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Head of School: Mr P Lane

Monday 29th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone is well having enjoyed a lovely weekend. I am writing this letter to share staffing update news with you before looking at the second half of this half-term with many exciting learning opportunities taking place.

I will start with a fond farewell as, after decades of dedicated service, we say a goodbye to Mrs. Bradney next Friday (10<sup>th</sup> October) as she begins what I know will be a long and happy retirement. Mrs. Bradney (Sue) has been such a pivotal part of the Oak Meadow Family and made a fantastic difference to so many in her time at our school. She has always been a source of positivity and calmness for both children and adults. In recent years, she has helped so many children through her nurture groups putting their well-being at the heart of her practice in line with the wonderful person she is. Sue, on a personal note, I will miss your 'hypnotic ability' to fill the air around you with so much care, making everyone in your presence feel special and loved. I am sure that you will join with me in celebrating Mrs. Bradney's contributions and I hope you, and the children, will seek her out over these next two weeks to share memories together as well as a hug or two!

As we say one, special 'goodbye', I am delighted share news of three individual 'hellos' as we welcome three new support staff to our school. Miss. Woolridge (Reception), Mrs. Warner (Year 1) and Miss. Patel (Year 3) will all be joining the Oak Meadow Family in coming weeks to provide additional learning support for the children in lessons and through targeted intervention. We look forward to all three making a significant difference for the children and being part of our fabulous team.

In addition to these staffing updates, it is important to me that you are aware of upcoming whole school days and dates where we have different themes and activities taking place across the school throughout October (there will also be a plethora of events happening at a Year group level that staff will keep you updated upon or for which, separate letters may be sent). I always want to make sure you have exceptional communication and I hope the below information will help you in preparations at home. I know, as a busy parent myself, the demands of every, single day – please know that there is never a 'silly question' and all Oak Meadow staff are always there to lend a hand if you need to ask anything about what is going on in school.

## Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Harvest donation week:

Any Harvest contribution sent into school (either with your child or taken directly to the school office) will be taken to the stage in the hall. Following Year 4's assembly on Friday, these will then be donated to Wolverhampton's Good Shepherd charity to support those in need in our local area.

#### <u>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October – 'Hello Yellow' Day for World Mental Health:</u>

On this day, we would like for all children to wear yellow clothing as part of a non-uniform day as we celebrate World Mental Health and the importance of being open and talking through any concerns or troubles with loved ones around us.

# Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October - Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 Autumn Discos:

During the afternoon of this date, children from Reception through to Year 4 will enjoy their Autumn Disco and have a non-uniform day wearing their 'party clothes' (Year 5 and 6, do not worry, it will be your turn to do the same at Christmas!). The discos for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will take place during the school day meaning children







from these Year groups can be collected at the normal home time of 3:15pm. The disco for Year 3 and 4 children will take place after school and finish at 4:15pm when parents/ carers are able to collect children directly from the school hall.

# <u>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October – Restart a Heart Day:</u>

On this day, the children will learn about the importance of health and what to do in an emergency to help others. This will be age-appropriate for the children with fun activities planned as part of a local collaboration with the West Midlands Ambulance Service and a national charity effort working alongside the British Heart Foundation. All children should attend school in their usual Oak Meadow uniform on this day.

## Friday 17th October – Wear it Red day as we show racism the red card:

On this day, we would like for all children to wear red as part of a non-uniform day as we join together to show racism the red card. At Oak Meadow, we are proud to celebrate inclusion, diversity and the uniqueness of everyone and, as part of a national campaign, we wear red on this day to promote our children's desire for love, care and empathy for others.

## Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Diwali Day – wear your brightest colours:

Children will learn the story of Diwali and take part in 'colourful' activities to mark celebrations for the Festival of Light. We would like children to wear their brightest colours for the day in recognition of how light, happiness and knowledge can defeat darkness and sadness.

#### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Parkour workshops so dress sporty (P.E. kits for the day):

For the final whole school event for this half-term, we have invited in very special (and flexible!) visitors to complete workshops with all Year groups looking at the skills of Parkour. I will freely admit that I have a lot to learn in this area(!) but I have been told to dress in P.E. kit for the day and enjoy the opportunity to enhance my own personal development in a new activity! All children should join in and wear their P.E. kit for the entire day as we learn new ways to stay active and healthy. Miss. Evans will send a separate letter regarding the day shortly.

# Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Parent/ Carer Consultation Evenings:

A letter will be sent out at the end of this week for you to book slots to see your child's class teacher as part of our termly consultations. Please send your request slips back promptly to avoid any disappointment with times and to help with organisation if you have siblings in multiple classes across the school. Please also remember that if you would like to speak with your child's class teacher at any point, this never has to wait. Just make contact with them directly on the door or speak to the school office and we can make arrangements for a meeting.

I hope the above will support you in the weeks ahead and function as a 'chronological checklist' for you up until half-term. As I have already stated, Year groups will keep you informed of any specific events that may be happening in your child's class and I ask for your understanding if anything changes or needs to be adapted at short notice – if this is ever the case, we will always let you know as quickly as possible.

I look forward to everyone having a wonderful week ahead and seeing the children being their usual, exceptional selves in all that they do!

Yours Faithfully,

Mr. Lane.

