

Overleigh St Mary's CE Primary School

MESSENGER

Friday 16th February 2024



Dear Overleigh Family,

It has been a wonderful half term and we have enjoyed many special events as well as excellent learning and experiences. We hope you all enjoy a lovely week away and see you all again on Monday 26th February for our Friendship Value Day.

This week Pizzicato led their class assembly. Thank you to everyone who came along to support them as they took us on a digitalised journey into the culture and civilisation of the Maya. It was a joy to see all the children in the class contributing through their spoken parts or assisting Mr Pillow with the whiteboard presentation. All the children spoke with such confidence, projecting their voices and having such clarity as to what they had found out in their learning.

Class Assembly Dates: All at 2.30pm (unless stated) in the main school hall.

Wednesday 14th February:- Y5 Pizzicato

Tuesday 5th March:- Y4 Maestoso

Tuesday 12th March:- Y4 Note

Tuesday 19th March:- Y3 Harmony

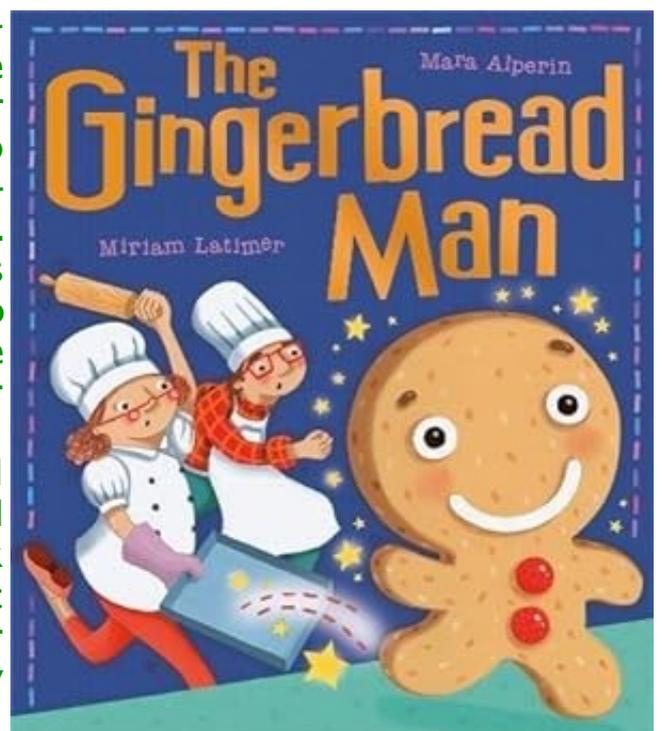
Tuesday 26th March:- Y3 Maestro

World Book Day

On Friday 8th March 2024, we will be celebrating World Book Day. This year's theme across school is to celebrate our Love For Reading. Children will be allowed to come to school on that day dressed as a chosen character from a favourite book they have read. They must also bring the book with them as there will be an opportunity for them to write and discuss why it is their favourite book, so they can recommend it to their peers.

If children do not want to come into school dressed up, they are to come in their school uniform but still need to bring their book with them. If they do not have the book at home, they can speak to their class teacher and we can try to order it from the library service in advance.

There will be lots of exciting activities planned on that day to celebrate our love for reading at Overleigh!



Staff News

Mrs Beaumont has left Overleigh today for pastures new. She has been a huge part of our school administrative and wider school team and will be really missed. She has helped so many children, staff and parents over the years, introduced new systems and ways of working and ensured everything she does is driven by support for our school family.



Miss Beaumont has been busy handing over to the newly appointed team who we will introduce to you after half term. She has worked very hard to try and make the transition as smooth as possible and we are extremely grateful for all her consideration and effort in this regard.

As well as her official roles and responsibilities Miss Beaumont has run clubs, organised events, been the link for the PTA and brought creativity and fun to her role too. It will be very hard for new team members to step into such big shoes!

I am sure you all join with us in wishing her well for her new job where they will be extremely lucky to have her.

