

News from Oldfield

It's fun to learn

Friday 27th February 2026

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back to Spring Term 2! We hope you all enjoyed a restful half-term break. It has been wonderful to see our school community return refreshed and ready for learning, and we have had a fantastic first week back. Our pupils have made an excellent start to their new learning sequences across the curriculum. In geography and science, children have begun exploring their new units, and you will have already received the accompanying knowledge organisers to support learning at home. New themes have also begun in other subject areas, including music and computing, and the children have shown great enthusiasm as they get stuck in. Year 5 kicked off their new geography topic with an exciting visit to the River Thames, giving them a first-hand experience to support their upcoming learning. We were also delighted to welcome choirs from a number of local schools this week as preparations begin for the RBWM Junior Music Festival taking place this summer. It was an inspiring and joyful musical afternoon for all involved.

Next week marks Book Week, and we are very much looking forward to celebrating all things reading. Activities will include author visits, a special trip to the library for our class librarians, Breakfast with Books, storytelling experiences, and a variety of online events. As mentioned previously, we will not be dressing up for World Book Day this year so that we can keep the focus squarely on the joy of reading and avoid the distractions that costume days sometimes bring. We will celebrate the end of this term with a non-uniform day on Friday 27th March when children are all welcome to wear any outfit of their choosing.

Before half-term, you received your child's report card, which shared assessment information based on learning from the autumn term. Over the coming weeks, we will be updating these assessments and look forward to sharing your child's progress with you during the upcoming parent and carer meetings, scheduled for the fortnight before the Easter holidays. Please keep an eye out for the email containing sign-up information so that you can secure a convenient appointment time. Please also remember our Open Afternoon on Monday 9th March, which offers another valuable opportunity for you to come into school and learn more about your child's classroom experience and current learning.

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding the government's new Schools White Paper, which outlines future plans for schools, including proposals relating to attendance, school trusts, and changes to how SEND provision will be funded and managed. As a school, we have read the document carefully and are committed to meeting any new guidelines once they are introduced. A consultation period will now follow, and legislation will be developed in due course. During this time, we will continue working closely with local schools, the local authority, and professional bodies to fully understand what these changes may mean for our community. Please be assured that all current SEND arrangements in place for your child will remain unchanged. As soon as we know more about how any new requirements will be implemented at Oldfield, we will share this information with you and make time available for any questions you may have. We always strive to do the very best for every pupil in our school and welcome any government support that may help make the SEND system clearer and more consistent for families and schools.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. We wish you all a wonderful weekend, *Catherine Page*

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Key Dates

Monday 2nd to Friday 6th March—Book Week

Thursday 5th March at 9.10 am—Year 1 Assembly for Y1 parents and carers

Friday 6th March at 9.10 am—Celebration Assembly with all parents and carers invited

Monday 9th March at 2 pm—Termly open afternoon for all parents and carers

Thursday 12th March at 9.10 am—Reception Assembly for all Reception parents and carers

Friday 13th March before school—OSA Mothers' Day breakfast

Monday 16th to Friday 20th March—Science Week

Monday 16th March—Individual parent and carer meetings—Day 1

Tuesday 17th March—Individual parent and carer meetings—Day 2

Friday 20th March at 9.10 am—Celebration Assembly with all parents and carers invited

Monday 23rd March—Individual parent and carer meetings—Day 3

Friday 27th March—Non-uniform Day

Friday 27th March at 9.10 am—Celebration Assembly with all parents and carers invited

Friday 27th March at 1.30 pm—School closes for the Easter holidays

Monday 13th April—First day of the Summer Term and all pupils return to school

Open Afternoon—Monday 9th March

On Monday 9th March, we will be running our termly open afternoon between 2 and 3 pm. During this time, parents and carers have the opportunity to visit their child's classroom, look through their work and speak informally with the staff in the class. We are really looking forward to welcoming you into school and would appreciate it if you could adhere to the following requests:

- ⇒ Please arrive between 2 and 2.50 pm as 2.50 pm will be the last time you can enter. We need to finish by 3 pm to ensure we can complete our 'end-of-day' routines.
- ⇒ Parents and carers are welcome to leave with their child earlier than normal. If you would like to leave with your child after you have looked through their work, please inform your child's class teacher before leaving.
- ⇒ If you have more than one child at Oldfield and you would like to take your children early, please start with your oldest child, visit all the classrooms and then go back to the classroom to collect them at the end (as we don't want older pupils waiting in other classrooms for you to finish).
- ⇒ Save any personal or specific questions for your child's class teacher until the individual parent and carer meetings which take place in the fortnight following the open afternoon.
- ⇒ Please do not seek to park on site unless you have a permit or are a blue badge holder.

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Annual Parent and Carer Survey Feedback



The teaching staff have been very prompt to speak to me when I had concerns. In one instance, I did feel a bit as though I was being 'heard' as an anxious parent rather than having legitimate concerns. An issue from the previous academic year had not been handed over to the new teaching staff and I had to explain at speed what had happened.

(My child is) constantly hurting himself and no communication from teachers



Thank you for this comment and I am pleased you felt the response from school was prompt.

I am sorry you felt that key information was not handed over to your child's new class teacher. Unfortunately, with 30 individual children to discuss during our transition meetings, there are some issues or concerns which aren't always discussed at length. However, if ever you want to share something with your child's class teacher, please do pop the information into an email as teachers will always aim to read these within one working-day.

Going forward, we are looking to increase the time we give over to transitioning between classes which will hopefully support all key information being shared with the new professionals working with children at the turn of the academic year.

Thank you for sharing this perspective with us. We are aware it can be really frustrating when your child has hurt themselves in school and this information is not shared with you in a timely fashion.

For this reason, we have introduced Medical Tracker this year. Championed by our School Business Manager, James Wye, and Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Havelock, this system has been in place for a few months now following staff training. It allows staff to notify parents and carers immediately if your child has received first aid treatment in school. Please be assured, we will still call you in the event your child has sustained a serious injury or is not deemed to be well enough to be in school.

Given this has only relatively recently been embedded, please do contact me via the school office if you have any feedback on our use of Medical Tracker as we are keen to make sure we are using it as effectively as possible!

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