



March 2018 Newsletter

The children of The Oval have worked really hard this term. Our football and athletics teams have represented school, playing with skill, pride and outstanding sportsmanship. The Year Three Poetry Club performed their poem about the environment to local schools with great enthusiasm.

Mrs McGeary took a group of Year Five pupils to participate in a competition at The National Space Museum. Mrs McGeary was thoroughly impressed with the outstanding science knowledge of our children shared.

School is very proud that we achieved the Silver Award for the Rights Respecting School Award earlier this month and we already have our sights set on the Gold Award.

We are delighted to share some wonderful news with parents. Both Mrs Foulds and Mrs Anwar have had baby girls. Both Mothers and babies are doing well.

We wish you all a very happy Easter and hope you have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Miss J Harris and Mrs D Williams



ASSISTANT HEADTEACHERS' NEWS

Nursery And Reception - Mrs Chadda

Pupils in nursery have enjoyed their mini beast topic and have been learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. They have enjoyed acting out the very hungry caterpillar story and listening to the different mini beast stories. They have also applied their knowledge of patterns to make their fruit kebabs and enjoyed eating them with their friends.

In reception, pupils have been working hard to improve their writing skills. Thank you to all those parents who have attended the phonics sessions as it has had a great impact on their writing skills. The pupils have also been learning about different kinds of transport and reading books related to this topic. The pupils have also enjoyed a walk to our local park and church as part of their geography topic as well as learning about the history of the old church (St Edburgha's in Yardley).

Finally, a big thank you to all parents for continually attending our parent workshops every week and we look forward to seeing you all again after the Easter holiday.

Years 1 And 2 - Mrs Poulson

With the Easter break getting closer it's hard to believe we are nearly two thirds of the way through the school year already! Year 1 have been enjoying their 'Space' topic and have been learning about what it's like being an astronaut. They also enjoyed their trip to the Gurdwara earlier this month where they found out lots of new things. Keep your diary free for an important meeting on Tuesday 24 April 2018 at 9.00am about year 1 phonics screening check - a separate letter will be sent to you with more information soon.

Year 2 have been busy learning about inventors and inventions in their topic work and have enjoyed a fantastic trip to Coventry Transport Museum where they got to see lots of fascinating vehicles from the past. They really enjoyed the cycle workshop where they found out who invented different cycles!

Next term will be a busy one too when we will be holding an information session about the year 2 National Curriculum Assessments (known as SATs) on Tuesday 17 April 2018 9.00am - looking forward to seeing you.

Years 3 And 4 - Mrs Williams

Wow! We've almost completed the second term, which means after the Easter holidays, we only have one term left. Therefore, it is crucial that every lesson counts and that pupils are in school every day, on time! In celebration assembly, we have started to reward the classes with the best attendance each week with extra play time or G2B6 time. Parents/carers, please help your child's class win by getting them into school every day.

There have been some lovely trips this month as part of our Religious Education lessons. Year 3 visited the Spring Hill Synagogue in Birmingham city centre last week and were given a guided tour by one of the congregation. We all learned so much about the Jewish religion and their customs and traditions. The children behaved wonderfully and were very respectful. Year 4 are visiting St Philip's Cathedral in the last week of term and I am positive they will represent our school as well as year 3 pupils did.

Thank you so much to those parents/carers who have been hearing their child read at home and signing their diaries. There has been a definite increase in some classes. Please ask your child about their book, when they last took an Accelerated Reader test and what their score was. Some children have been working so hard to improve their test scores each week - very well done!

A reminder about PE Kits. We are noticing that lots of pupils do not have their PE Kits in school each week and many pupils do not have suitable footwear for PE lessons. PE is a national curriculum requirement that all pupils must participate in, therefore they must have their full kit in school each week. We advise bringing their kit in on a Monday and taking it home to be washed on Friday. PE Kits can be ordered from the office. Thank you for your support with this.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful holiday break and, for those of you who will be celebrating, Happy Easter!

Years 5 And 6 - Mrs Mason

Another month has flown by and Year 6 pupils are a step closer to their SATs, taking place in May. We are all so impressed with the way the children are working. Many thanks to all the family members who were able to join us for the 'learn with your child' workshop. We hope you found it useful to look at the SATs papers and to hear about the ways in which you can support your child at home.

Year 6 were also really excited to learn about their secondary school places this month. We are looking forward to working closely with our partner secondary schools during June and July, to ensure all the children enjoy a smooth transition. If you have any questions about the place your child has been allocated you need to ring 0121-303 1888 or look at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Year 5 had a fabulous time on their recent trip to Safe Side. The children reported that the activities were really fun, but that they also learnt lots. Back at school, the children have now started their topic about inspiration figures and we look forward to seeing some wonderful and interesting work. Good luck Year 5 in your 'I'm a celebrity' challenges! Lastly, thank you to all those parents and carers that were able to attend Year 5's e-safety workshop on 15th March. It was lovely to see so many families supporting the children in their presentation.