Reverend Ric & Family

We have also said a final goodbye to Ric and his family this week. They are moving away from the area and have some wonderful opportunities as well as exciting challenges ahead. We have loved having Ric and the whole team as part of our school family and wish them all every success in their new jobs, schools and ventures.

We held a special worship to celebrate Ric and present him with some gifts. One gift was a stole that was designed and made by the very clever Mrs Redmayne. The pictures don't quite do it justice but it is a remarkable piece of design and stitching and a wonderful memento for Rev Ric to wear and think of Overleigh. (Thank you Mrs Redmayne, what a talented person you are!) Please see later on in the newsletter for our photos of Ric's farewell from school

We also have several families leaving us this half term for new schools and house moves. This includes some of our refugee families who finally have a home to call their own and will be very relieved to move out of the hostel. We send everyone with our love and look forward to learning of their future success.

In Love & Peace,

Emma Drew

Key Dates:

Friday 16 th February	Last Day of Half Term – usual 3.20pm Finish
Monday 26 th February	First Day of Half Term – Values Day - Friendship
Friday 8 th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 20 th and Thursday 21 st March	Parents Evenings (More details in first week back)
Thursday 28 th March	Last Day of Half Term 2.30pm finish
Monday 15 th April	First Day of Half Term - Values Day Wisdom
Monday 6 th May	May Bank Holiday
Monday 13 th May to Thursday 16 th May	Y6 SATs Week
Friday 24 th May	End of Half Term—usual 3.20pm Finish
Tuesday 4 th June	Start of Half Term
Monday 10 th June	Y1 Phonics Screen Test Begins (ongoing)
Tuesday 4 th June to Thursday 14 th June	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check
Monday 24 th June to Friday 28 th June	Sports Days (Exact Year Group date to follow)
Monday 8 th July to Friday 12 th July	Health and Safety Week
Tuesday 23 rd July	Last Day of Half Term 2.15 Finish

Class Assembly Dates: All at 2.30pm (unless stated) in the main school hall.

Tuesday 5 th March:-	Y4 Maestoso
Tuesday 12 th March:-	Y4 Note
Tuesday 19 th March:-	Y3 Harmony
Tuesday 26 th March:-	Y3 Maestro



Last week was Children's Mental Health Week. The theme for this year is, 'My Voice Matters', which is all about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.

We held a special worship to explore the theme further, helped by members of Pupil Parliament, Book Club and our new Well-being Warriors!

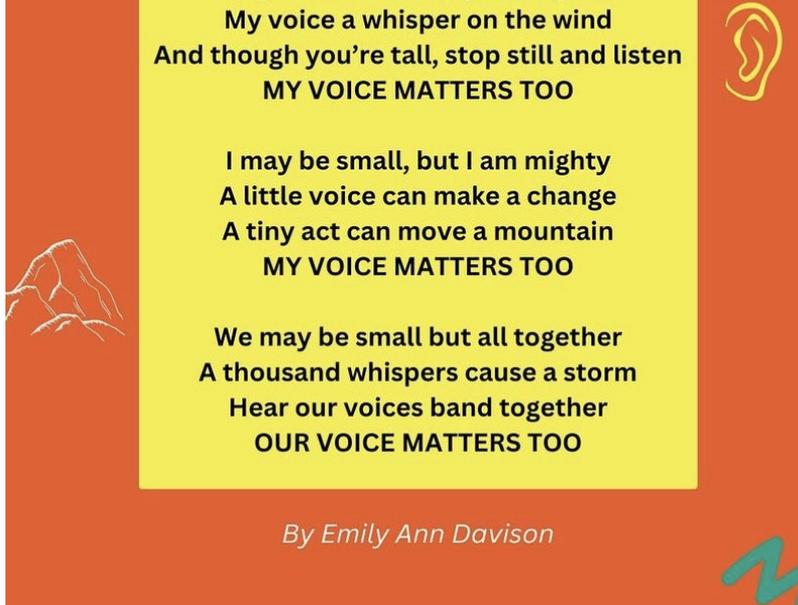
Throughout the week we took part in different activities to express ourselves and to understand what it means in more detail. Mrs McGoldrick has updated the bookshelves near the office to include a selection of books which link to theme. There are some suggested books below which may also be of interest!

