



# Headteacher Update



2025 - 2026

## Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – General Update

### Christmas Cards

Once again, we are going to be designing personalised Christmas cards across school. Not only are these a lovely keepsake, but they also help to raise funds for Old Basford School. As well as cards, you will also be able to buy lovely Christmas gifts such as mugs, tea towels and fridge magnets, with your child's own design on them. The children are busy designing at the moment, and your design and order forms will be sent out as soon as they arrive in school.

### Parents Evening

A gentle reminder that on **Tuesday and Thursday next week (30<sup>th</sup> September and 2<sup>nd</sup> October)** we will be holding the first Parents Evening of the year. This is an opportunity to meet the class teacher to discuss how your child has settled in school, ask any questions and hear about ways in which you can support them at home. We welcome the children to attend these meetings alongside parents. Please check with the office if you are unsure of your appointment time.

### OPAL Play

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for our Parent OPAL Play morning yesterday, it was great to see adults enjoying the play offer we have for our pupils at OBS. Please can I ask that your child has a **pair of named wellies** in school as soon as possible. The weather is changing and we will soon be getting muddier areas around school. Also remember that your child will need a **named waterproof coat**, as we do play outside in wet weather.

As in previous years, we do ask that any wellies that are 'outgrown' or no longer needed, please can we have them as spares for other pupils. This year, we are also trying to build up a bank of spare waterproof coats, so if you have a coat that is 'outgrown' or no longer needed, please could it be donated to school. As a school, last year we purchased waterproof trousers for any pupils who wish to wear them.

### End of the Day appointments

We have seen an increase in parents arriving at school between 3:00pm – 3:20pm stating they have an appointment and need to collect their child early from school. Please remember that if you need to collect your child early on a specific day, we do ask that you inform a member of staff that morning or phone the school office during the day. This is to ensure our safeguarding procedures are followed.

### Macmillian Coffee Morning – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September

We would love to see as many of you as possible for coffee (or tea) and cake on Friday morning. The charity event has become a regular part of our OBS calendar and we are always blown away by parents and staff's generosity with cake donations and money contributions to a wonderful charity. Let's see how much we can raise this year 😊

### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September Assembly focus

On Monday, we had our whole school assembly which focused on two words 'Equality' and 'Equity', the meaning of both being: *'Equality means giving everyone the exact same resources or opportunities, while equity means providing each child with what they uniquely need to achieve an equal outcome, recognizing that not everyone starts from the same place.'*

Within the assembly we spoke about how some children benefit from different approaches, resources, teaching styles and ways of learning and how sometimes it seems unfair. The children were fantastic at identifying what adaptations we have in school and why certain children might need them to be successful.

I also explained to the children that if the teacher thinks they would benefit from an adaptation it is for the adult to decide not the child. I would also like to ask that if you think your child would benefit from an adaptation, you please speak to the class teacher rather than providing your own. We have seen a vast increase in pupils bringing in fidget toys, note books, teddies etc from home which then can cause problems in class.

On parents evening, Mrs Heywood (Special Needs lead) will be available to have any specific conversations with if you have concerns or are in need to advice.

I have attached the assembly for you in case you want to look alone or alongside your child. The video we watched can be found: [It's OK to be Different by Sharon Purtill. Children's audiobook about diversity and kindness](#) 🤍

### **Medicines including inhalers**

If your child needs to have prescribed medication in school, please make sure it is handed into the office each day and the relevant medical form is completed.

If your child has an inhaler, please make sure you have updated their 'asthma care plan' and we have a named, in date inhaler in school.

If your child is not feeling 100% but is well enough to come to school but you think they would need paracetamol (Calpol) during the day, please provide school with this and complete the medical form at the office.

### **Money into school**

Please can we ask that your child's Arbor account is in credit if you know your child will be having paid school meals or attending Breakfast Club or After School Club. All money should be paid in advance, only order a school lunch if your child's account is in credit. If there are any problems, please contact the school office who will help.

### **Pupil Premium & Free School Meals**

We want to ensure that all our pupils receive the best possible support in school. Did you know that your child may be eligible for additional funding through the Pupil Premium? This funding is provided to schools by the government to help support eligible children and improve their educational experiences.

Please complete the form using the following link, <https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/oldbasford>