



Headteacher Update



2024 - 2025

Monday 4th November – Welcome Back

I hope you all had a good break and enjoyed the small bit of sunshine that we had. If your circumstances have changed over the holidays, please speak to your child's class teacher or one of the team so we can offer support as needed.

OPAL Play

As the quote says *'there is no such thing as bad weather only unsuitable clothing'*.

With the weather changing, I am once again reminding you that **your child will be playing outside in all weathers**, as per our OPAL play policy. The only weather we do not go outside in is dangerous or extreme weather. Please make sure your child is coming to school daily with an appropriate coat for the weather, ideally warm, waterproof and with a hood. You know your child best, if you think they need waterproof trousers/a puddle suit please also provide this. We have purchased some waterproof trousers but not enough for every child, these will be available alongside the welly library.

Your child will also have daily access to the muddy areas of school and will be allowed to access these spaces with wellies, please provide these to stay in school (each year group has a welly shed). All items of clothing and shoes/wellies **MUST** be named. We are also happy for you to provide a spare set of clothes (trousers/joggers/socks) if you think your child might need them after playing outside, they will be allowed to get changed after lunchtime if needed.

Reminder: Our rearranged Parent OPAL morning with Bobby Beaumont (our OPAL mentor) is on Tuesday 19th November 9:00 – 10:30. This includes a 30-minute talk with Bobby and our Play Leaders and then 1 hour of play outside with your child/children.

Arbor

Thank you to all of the parents who use the Arbor app regularly, this is our main way of communicating with parents, both from the school office and the class teachers (PROUD points and Behaviour incidents). Please make sure you are checking it daily and keeping on track with messages. We are reviewing how messages will be sent, with the awareness that it can sometimes feel over whelming. If you have any questions or need help with Arbor, please speak to a member of the office team.

School Office – timings

The school office is open from 8:00am through to 4:30pm. Before and after these times, there is an answer phone message option if you are phoning in, as well as an option to speak to After School Club. Although staff might be in school, the office will not be open.

Uniform

Thank you to all the parents who have followed the school uniform policy for both 'School Uniform' and 'PE uniform', it has been fantastic seeing so many pupils' looking smart. A few issues we are still seeing are:

- **Earrings being worn on PE days** – they need to be removed before school. If they are newly pierced, parents **MUST** cover them before school with tape or plasters.
- **Logos on PE shorts/PE t-shirts/PE jumpers** – we have asked that the clothing is plain and does not have sports logos. Plain black shorts and jumpers/hoodies and plain white t-shirts

If you are unsure about the uniform policy, please refer to the website: [School Uniform Information | Old Basford School](#).

School Timings

Once again, we are seeing an increase in pupils arriving late in the morning or being picked up late at the end of the day. Please make sure your child is in school daily and on time.

Start of the day - Gate open – 8:40

Lesson start - 8:50

If your child arrives after 8:50am, they are late and will need to sign into the office using InVentry – Younger pupils will need an adult to do this for them.

The number of times a pupil is late is monitored and missed learning minutes are tracked.

End of the day - Gates open at 3:20.

All pupils should be collected and off site by 3:25.

If you know you are going to be late for a 'one off' collection, please contact the school office and inform us. The late collections are monitored and charges could be issued for places at after school club if it persists or parents are excessively late for collection.

Staffing Updates

You will remember me updating you on the Basford Baby Boom and as promised I have further staffing updates:

Mrs Black gave birth to Arthur George Black on 2nd October – both mum and baby are doing well.

Mrs Pickup (Nursery W-F) starts her maternity leave in December and Miss Rosindell will be replacing her from January.

Miss Booth (Year 4) starts her maternity leave mid-January and Miss Dourneen will be replacing her from 6th January as the Class 9 teacher.

Mrs Jones (Year 6) starts her maternity leave at February half term but Mr Summersby will be replacing her from 6th January as the Class 14 teacher and Mrs Jones will be teaching across school for half a term.

We also this week, say a sad goodbye to Miss Watkins who has made the very tough decision to leave OBS and change her career path. I know you will join me in wishing her lots of luck in her new role. Her last working day is Friday 8th November.

Christmas

I appreciate its only the start of November but with only 51 days until Christmas, I know some of you will be getting organised. As with last year, we will be allowing pupils (and staff) to wear Christmas jumpers instead of OBS jumpers (normal uniform remains) throughout December - starting Monday 2nd December. Mrs Tee will be organising a Christmas jumper swap/sale in the next few weeks, so please pass us any that are too small or no longer wanted. We will also be opening the Christmas card post box for any pupils who would like to send cards to their friends but we DO NOT provide class lists.

More information will follow closer to the time about other events.

Dates

Please check the attached dates sheet as there have been some updates.

Autumn Term dates

Dates that have been added are highlighted yellow

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4.11.24		Pupils individual class photos		9:00 Willow parents art workshop	
11.11.24		9:00 – Y3 parents Maths workshop Odd Socks day – anti bullying week	9:00 – Y1 parents Maths workshop	10:45 – morning Nursery parents stay and play 2:30 – all day Nursery parents stay and play	Children in Need Day – more information to follow
18.11.24	Disco	9:00 – 10:30 – Parents OPAL event			
25.11.24				9:00 SEND parents coffee morning	
2.12.24	Christmas jumpers can start to be worn with school uniform (for month of December)		Nursery and F2 Nativity to parents (more information to follow)		9:00 – Y2 parents Maths workshop
9.12.24					
16.12.24	9:00 - Y1 parents – Achievement Assembly 2:45 – F2 parents – Achievement Assembly	9:00 – Y2 parents – Achievement Assembly 2:45 – Y3 parents – Achievement Assembly	9:00 – Y5 parents – Achievement Assembly Christmas Dinner Day! 2:45 – Y6 parents – Achievement Assembly	9:00 – Y4 parents – Achievement Assembly 11:00 - Nursery parents – Achievement Assembly 3:05 – Y5 parents showcase	
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS					

School finishes on Friday 20th December and all pupils are back in school on Monday 6th January.