**I may be small amongst the giants
My voice a whisper on the wind
And though you're tall, stop still and listen
MY VOICE MATTERS TOO**

**I may be small, but I am mighty
A little voice can make a change
A tiny act can move a mountain
MY VOICE MATTERS TOO**

**We may be small but all together
A thousand whispers cause a storm
Hear our voices band together
OUR VOICE MATTERS TOO**

By Emily Ann Davison



 **Suggested books on this topic**



4-7 year olds

Speak Up! You can make a difference by Nathan Bryon & Dapo Adeola.
This book features a child called Rocket who uses her voice to raise awareness of the local library closing.

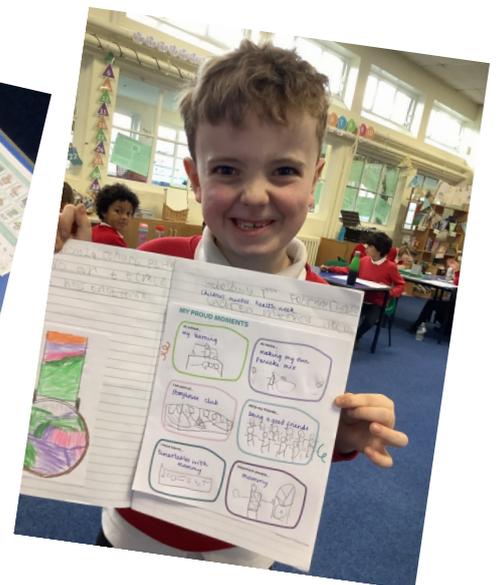


7-11 year olds

Children who changed the world. Incredible true stories about children's rights by Marcia Williams.
This book features the true stories of children who have made a stand for children's rights. Choose one of the stories you think would most appeal to the children.

Other books that may be useful

- **I can be heard. Brave activists that stood up for their beliefs** by Shalini Vallepur.
- **Youthquake: 50 Children and Young People that Shook the World** by Tom Adams.
- **Young fearless, awesome. 25 young people who changed the world** by Stella Caldwell.



My VOICE MATTERS

Place2Be's
CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK

TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

Are you a parent or carer who wants to talk to your child about mental health?

This Children's Mental Health Week we want all children and young people, whoever they are, and wherever they are in the world, to be able to say – and believe – "My Voice Matters".

We visited primary and secondary schools to ask students what they wanted from the week – to help shape the activities we create for schools, the messaging we give to teachers, the tips we give to other children, and the advice we give to parents, carers and families.



LOOKING FOR FREE PRACTICAL ADVICE TO HELP YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD?

Parenting Smart, Place2Be's site for parents and carers, is full of expert advice and tips on supporting primary-age children, and managing their behaviour. and act on their views.

[PARENTINGSMART.ORG.UK](https://parentingsmart.org.uk)

Here's what children and young people told us they need from you:

- 1 We don't need to have 'one-off' conversations about our mental health' – sometimes a chat on a journey or at bedtime is enough.
- 2 I need to know it's okay to talk to you about any and all of my feelings. Please hear what I have to say, without interrupting me.
- 3 Please listen to me carefully and acknowledge how I am feeling – it might seem silly to you but what I am going through is important to me.
- 4 Playing with pets can make me feel better. Same with playing football, basketball or whatever type of sport I am into.
- 5 Don't compare my experiences to your own when you were a child.
- 6 Sometimes I just need you to listen and hear what I'm saying – I don't always need answers (or lectures)
- 7 Please don't worry about trying to fix things for me – I often just need to know you are there for me and understand what I am going through.
- 8 If you are open with me about your feelings, this can help me to be more open about mine.
- 9 Sometimes I don't want to talk. Please trust that I will come to you (or another grown-up or someone my own age) when I'm ready. Sometimes it's easier for me to talk to someone nearer my own age – my siblings, cousins, friends, younger teachers at school - because they 'get it'.
- 10 Sometimes a hug is all it takes to make me feel supported.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

Some ways to start a conversation with your child about mental health could be...