UNICEF NEWS

The Oval started the journey to become a Rights Respecting school initially to help pupils build resilience in order to keep themselves safe. After we were awarded our Recognition of Commitment (now called Bronze Award) we further embedded the Articles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in the children's daily school life and the curriculum "to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive"*.

We are very proud that, following our assessment visit on Tuesday 6 March, we have been awarded Silver Level.

The assessors were very impressed that all pupils from nursery to year 6 could talk about the rights all children are entitled to. Pupil voice is very strong at The Oval and members of our Safeguarding Board showed the visitors around the school, discussing our class charters, displays, work and ethos that prove we are a Rights Respecting School.

The whole school read the book "Something Else" for (the delayed, due to snow) World Book Day, and then did different activities as ambassadors for Unicef in order to explain which of the character's "Something Else" rights were not being met.

Below you will see a planning sheet from year 6 and this is followed by the beginning of a letter from year 4. Work was shared in a celebration assembly.

We are very pleased that, although it usually takes a school two years to achieve Gold Award after Silver, the assessors anticipated that we should be ready in eighteen months as "the principles of equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation" * are embedded within The Oval School.

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/> *

unicef
for every child

Which rights is Something Else being denied?

Article 2: All children have the right, no matter who they are, what they look like. No child should be treated different on any basis
only basis ✓

He knew that was what he was because everyone said so.

On a windy hill alone with nothing to be friends with lived Something Else.

Article 7: Right to a name. Something Else is not suitable ✓

Article 10: Right to choose your own friends and play in ✓

Article 9: You have the right to see with your parents if possible

Article 20: Right to special care if you are not with parents

Article 24: Safe environment

Article 28: Has a right to education - not getting

Article 31: Right to play and rest.

Alex And Louie Hummel

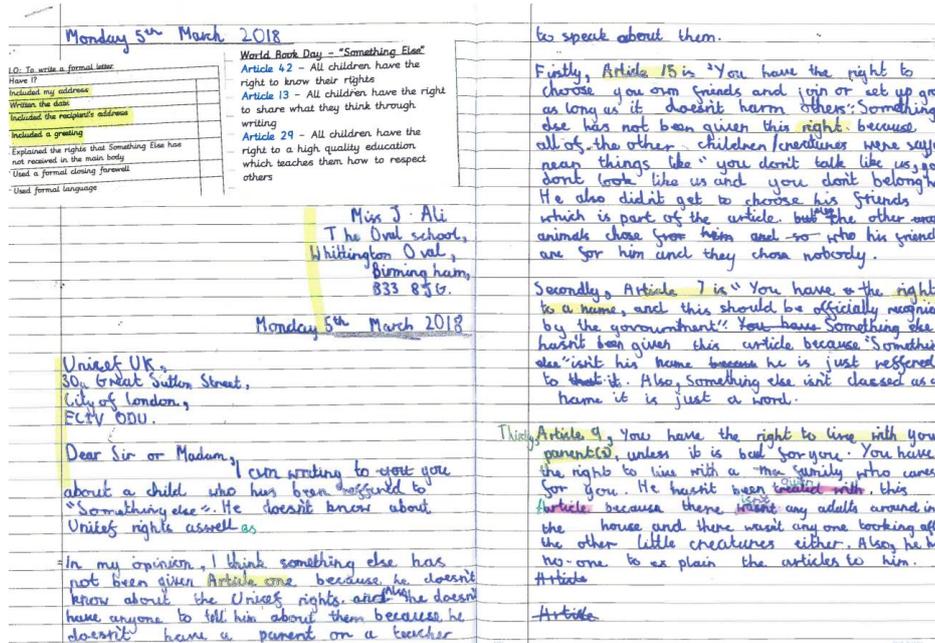
He didn't play the way they played.

As for his packed lunches...

If he tried to sit with them or walk with them or join in their games, they always said:

"You don't belong here," they said. "You're not like us. You're something else."

Article 42: He has the right to know his rights which he doesn't



UNICEF ARTICLE 29

Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities.

We would like children to bring in certificates and photos about their own special talents from home and pass on to the Rights Respecting Rangers to share.



SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TEACHER TRAINING DAY

Please note that school is CLOSED to all pupils on Friday 20 April 2018.



UP TO DATE CONTACT DETAILS/MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please can you ensure the school is updated with any changes to contact details or medical information. Thank you.

