

11TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Welcome Back!

A particularly warm welcome to all the new families who have joined us this year. The children have made a fantastic start and are clearly delighted to be back with their friends. We have been amazed by their positive attitudes coming into school and it is lovely to see how quickly they have settled. Thank you to everyone for supporting the new systems at the beginning and end of the school day. It is strange. I don't like that I can't welcome you into school as normal. While COVID infections rates are increasing around the country I am trying to ensure that Oasis Academy Ryelands remains open.

School Attendance and COVID

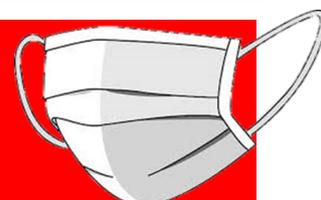
You have probably heard that school attendance is once again mandatory - this means that children should be in school every day unless they are unwell or you have had your request for leave of absence or a medical appointment authorised by the Principal. Last week, our attendance was 95% for most of the week - and then on Friday, it fell to just over 90%. This has been a pattern even before lockdown, and the Local Authority and I will be looking closely at Friday attendance and contacting parents/carers if we are concerned.

It is inevitable that children will be tired at the end of the week, particularly as they are adjusting to the return to routine, early mornings and school work! However, tiredness is not an illness and not an excuse for missing school. As part of the 'back to school' routine, children should be in bed promptly so that they are well-rested and ready for school the next day.

If your child is unwell, they should not be in school, particularly now. It is more important than ever that we are keeping our school community safe and well. The symptoms of COVID are a cough, a fever above 37.8 degrees and the loss of taste and/or smell. A runny nose and a headache is a cold - neither are COVID symptoms, however, if your child feels unwell, they should remain at home until they feel better.

Some of our families already have children at home because they are self-isolating or awaiting the results of a test. EVERYONE in your household should be self-isolating and a Coronavirus test taken ASAP. If the result is NEGATIVE your child/children can return to school as soon as they feel better. If they test POSITIVE please isolate for 14 days. We would like to see proof of the Covid-19 test result whether that is a text message or email sent from the NHS before your child can return to school. Also if you have travelled abroad you may need to self-isolate for 14 days. For these children, the expectation is that they continue to learn while at home, and to support this all year groups will have some home learning sent to them via email to attempt while they are not at school. Education is not optional, and children have already missed far too much learning during lockdown. From Monday, if your family is self-isolating either because they have been contacted by NHS Test and Trace or because of a positive test or awaiting test results, school staff will email you home learning. Unless your child/ren are unwell, they must complete the home learning and return it to their teacher on their return to school. If you have any questions about home learning, please contact your child's teacher through the academy office. Thank you.

Please wear a face covering when dropping off or collecting children. The Government guidance has stated that people should not be in groups larger than 6 and the lack of coverings is making lots of parents/carers uncomfortable. While some people may be exempt and I cannot enforce this, I have to ask. Your cooperation is appreciated.



Autumn Term 2020 Attendance

We expect all children to have at least 96.1%+ attendance, ideally 100%. Please do not request time off in term time for holidays as it could lead to a £120 fine. There are 13 weeks of holiday so please avoid term time holiday! Please note as per Government guidelines any absence related to COVID-19 will not count towards your child's attendance.

Medication

All medication brought into school requires a new consent form to be filled out, this can be obtained by emailing Office@oasisryelands.org

If your child has an asthma pump or epi pen it is the parent/carer responsibility to that ensure they are in date.

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Free School Meals

All of our children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are entitled to a free meal at lunchtime as part of the government's universal offer for all young children in school. However, families on lower incomes are eligible for free school meals regardless of their school year and if you believe your family may be entitled to a free meal at lunchtime due to low income, please ask the office to send you an application form. Any pupil entitled to a free school meal because of low income is also entitled to an additional £1,345 of funding to be spent for the educational benefit of your child, which we spend in a range of ways - to subsidise clubs and trips, to provide additional support in the classroom or to provide a resource or intervention. Ask office staff for an application form if you believe your family may be eligible for this.

Year 6 to Year 7

Please follow the link below to view Croydon Council's Secondary Admissions 2020/2021 Booklet.

Unfortunately, we have had no more information from Croydon Council, but I doubt that any open evenings will be taking place, I imagine they will be virtual. Unfortunately, again, I have no details about them.

<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Secondary%20school%20admissions%202020-21.pdf>

Eco-Council



This year at Ryelands we are establishing an Eco-Council to raise awareness about the environmental issues facing our planet and local area. A representative has been chosen from each class and the team will meet regularly to discuss key issues and take action to make our school more environmentally friendly. We would love to have parent representatives on the council too so if you'd be interested in supporting this endeavour, please email office@oasisryelands.org to register your interest and find out how you could get involved.

Chicks!

KS1 have had great fun welcoming 8 chicks into the world over the last couple of weeks. Year 2 were lucky enough to see them hatch – they were extremely cute and they discovered that there were 2 girls and 6 boys (the girls have brownish feathers)! Year 1 have been enjoying watching them grow this week and have been learning how to look after them. They've gone off back to the farm today!



