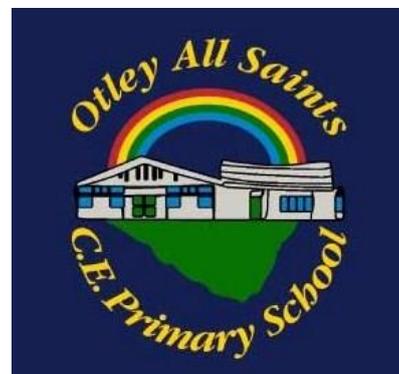


Otley All Saints CE Primary School

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This half term our core Christian value is:



Diary Dates

Monday 6th March – School marks Fairtrade Fortnight

Monday 13th March – PTA Mothers' Day Shop open at lunchtimes this week (not Thursday)

Tuesday 14th March – Y2 handball festival at Prince Henry's

Wednesday 15th March – NEU Strike: Year 1, Year 3 (morning only) and Year 5 closed

Thursday 16th March – NEU Strike: Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 closed

Friday 17th March – Red Nose Day

Tuesday 21st March – Otley Poetry Slam, Prince Henry's

Wednesday 22nd March – Year 2 visit to Bolton Abbey
Parents' Evening 3.30-7.00pm

Thursday 23rd March – Parents' Evening 3.30-5.00pm

Thursday 30th March – Easter Service, All Saints Church, 10am

Friday 31st March – Break up for Easter holidays

Monday 17th April – Summer term begins



World Book Day yesterday was a wonderful celebration of books and reading. We saw some great costumes (a special mention to our Hercules Poirot and Miss Trunchbells, among others!), and had some lovely opportunities to share books with other classes. Children will have received a £1 book token yesterday

(spares are in school if not) which can be used in any book shop, either to gain a reduction or to buy one of the special £1 books that have been produced for World Book Day. Enjoy your reading!

Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal The School Council were delighted at the response to our Backwards Day last week. Despite the short notice, there were lots of reversed clothing, lessons and meals on show, and, most importantly, our community has raised £220 to support the work of the Disaster Emergency Committee in southern Turkey and northern Syria. Thank you so much for your generosity.



Proposed strikes by members of NEU Parents will be aware that the dispute between the National Education Union and the government has not been resolved, and that further strike action by teachers in the NEU is expected. It is important to note that the amount of disruption on the proposed strike days may be affected not only by teacher absence, but also by staff who are obliged to prioritise childcare. On Wednesday 15th March we anticipate that the following classes will be closed: Year 1, Year 3 (morning only), Year 5. All other classes will remain open, unless staffing levels make it unsafe to do so, and pupils in those classes should attend as normal. Pupils in Year 3 should also attend in the afternoon from 1.15pm. On Thursday 16th March we are expecting that Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 will be closed all day. Once again we apologise for the inconvenience caused. While no more intended strikes have been announced at present, it is likely that action will continue unless the dispute is resolved. We will let you know more as soon as we can.





Parents' Evenings, 22nd and 23rd March You will shortly receive notification of our parents' evening appointments, which may be booked through the School Cash Office system (ScoPay) next week. If you are unsure how to do this, or cannot access the system, do get in touch with us, and we will be happy to guide you through the process. On these evenings there will be a chance to look through your child's work and to meet with class teachers. Please note that, with our large class sizes, appointments will be quite brief; if you feel you would prefer a longer appointment please speak to your child's teacher.

Mothers' Day shop We are grateful to our volunteers who have worked hard to prepare and organise the Mothers' Day shop. Children should bring in £3 in a named envelope, and will then be invited at lunchtime to choose a gift from our team of parents led by Bea Marshall-Ngan. Dads and other carers – please support this event, and help make all our mums feel special!



PTA 50:50 Club Congratulations to our February winners – Sara Quin (£92) and Suzie Rose (£23). If you would like to be included in the draw, which raises money for PTA as well as offering the opportunity for a monthly payout, please fill in a form at the school office.



Easter Hat Competition Also organised by the PTA – but with no cost attached – is an opportunity to enter our Easter Hat competition. Prizes will be awarded to the best entries in our different key stages (Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2). We are happy to see snazzy modern designs or traditional Easter bonnets – whatever takes your fancy. Entries should be brought to the hall on the morning of **Thursday 30th March**, and will be judged before we set off to church for our Easter service. In church we will have a parade of children wearing their designs before we announce our winners. The Easter service will be open to all families to attend, and will start at 10.00am in All Saints Church. Please do come and join us for a whole school retelling of the Easter story.

Design Your Team Logo Competition Earlier this week you will have received a letter from Mrs Marston announcing our competition to find a logo or symbol to represent each of our teams – Almscliffe, Chevin, Danefield and Wharfe. There is still time to complete your designs, with the deadline extended to Wednesday 9th March. The winners will then be chosen, and the designs embroidered onto the specially created banners. Huge thanks to Mrs Marston for her hard work on this.

Online Gaming In her capacity as subject leader for computing, Mrs Fortune recently carried out a pupil voice survey on how this subject is taught across the school. The survey highlighted the enjoyment that many of our children get from gaming, but also revealed that many of our children play online with people that they have never met, sometimes communicating with them by text or voice. In most cases, this communication is overseen by parents and is perfectly safe, but it is important that children are aware of the risks relating to this. As part of our online safety curriculum, we teach children about healthy gaming habits. However, it's always valuable to reinforce the message as often as possible. If you would like to support your child in further developing healthy gaming habits, Place2Be have created [a short video](#) as well as helpful advice and links for parents. You can also find important information about online safety [on our website here](#).



Parking Outside School We are hopeful that our encouragement to complete more school journeys without cars is leading to a reduction in the number of vehicles outside school at busy times, but at present we are still experiencing some difficulties. This week our swimming transport experienced difficulties accessing the school site because of the cars parked opposite the car park entrance and on either side of the road near the entrance, including on zigzag lines. We know that only a few cars are involved, and for relatively short amounts of time, but please be aware that inconsiderate parking can have an impact on children's safety as well as the smooth running of the school. Please consider parking further away from school and 'striding' the last bit of the journey – it's better for health, and for the environment.