



Ormskirk Church of England Primary School

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16th September 2024

Dear Parents,

By tomorrow night all class timetables will be on the new school website and by Friday lots more information will be added about the curriculum and extra-curricular clubs. We will be splitting the newsletter in two, one letter every week will have purely information updates. Then, every four weeks there will be 'Magical Moments from the Month' which will include photos of shining stars, images from trips and events, as well as examples of learning in all the different age groups.

Successful Trips Last Week

Last week Y6 paddled around, climbed and abseiled whilst developing their teamwork skills. There was a lot of laughter and smiles throughout the day. When the weather became blustery the children enjoyed tucking into some extra biscuits and chocolate treats as they sat around a large log burner fire.

Y5 visited Conwy Castle, attempted to attack the castle up a steep hill and then studied many of the nooks and crannies inside the castle including the chapel, the well and towers. They then zipped across to Caernarfon Castle where they could spot common features. They also noticed the variations dictated in part by the physical geography and aspect of the site. Children were dizzy from the numerous spiral staircases, and a few had their hats blown off from the castle walls as they looked out to the harbour. Fortunately, the wind dropped as the coach neared Snowdon. On the walk up the sun came out so the children could complete sketches and appreciate the views as they looked out on the beautiful Welsh countryside.

Y4 entered the dark and mysterious White Scar Caves with a mixture of excitement and trepidation. Then there were many ooohs and arrhs as they passed by stalactites and watched water drip over and through the limestone rocks. Water rushed beneath their feet and at one point they even saw an underground waterfall! Later they studied the huge viaduct near Ingleton and sketched the small river running through the rural village of Clapham. The trip is linked to the Year 4 topic of Rivers and Water.

Upcoming Trips

Y3 children are preparing a survey to help them learn about Ormskirk town centre. They will be looking at historical landmarks as well as collecting data on the types of shops and local businesses we currently have in the town centre. They will then learn how this may have changed over time. The year group will need some volunteers who have DBS clearance and are not parents Year 3. The likely date for the local visit will be Wednesday 25th September (if you can help volunteer then please email the school office – thank you).

Y2 are visiting Manchester Airport and going on a section of a DC10 (please don't worry they won't take off!). As they will be travelling by train we are splitting them into their classes for the trip. 2P will be going on Thursday 3rd October and 2W will be going on Friday 4th October. More details will be shared with Y2 parents by the end of this week. This trip is linked to the year group's study on mechanisms, explorers and looking at the World's continents and oceans. In some ICT lessons the children will look at flight plans and use Google maps to see how different places look from great heights.



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Y1 are looking for a new school pet and one with stripes would be interesting – not a tiger ... maybe a zebra? We shall see what they find at Knowsley Safari Park when they visit on Thursday 10th October. The trip is to help their topic on Animals.

Reception have their trip right at the end of the autumn term which is linked to their theatrics in the Christmas Nativity. More will be divulged in November / December.

As you know all the autumn and spring trips are paid for directly by school. We believe that children learn so much on each outing and often the trips bring to life the learning in the classroom.

A few Key Dates

- School Open Day: this Friday 20th September tours at 9.15am and 1.15pm – we must quickly get those banners up! We will have a second Open day the following Friday 27th September too (same times) – do mention to parents of young children who you may know, thank you.
- We will be sending a link to a Parent View survey on Wednesday – please complete this as it really helps guide us with some decision making going forward.
- 25th September guitar lessons start. The on the 27th September keyboard lessons begin.
- Parents' Evening is on Tuesday 1st October (4 to 6pm) and then on the 3rd October (5 to 7pm)
- On Friday 11th October 6H are leading worship at 910am – parents of this class are welcome to attend.
- Year 2 are helping lead the whole school harvest celebration in church on Friday 18th October. On this day all children except nursery and Reception attend. Y1 to Y6 are dropped off directly at church by parents by 9am. Parents from any age groups are welcome to join us in church. On that morning the nursery and Reception doors are opened slightly earlier than normal for parents who need to drop off in two places.
- Monday 21st to Friday 25th October is half term and there is an INSET day on Monday 28th October (school is closed that day whilst lots of staff are updating first aid training etc.). Scaffolding comes down.
- Wednesday 30th October – flu immunisations
- Monday 4th November: Firework display.

More key dates will be shared in the weekly 'Information Update' as will information on homework and some pointers for what to look out for on the school website. In the meantime, we are all looking forward to the next seven days of sunshine 😊.

Mr Storch