REQUEST FOR PLASTIC BOTTLES



The Oval Eco Green House is in need of repair. It has been a great success over the years but the plastic bottles require replacing in areas. If you have any 2 litre empty

bottles that you can donate, please send them into school (washed out please.) The S.N.A.G. team will collect them from classrooms.

Thank you in advance

Mrs Paton- Devine Food Technology Teacher

Mrs J Brown and Miss D Rivers Allotment Managers

NEW POETRY CLUB

A new poetry club has just started after school for a small group of year 3 pupils and some of them will be representing their school by taking part in a Poetry Slam at Tile Cross Infant school along with 8 other schools on Wednesday 28 March. The theme for the Slam is recycling and saving our planet. Our practice sessions have gone really well so far and Miss George and Miss McHenry are looking forward to taking part.

GIRLS ALAN FOWLES 7-A-SIDE FOOTBALL TROPHY FINALS - TUESDAY 6 MARCH 2018

Winners: Timberley

Runners-up: **THE OVAL SCHOOL**

The Oval girls' football team were one of four teams that had progressed from earlier rounds to play in the Alan Fowles football trophy finals at Oasis Academy.

In a very competitive tournament, Oval girls did themselves proud by securing wins against Yardley and Blakenhale and only missed out on their first trophy after losing 1-0 to tournament winners Timberley.

Well done and a great team effort to Alexandra M, Naima I, Tegan H, Monique G, Amatulla L, Kashish N,

Sophie S, Keeley N and Poppy B.

MOTHERS' DAY SALE

Another very successful sale was held and I hope all moms who received gifts enjoyed the thought and time that their child had taken to choose a special gift for them.



POLLING DAY

Please note that school is CLOSED to all pupils on polling day which is Thursday 3 May 2018.

YEAR 4 ATHLETICS COMPETITION

Well done to the year 4 athletics team. They participated in a variety of races and events at Shard End on Thursday 15 March and won first place. The team worked really hard and showed great qualities of sportsmanship throughout. They will now play at the final before the end of term. Well done year 4!

DIARY DATES - SCHOOL PHOTOS

Tuesday 12 June will see our new photographers in school to take a studio-style nursery group photograph followed by the same style of group photographs being taken for the rest of school of Thursday 14 June.

Thursday 18 October will see the photographers back to take pre-school family groups, sibling photos and individual child photos.

ART COMPETITION

Pupils in reception - year 6 have been given the opportunity to take part in an art competition run by Aldi to design a new bag for life for the supermarket with a healthy eating theme and to help combat the issue that plastic is having on the environment. Possible design suggestions include fruit / vegetables, the 5-a-day recommended daily allowance or what makes a healthy start. Entries should be brought into school by Friday 20 April 2018 and given to class teachers ensuring the child's name and class is clearly marked on the entry form. The child who submits the winning design will receive Aldi vouchers and 2 bags for life with their design on plus a visit to their school from a GB athlete. Get creative!!!

UNIFORM

All of our school uniform range is now available at Mansuri Schoolwear in the Poolway Shopping Centre.

Uniform is still available to buy from school online with your ParentPay account.



CASHLESS

As you will be aware you can now pay for school meals, trips and uniform online via ParentPay. Please make every effort to pay online as we are working towards being a cashless school.

You will have received a letter with log on and password details to register online, if not please contact the school office to request a copy.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 29 March 2018	School closes at the end of the day for Easter
FRI 30 MAR - FRI 13 APRIL	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR EASTER HOLIDAY
Monday 16 April 2018	School opens to all after Easter
FRIDAY 20 APRIL 2018	TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Monday 23 April 2018	Reception (Squirrels) To Visit Twycross Zoo
Tuesday 24 April 2018	Reception (Rabbits) To Visit Twycross Zoo
Wednesday 25 April 2018	Reception (Hedgehogs) To Visit Twycross Zoo
Thursday 26 April 2018	Year 5 (5.1 And 5.2) To Visit Buddhist Centre
Friday 27 April 2018	Year 5 (5.3) To Visit Buddhist Centre
Tuesday 1 May 2018	Year 4 To Visit Lunt Fort
THURSDAY 3 MAY 2018	POLLING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
MONDAY 7 MAY 2018	BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL
Tuesday 8 May 2018	Year 4 To Visit Lunt Fort
Mon 14 - Thu 17 May 2018	Year 6 SATs Week
Friday 25 May 2018	School closes at the end of the day for half-term
MON 28 MAY - FRI 1 JUN	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR HALF-TERM
Monday 4 June 2018	School opens to all after half-term
Friday 20 July 2018	School closes to pupils for summer holidays