TELL ME ABOUT YOUR DAY

WHAT WAS THE BEST THING ABOUT TODAY?

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST STRESS / WORRY IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?

WHAT'S YOUR ONLINE LIFE LIKE?

WHO WOULD YOU TALK TO IF YOU WERE FEELING WORRIED ABOUT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP YOU?

Good Luck Reverend Ric



Thanks for all your care, love, inspiration and guidance during your time at St. Mary's. We wish you and your family a happy, healthy and successful future in Northumberland. They are so lucky to have you. You will be truly missed by all.

Farewell Reverend Ric



Our school Ethos Group with Reverend Ric.



Reverend Ric snips a link from our Overleigh chain to take with him on his journey.



Reverend Ric leads his last Lord's Prayer at Overleigh. A very poignant moment for our school community.



Reverend Ric thanks the Ethos Group for the beautiful farewell assembly that they put together with the help of Mrs Dalgarno, Mrs Edwards and Miss Drew.



Some of the girls in Year 5 wrote out their own Star of the Week certificate for Reverend Ric to take with him as a memory of why they thought he has been such a special part of our school community.



Reverend Ric begins to thank every single child for their well wishes and to say a personal goodbye to all at the school from Nursery through to Y6, as well as the staff.



Reverend Ric receives his leaving gifts from the Overleigh School Community including a card contributed to by all the children, an amazing stole created by the extremely talented Mrs Redmayne and a plant that can survive in chilly Northumberland.

Gardening Club Spring 1



The Naughty Bus came to visit Reception!

Reception have been enjoying their 'Naughty Bus' topic this half term — We have been busy reading and writing all about the Naughty Bus and what he gets up to in the story. We were so lucky to meet Daz the Driver who came to see us in a double decker bus!



Year 1 Panda Mami Visit



On Thursday, Year 1 were lucky enough to visit Panda Mami in Chester. They walked to and from the restaurant representing our Overleigh family like superstars. At Panda Mami, the children found out how to write the Chinese for dragon and even got to make their own spring roll- delicious!



A huge thank you to Yong and all of the staff at Panda Mami who let us visit their restaurant for free! What a fantastic learning opportunity for our Year 1 pupils.