Jeans for Genes

We will be taking part in this year's Jeans for Genes Day on Friday 18th September. 1 in 25 children has a genetic disorder that makes their life very difficult. That's one in every class. Simply by wearing our jeans and donating, we will change the lives of these children. All children and staff are invited to wear their jeans on **Friday 25th September**. We'd like everyone to take part so please send your child into school on the day wearing their jeans and with a £1 donation. The children will need to still wear the top part of their uniform.



Meet the Teacher

Unfortunately, this term you will not be able to come into school and meet your child's class teacher. But you should have received a PowerPoint and a letter from your child's class teacher with some information about the class, the curriculum and reminders like PE days. If you did not receive a copy please email the office.

Pupil Parliament

Pupil parliament is designed as one group of children elected by their fellow pupils to represent their opinions and raise issues working with their school leaders and academy councillors. The reps will work hard to take forward projects on behalf of their peers and be involved in raising money for charities. Pupil Parliament promotes pupil leadership opportunities, enabling children to develop valuable communication, organisation and debating skills through key roles of responsibility and new experiences. Today children will be participating in a vote to determine who their pupil parliament rep will be for their class. Chosen reps will be announced next week.



Pupil Voice

This Week, our Pupil Voice was held with some of our Year 1 and 2 children.

Year 1

What has it been like coming to school?

'I got used to the changes really quickly'

'Excited'

What sort of things have you been doing?

'Playing with friends'

'Learning'

What have you enjoyed the most?

'Playing football with friends'

'Going outside with friends'

Were you worried?

'Not really'

'No'

Year 2

What has it been like coming to school?

'Really fun'

'Great'

What sort of things have you been doing?

'Playing with friends'

'Learning maths'

What have you enjoyed the most?

'English lessons - it's fun'

'Going outside with friends'

Were you worried?

'Not really'

'No'

Golden Token Winners

This year we have replaced golden tickets with golden tokens. Each adult in the school has 5 golden tokens which they reward to children around the school for positive actions and behaviour. The winning class will be rewarded with a box of games to play with on Friday afternoon for 15mins with their class. The class with the most golden tokens are

Woodpecker class. Well done!



Stars of the Week

At Oasis Academy Ryelands we are driven by a powerful ethos that CAREs. It aspires to treat everyone inclusively and recognises the importance of a holistic approach to education.

We have been giving out our celebration certificates in line with our school values. The children's and staff certificates have been awarded for demonstrating our values, as seen below:

Values

C - Community. We care for our community and help others whenever we can.

A - Aspiration. When you work hard and believe you can do anything you then have options.

R - Resilience. We never stop trying even when it gets tough.

E - Enjoyment. Developing a love of lifelong learning in our community.

The Circle of Inclusion. (which surrounds the word CARE) - We believe we are one family: we play together and learn together and no one is left out.

Community	Edith - Starling Oscar - Sparrow Mrs Brooks
Aspiration	Joshua - Chaffinch Nina - Eagle Quincy - Kingfisher Scarlett - Woodpecker Max - Owl Jaydon - Magpie
Resilience	Dion - Goldfinch Drew - Heron Miss Cooke
Enjoyment	Everyone in Robin and Wren!

Real PE

This half term, all year groups have started taking part in a PE scheme of work called Real PE, it is extremely fun and interactive for all the kids. As part of this scheme there is an online platform with a bank of active games for families to play at home. If you are interested in using this website please send an email to the office with the subject Real PE and your information will be forwarded to Miss Mulvaney, you will then receive an email for you to sign up for an account. I hope to see lots of people take up this brilliant opportunity.



Key Dates

Autumn Term 2020



Date	Activity
Friday 25 th September 2020	Jeans for Genes Day - £1
Thursday 8 th October 2019	Parents Evening – 3:30 – 8:50pm We hope!!
Thursday 15 th October 2020	Equality parents' meeting 6.00pm We hope!!
Friday 16 th October 2020	INSET Day
Thursday 22 nd October 2020	Harvest Festival Practice – St Luke's – PM We hope!!
Friday 23 rd October 2020	Harvest Festival – St Luke's – AM We hope!! Community Tea We hope!!
Friday 23 rd October 2020	Last Day - staggered finishing times

Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th October 2020	HALF TERM
Monday 2 nd November 2020	All Children return
Thursday 19 th November 2020	Individual School Photos
Friday 20 th November 2020	INSET Day
Monday 23 rd November 2020	INSET Day
Tuesday 8 th December 2020 PM Wednesday 9 th December 2020 AM	EYFS & Yr 1 Christmas production We hope!!
Thursday 10 th December 2020	Carol concert – St Luke's rehearsal - AM We hope!!
Friday 11 th December 2020	Carol concert – St Luke's - PM We hope!!
Wednesday 16 th December 2020	Christmas Lunch
Friday 18 th December 2020	Last Day of Term – 1.30pm finish for all children. Please ensure all children are collected by an adult.
Monday 21 st December 2020 – Friday 1 st January 2021	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Please note, these dates are subject to change.