 10.30am and 2.15pm
Fri 6 th	
Sat 7 th	Family Learning – Christmas Event
Mon 9 th	Enterprise week
Tues 10 th	
Wed 11 th	
Thurs 12 th	
Fri 13 th	Christmas Fayre 3-5pm FORO
Mon 16 th	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner
Tues 17 th	
Wed 18 th	KS1 performance 10am and 2pm
Thurs 19 th	Class Christmas parties pm
Fri 20 th	1.30pm School breaks up! Happy Christmas ☺
Jan	
Mon 6 th	Back to School
Tues 7 th	
Wed 8 th	
Thurs 9 th	
Fri 10 th	
Mon 13 th	
Tues 14 th	
Wed 15 th	
Thurs 16 th	
Fri 17 th	

Mon 20 th	PJ and popcorn night FORO
Tues 21 st	
Wed 22 nd	Y5 Performance 2pm and 6pm
Thurs 23 rd	
Fri 24 th	
Mon 27 th	
Tues 28 th	6.00-8.00 Governors Meeting
Wed 29 th	No Pens Day
Thurs 30 th	
Fri 31 st	Relative reading 2.30pm
Feb	
Mon 3 rd	
Tues 4 th	
Wed 5 th	
Fri 6 th	
Mon 10 th	
Tues 11 th	Y4 performance 2pm and 6pm
Wed 12 th	
Thurs 13 th	Disco FORO
Fri 14 th	3.00 School breaks up
Mon 24 th	School back
Tues 25 th	
Wed 26 th	
Thurs 27 th	
Fri 28 th	
Mar	
Mon 2 nd	Y1-Y3 Assessment week
Tues 3 rd	
Wed 4 th	
Thurs 5 th	World Book Day
Fri 6 th	
Mon 9 th	Y4-Y6 Assessment Week
Tues 10 th	6.00-8.00 Governors Meeting
Wed 11 th	
Thurs 12 th	
Fri 13 th	
Mon 16 th	
Tues 17 th	
Wed 18 th	
Thurs 19 th	
Fri 20 th	8.30am Parent book look
Mon 23 rd	
Tues 24 th	
Wed 25 th	Y5 PGL Residential

Thurs 26 th	Y5 PGL Residential Y3 performance 2pm and 6pm
Fri 27 th	Y5 PGL Residential
Sat 28 th	Family Learning event
Mon 30 th	
Tues 31 st	
Apr	
Wed 1 st	Parents' eve
Thurs 2 nd	Parents' eve
Fri 3 rd	1.30pm School breaks up. Happy Easter ☺
Mon 20 th	Back to school
Tues 21 st	
Wed 22 nd	Class Photos
Thurs 23 rd	
Fri 24 th	Y5 swimming begins
Mon 27 th	PJ and popcorn night FORO
Tues 28 th	
Wed 29 th	No Pens day
Thurs 30 th	Y5 swimming
Fri 1 st	TD Day
May	
Mon 4 th	
Tues 5 th	
Wed 6 th	
Thurs 7 th	2.30pm Relative Reading
Fri 8 th	Bank Holiday
Mon 11 th	KS1 & KS2 SATs Week
Tues 12 th	
Wed 13 th	
Thurs 14 th	
Fri 15 th	Y5 swimming
Mon 18 th	KS1 SATs Week contd.....
Tues 19 th	6.00-8.00 Governors Meeting
Wed 20 th	
Thurs 21 st	
Fri 22 nd	3.00 School breaks up Y5 swimming
Jun	
Mon 1 st	Back to school
Tues 2 nd	
Wed 3 rd	Sports Day
Thurs 4 th	
Fri 5 th	Summer Fayre 3-5pm FORO
Mon 8 th	Y1-3 Assessment week Y4 times table test Phonics screening