Friday Certificates 16.02.24 Star of the Term



Class	Value	Comment
Crotchet	Integrity	Star of the term is Maximus. For always persevering with his tricky words in phonics, writing sentences using capital letter, finger spaces and full stops and being a kind friend to everyone. You are a lovely boy to have in the class and we are so proud of you, Keep it up Maximus. Well done!
Minim	Wisdom	David has really settled into school at Overleigh since joining us before Christmas. Throughout the term he has come on leaps and bounds with his Phonics and Reading, he has also become so much more confident with his English speaking. David should be really proud of the progress he has made already and should keep up the good work next term!
Ballad	Wisdom	Zen for working incredibly hard writing a fantastic account of Goldiluck and the Three Pandas. Zen showcased all the mastery targets we have been working on this term in a fantastic piece of writing. Well done Zen, we are very proud of you.
High Note	Wisdom	All term, Ivy has been working hard and she has made great progress in year 1 so far because she always listens attentively. She is a fabulous writer and makes great contributions during lessons. Great work Ivy keep it up!
Melody	Respect	Melody classes' star of the term is to Elena Jones for Respect. Elena is ALWAYS making great choices in the classroom and around school. Elena follows the classroom rules beautifully and tries really hard to put excellent progress in all her work. I am extremely proud of you Elena. Please keep up all your hard efforts! ☐
Glissando	Friendship	Stefania is such a kind member of our class and is a good friend to her peers. She is always happy to help others and ask other children to play. She knows when a child needs a little bit of extra help or care and she is willing to show integrity and does the right thing to help them. Well done Stefania!
Harmony	Love	My star of the half term is Gracy for wisdom and being an all-round superstar! She is a model student who always follows ready, respectful and safe and always produces work of an excellent standard. Her attitude to learning is flawless which is evidenced in the work she produces! What a star!
Maestro	Integrity	Abigail has been an absolute superstar this half term. She has been working her hardest to achieve her goals, proving successful with gaining her pen license. She is a great role model to everyone in Maestro class and we are all very proud of her and will miss her dearly!
Note	Wisdom	Jude is the star of the half term in Note class for the Christian value of Wisdom. Jude works exceptionally hard in class, especially in English and Maths and he is always pushing himself to reach the challenge tasks. Well done Jude on always having such a brilliant attitude
Maestoso	Service and Stewardship	This half term I am nominating Thomas for Service and Stewardship. Thomas is always willing to help without having to be asked. He always shares his ideas and listens well to everyone. You are a shining examples to others Thomas.
Pizzicato	Integrity	The nomination for Pizzicato class for this half term is Freya Fagan. She has really impressed me this term for her hard work and willingness to learn in every lesson. She is also always incredibly helpful and kind to others.
Allegro	Compassion	Lots of Allegro class have been working hard but I have chosen Oliver Stockdale because he has been not only working hard on his own studies, but has also been helping others with their work. He has been extremely patient and generous with his time and shown genuine compassion. He has never been asked to do this and has always done it discretely. I
Joyeux	Integrity	Greta is a fantastic pupil to have in our class and is a valued member of our school community. She will always follow and show our school values, even when nobody is watching. Greta is the definition of Integrity! She will also remind others to do the same and make sure they are making the right choices. Well done Greta, keep up the excellent efforts.
Hep-tatonic	Integrity	Dylan always tries so hard in everything he does! He has been doing particularly well to achieve some of his individual targets and practising and getting more confident - and more skilled- all the time. His ideas and writing in our English lessons keep impressing us too. His friends love playing with him and we love working with him. What a superstar!
Finale	Integrity	Phoebe is an outstanding member of our class who ALWAYS does the right thing! She is incredibly helpful, polite and always tries her best in all she does. She is an asset to our school and we love having her in our class.

Reference:
UE50015786

Contact:
Public Liaison Officer
0300 123 7036
CWandCHighways@Colas.co.uk

Date: 12th February 2024

HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT WORK

CARRIAGEWAY RESURFACING AND SIGNAL IMPROVEMENT WORKS OLD DEE BRIDGE, HANDBRIDGE.

FROM MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY TO THURSDAY 29TH FEBRUARY

We will be carrying out carriageway and footway resurfacing works On the Old Dee Bridge. Works will take place from **Monday 19th February to Thursday 29th February 2024**. We will be working during the day generally between **08:00hrs – 17:00hrs (8am- 5pm)**. The bridge will be permanently closed to all vehicles for the duration of the works. Please note that elements of these works are weather dependent, and dates may change subject to weather conditions.

Old Dee Bridge will be closed to vehicles. Pedestrian access will be maintained where possible, however, any unforeseen issues during the works may warrant the closure of the footway. Also note that Castle Drive at its junction with Lower Bridge Street will be closed with no vehicular access in or out of the junction, vehicular access will be via Grosvenor Road junction only.

Please see detailed diversion route plan overleaf.

Note - cyclists will need to dismount to use the pedestrian walkway. Should a pedestrian closure be required, a temporary pedestrian diversion will be available via Grosvenor Bridge or the Suspension Bridge from Victoria Crescent to The Groves.

It is anticipated that the works will take approximately 10 days to complete, however pending investigation on site, there is the potential for closure to be in place for up to 2 weeks.

We appreciate that this work will cause disruption if you have any enquiries, please contact our Public Liaison Officer via CWandCHighways@Colas.co.uk or the contact centre on 0300 123 7036 so we can plan to help you.

A certain amount of inconvenience is inevitable with work of this type and we greatly appreciate your patience whilst the works are being undertaken. As a member of the Considerate Constructors Scheme, we will take all available steps to minimise noise and disruption.

We are committed to ensuring that Cheshire's highways are safe and well maintained, and we obtain best value from maintenance works.

For further information, please go to www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk, or follow us on "X" @Go_CheshireWest.

