



PARISH CHURCH OF  
ST. MARY THE VIRGIN  
OXENHOPE

# Oxenhope

## Church of England Primary School

BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE



8<sup>th</sup> January, 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to you all.

What a start to the term! The village looks extremely picturesque in the current weather conditions. The children have told me that they have had great fun in the snow over Christmas and I have enjoyed many afternoons sledging in the park near my home. I also took my two boys with me and they had a good time too!

On Wednesday the children enjoyed making some fantastic snowmen who look like they will be with us for a little while longer. Please could I ask you to make sure your child wears appropriate winter footwear and clothing so they can wrap up and enjoy the snow at playtimes. Could I also ask you to provide a change of footwear for your child to wear inside the school building. Many thanks for your support with this.

Obviously there is a more serious side to the recent weather. The staff have all made it into school this week but many of them have had very difficult journey's to make. With the long term weather forecast showing very little change we will always endeavour to keep the school open. However, the health and safety of staff, the children and yourselves will always be our priority. Please try to keep up to date with the latest news via Radio Leeds, Pulse radio, the school website and the Bradford Council website.

If the weather deteriorates and the school is open we appreciate that some of you may have a difficult decision to make. We do not want you to put your child or yourself at any risk so if you feel you cannot make the journey into school we would be grateful if you could contact the school office so we can update our records.

I would like to thank Mr Brian Armstrong, our caretaker, for keeping the pathways into and out of school clear for us all. Mrs Wendy Odgen, our cook, did a marvellous job of preparing school lunch on Wednesday all on her own! Also, Mr Anthony Bennett, our Chair of Governors, has been the man responsible for updating our school website regularly and Mrs Lynn Leng has made sure she has been in the school office early to ensure that your phone calls are answered as soon as possible.

### Class newsletters

These will be with you next Friday. They will give you a brief outline of what your child will be learning this half term and next half term. Also, we will be sending home some new curricular targets for writing. These will give your child and you a clear about what they need to do in order to make very good progress in their work. More information about this will be available to you very soon.

Oxenhope Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

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## **Mr Sam Adams**

From next Tuesday we will be welcoming Mr Sam Adams, an independent education consultant, into school. He will be working with the staff and the children each Tuesday for the next 19 weeks.

Sam previously worked with Education Bradford as a Local Authority consultant and he comes to us highly recommended to us from other schools. We have been very lucky to secure some of his time. I am very excited about the work we will be undertaking as he helps us to ensure that the provision for all of our children is outstanding. I will keep you all up to date with the new developments he is helping us to implement.

## **After school clubs**

These will be starting again over the coming weeks and the staff who organise and lead these will be writing to you to inform of you of dates and times. Tai Kwando will continue to run on Thursday's but this had to be cancelled this week due to the weather. If a club is due to run and the weather deteriorates we may need to cancel it. Please contact the school office if you are unsure your child's club is taking place.

## **Sports Hall athletics**

This event took place before the Christmas holiday. Many of our children took part on the last Saturday of the term and had a really enjoyable time. Well done to all the children who took part and I would like to give a special mention to Ester Cameron from Macmillan Class who was successful in (event) and will progress to the Bradford finals representing West Yorkshire.

## **Lunch money**

This half term up to February 5 weeks and 3 days - £1.45 per day £7.25 per week amount for half term is £40.60. Please make cheques payable to Bradford Council.

## **Breakfast with God**

We need at least 2 more volunteers to help support the children with activities after breakfast in order for Breakfast with God to continue. This would be on a fortnightly basis at the most. Please ring on 642236 or e-mail [sam@swallowbarn.me.uk](mailto:sam@swallowbarn.me.uk) if you can help by Sunday evening. If there are enough people to do a rota letters to confirm start dates will be sent out on Tuesday next week. Thank you.

## **Reception class places for September 2010**

The deadline for admissions forms to be handed in by is Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January (a.m.). If you know of anyone who would like a place for their child Mrs Leng has forms available in the school office. Alternatively these can be completed and submitted online via the Bradford City Council website.

## **Achievement assembly**

Our next celebration event will take place next Friday morning at 9:10 am. Please join us if you can.

## **Dates and times**

Week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> January – Creative writing week with poet Andy Tooze.

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February - School closes for half term.

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – School reopens.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening's.

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Macmillan class residential visit to Robin Wood.

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April – School closes for Easter.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April – School reopens.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Devonshire class residential visit to Ingleborough Hall.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SAT's week.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May – Year 2 SAT's week.

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May – School closes for half term.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June – School reopens.

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – School closes for summer.

Keep warm this weekend!

Yours sincerely

Mr D Burns