Tues 9 th	
Wed 10 th	
Thurs 11 th	New parent induction evening 6-7.15pm
Fri 12 th	Y5 swimming
Mon 15 th	Y6 Pencelli Residential Week..... Y4-5 Assessment Week..... Y1 (& some Y2) Phonics Week
Tues 16 th	
Wed 17 th	
Thurs 18 th	
Fri 19 th	
Mon 22 nd	
Tues 23 rd	
Wed 24 th	
Thurs 25 th	Reserve sports day Disco FORO
Fri 26 th	
Mon 29 th	
Tues 30 th	
Jul	
Wed 1 st	
Thurs 2 nd	
Fri 3 rd	8.30am Parent book look
Mon 6 th	
Tues 7 th	
Wed 8 th	
Thurs 9 th	
Fri 10 th	
Sat 11 th	Family Learning
Mon 13 th	
Tues 14 th	6.00-8.00 Governors Meeting
Wed 15 th	Class swap Disco FORO
Thurs 16 th	
Fri 17 th	
Mon 20 th	Reports out
Tues 21 st	Y6 leavers assembly
Wed 22 nd	1.30pm School Breaks up for Summer!

ART WORKSHOP

HOSTED BY SWINDON & NORTH WILTS DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY WITH COMMUNITY ARTISTS 'NO ADDED SUGAR'

A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAF/HAVE A HEARING LOSS TO COME TOGETHER AND EXPLORE DEAF AWARENESS AND IDENTITY THROUGH ART.

DATE: FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2019

TIME: DROP OFF AT 9.15 FOR A 9.30 START, COLLECT AT 2.30

VENUE: THE DORCAN ACADEMY, ST PAUL'S DRIVE, SWINDON SN3 5DA

Parents/guardians to drop off and pick up. If this is not possible please contact us to discuss transport arrangements. All materials provided, attendees just need to bring a packed lunch. For more information and to register your interest please contact Barbara Anscombe by email at swindon@ndcsgroup.org.uk by Friday 12th July. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

DCS

Swindon & North Wilts
Deaf Children's Society

www.swindonandnorthdcs.org

Membership is free!

community artists
**no added
sugar**

www.noaddedsugar.org



'To create centres of educational excellence that inspire all pupils to turn their Potential into Performance'

Local Governors Required

The Trustees of The Park Academies Trust are looking to recruit Local Governors for the schools within the Trust.

The aim of this is to increase the capacity and level of expertise on the Local Advisory Boards (LABs) and are particularly interested in hearing from those with skills and experience in any of the following areas:

- A passion for voluntary work and improving school standards
- Accounting and Finance
- Education
- Human Resources
- Legal expertise
- Project Management
- Team Leading/Managerial
- Previous Governance experience

What does a Local Governor do?

Trustees delegate various Governance functions to the LABs which are based within each school within the Trust. The Local Governors within the LABs focus on improving standards at that individual school.

What's the commitment involved and what's in it for me?

Currently, Local Governors meet around 6 times a year for committee meetings. You will need to allow time to prepare for these meetings, ensuring papers are read and suitable challenging questions are formulated. You will need to make a commitment to attend training to expand your knowledge of governance. There are times when additional support is required and you may be called to support the school with sitting on various panels relating to behaviour or complaints.

Although the position of a Local Governor is purely a voluntary position, it is rewarding and allows you to make a difference to the lives of young people in the local community. You will gain new skills and experience and get the chance to meet and work with other Local Governors and Trustees who are as passionate about improving educational outcomes as you are.

Can I be a Local Governor at my child's school?

Trustees need to consider where your skills and experience would fit best across the Trust, therefore we cannot guarantee that you would be on the LAB of your child's school. However, you would still be making a valuable contribution to the overall aims of the Trust.

How do I register an interest in becoming a Local Governor?

We would love to meet you to discuss how your skills and expertise could benefit the Trust. Please email Jo Brown, Company Secretary on clerk@theparkacademiestrust.com along with details regarding what you could bring to the role of a Local Governor. We look forward to hearing from you!

Louise Bouteiller
Chair of Trustees of The Park Academies Trust