



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to share that we have had a very positive start to the academic year. The children have expressed that they feel happy and safe in school, and it's wonderful to see how much they are enjoying their learning.

As you may know, we have made some changes to our curriculum this year and have introduced new books for each subject area. This change helps children clearly understand what subject they are studying and supports us in observing their progression more effectively. I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to look at these books during the recent parents' evening.

One of the highlights of this half term has been the opening of our new library. The children have loved visiting the library, and it's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm for reading.

Additionally, we are continuing with our "Happy Lunchtimes" initiative, which has been a great success. The arrival of our new resource sheds has also been a helpful addition, making it easier for the children to access the materials they need to engage with the curriculum.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to continuing this positive momentum throughout the next half-term.

Mrs Holmes

Postive and Peaceful places

We have received the positive and peaceful places award from Leicester City Council. Mrs Coplin has been working with the Social, Emotional and Mental health team to create spaces within school that children feel safe. "Overdale Infant School have fully embraced and achieved the Leicester City Positive and Peaceful Places Award, Leicester City's Antbullying Award.

The school have adopted a wide range of positive strategies throughout the school day to meet the diverse needs across the school, embracing the whole school community. Children could discuss the impact of the project and how changes have helped to support them in school. They have enjoyed the addition of calm corners in every classroom that were designed by the teachers with their children. The addition of a wider range of playtime activities such as kick back football, using gym mats outside, using the trees as a shaded calm natural space and having opportunities to explore nature or to read a book. The children called playtimes 'Happy Playtimes' and enjoyed collecting lunch tokens for demonstrating the schools core values of respect, resilience and responsibility leading to whole class rewards to celebrate their joint success. "



Lighting the hearts & minds of our community

Steplab hub

We are passionate about teaching and learning and have been supporting our teachers through Instructional coaching. Every teacher in school has a coach and they receive weekly coaching sessions to reflect and improve their teaching practice. We have developed a coaching cycle and use a programme called Steplab to record our coaching conversations. We are excited to share that we are now a Steplab hub school and will be sharing our coaching journey with schools from across the country. Mrs Lisseman and Miss Knezevic have been leading the school on this exciting journey with our team of coaches. (Mrs Holmes, Mrs Coplin, Miss Francis, Mrs Smith, Miss Meakin, Mrs Pridmore)



School council

Our Year 2 children have been busy campaigning to be school councillors. They designed a poster to represent why they would make a good councillor and an election took place. I am pleased to share with you our elected school councillors.

Hedgehogs – ~Issa and Isabelle

Robins – Hunter and Sienna

Foxes – Cassian and Lexi

Badgers – Rowan and Bea

Dates for your diary

Monday 28th October	Training day – school closed to children
Tuesday 29 th October	School reopens
Tuesday 12 th November	Reception Phonics Meeting
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need – Children to come to school in PJs
Monday 25 th November	Arts Week
Tuesday 10 th December	Reception Nativity performance pm
Wednesday 11 th December	Reception Nativity performance am
Thursday 12 th December	Christmas discos
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Jumper Day Year 1 party
Monday 16 th December	Pre-school party
Tuesday 17 th December	Reception party
Wednesday 18 th December	Theatre trip
Thursday 19 th December	Year 2 party
Friday 20 th December	Church visit

Lighting hearts and minds of our community

Thank you so much to our families who donated to our Harvest Festival recently. It was collected by the Leicester South Foodbank. Your contributions will make such a difference to those in need.

We do have a regular Foodbank donation point if anyone still wishes to donate or wants to donate in the future.



Respect

Resilience

Responsibility