



Overdale Junior School  
Working together, Learning together

# Overdale Junior School Newsletter

## December 2016

Eastcourt Road, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3YA, Tel 0116 288 3736  
[www.overdale-jun.leicester.sch.uk](http://www.overdale-jun.leicester.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs J Hart

### **New Year events/dates**

**Tues. 3<sup>rd</sup> January**  
Teacher only Day

**Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> January**  
School opens – Spring Term

**Tues. 17<sup>th</sup> January**  
Parents' Forum (Healthy Hut)

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb.**  
School closes for ½ Term

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb.**  
School re-opens

### **PA events**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan. 7p.m.**  
PA Meeting (at Juniors)

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb.**  
Family Bingo (at Juniors)

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Mar.**  
Quiz Night (at Juniors)



*Cut down line to detach events list*

### **Message from Mrs Collins**

We are nearly at the end of a very busy term and everyone is ready for a good rest over the Christmas holiday. We have enjoyed learning new and exciting things through the theme of 'Shakespeare' and we are constantly developing our love of reading. So much so, that we are delighted to announce that every child in the school will be presented with a book as a Christmas present from the school. It will be wrapped and given to your child on the last day of term and I'm sure you will encourage them to wait until the big day to open it to see which book they have. Of course, there is the chance that your child already has it or read it, but we hope every child will receive the gift in the spirit that it was intended. Thank you for your kind comments of support and well wishes for Mrs Hart who is recovering from her injuries. Have a wonderful Christmas and we will look forward to hearing about all the books the children have read over the holiday. Happy Christmas!

### **Anti-Bullying Week**

As always the children fully embraced Anti-bullying week during November launched with a FAB (Friends Against Bullying) whole school assembly and then various activities throughout the week. It's an extremely important week for the children to be reminded of the various anti-bullying approaches and messages. Thanks again for your support in chatting with your child/ren about it.



### **Children in Need Day**

A big thank you also to all pupils, parents and staff for the wonderful CIN fund raising events! We raised around £600 - a magnificent sum for BBC Children In Need.

Whether you helped make cookies and cakes, sent money to buy them, got children dressed up like Pudsey or paid to have their faces painted (and hundreds of children did!) we would like to thank you.

There was a great atmosphere in school and lots of dotty outfits too!

### **Overdale Values -Wrist Bands**

Congratulations to everyone who has been awarded one (or more!) of the Overdale Value wrist bands! There is a wrist band per Overdale Value (you can view these on the school website) coloured differently per year group. Staff award the bands to children who have consistently demonstrated one of the values. Well done everyone to date!

## Tree Planting

Children from key-stages 1 and 2 took part in tree planting around the grounds of the Junior School on Friday Dec 9th. We planted 55 trees of 6 varieties (all native) over the course of the day, which will replace the trees that have been cut down over the last few years and also add more variety of species across the grounds. Some of the trees are ornamental and some will bring natural food for the birds in winter. Also, it is hoped that we have provided ample shade in hot summers to come. All of the children in years 3 and 4 took part in the planting and we were also joined by year 2 children from the infant school. Everyone seemed to enjoy 'getting their hands dirty' (some more literally than others!) and we hope that the children will be able to observe 'their' trees progress over the next few years and maybe even sit under them before the end of year 6.

We are very grateful to Alex Hewitt from The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) who obtained the trees, at no cost to the school, and gave up his time to help us plant. These trees were supplemented by another 40 that were donated by the Woodland Trust and planted throughout the spinney by children in Forest Schools sessions.

## Julie's Story

Thank you to everyone who supported the disco event held to raise funds for Julie Cattermole's life-saving immunotherapy treatment. A great evening was had by all and it raised just over a thousand pounds. You can continue to donate should you wish to via Julie's Just Giving page [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/julie-cattermole](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/julie-cattermole).

## Website updates

We are continuing to work hard to maintain and improve the school website with some significant enhancements this term. To support the information being accessible to all we have added a translation button. By clicking the small world icon at the top right of the page you can now select the language you wish to view the site in. We also now have the availability of our School News & Calendar App. Please see the News & Events App section of the website for details of how to download the App for quick access to the latest school news and events on your phone.

## Christmas Tree Festival/Carol Singing

Thank you to all who joined us for Carol Singing with the Salvation Army and to enjoy the amazing trees dressed by each Year Group in both schools. Well done to all staff, children and parents who joined us on decoration morning for creating beautiful trees. And huge congratulations to Year 4 who won the trophy this year with their amazing 'Nutcracker' themed tree.



**WISHING EVERYONE A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS BREAK!**

## **Notices & Reminders...**

### **Lunch Boxes**

Please remember to collect your lunch box at the end of the day particularly at end of term!  
Thank you!



### **Parking!**

Please remember to park considerately when dropping and picking your children up. DO NOT park on the zig zag marked area directly outside school entrances.

#### **This causes great danger.**

We are receiving information of repeated offenders on Eastcourt Rd.



### **Unwanted Christmas Gifts?**

We all get them don't we? Or perhaps there was a little too much chocolate to finish?! Both schools will have a box in reception in the New Year to collect your unwanted items that can be used for prizes at PA events. Thank you!



### **Head Lice**

We are continuing to get reports of head lice. Please take the time over the Christmas break to check and treat your child/ren.  
Thank you.