

# Weekly Update

## Ofsted

I'm delighted to share some wonderful news with you – the school was visited by Ofsted for two days in late January and inspectors found the school to be GOOD in **all** areas!

Whilst we have been confident that this has been the case for a long time now, we have not rested on our laurels and have been working incredibly hard to ensure that all aspects of our practice are consistently strong. These gradings are a clear reflection of the hard work and dedication of our staff, pupils, governors and the wider school community.

I'm sure you'll join me in congratulating everyone involved for their continued commitment to growing a great school.

## Highlights from the Ofsted Report:

- **Parent View:** "Overdale Infant School is a family. It is a lovely community." This perfectly captures the supportive and inclusive environment we strive to create.
- **Reading:** "The school has embedded its approach to phonics well. Staff *expertly* introduce new sounds with precision. The school successfully supports pupils who struggle with learning to read or speak English as an additional language. Staff guide these pupils very well. The school has thoughtfully considered books with cultural diversity. High-quality texts ensure that pupils enjoy reading different authors and poetry through 'book talk' opportunities. Pupils achieve well with reading."
- **Staff:** "The school provides high-quality professional development to staff. Leaders' personalised coaching at every opportunity ensures that staff implement the curriculum well."
- **Pastoral:** "Pastoral support for pupils' well-being is strong."
- **SEND:** "Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) achieve well. The school accurately identifies their needs. Staff skilfully provide clear steps for them, alongside the teacher. Activities are well-selected."

## Accessing the Full Report:

You can access the full Ofsted report on our school website [Ofsted Inspection Report](#) or request a hard copy from the school office.

As the headteacher, I am incredibly proud of our school community and everything we have achieved together.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support. If you have any questions or want to chat more about the report, feel free to contact me directly.

## Ramadan and Fasting

As we are now in the season of Ramadan we have had some parents express their wish for their child to fast. The advice we have been given by local faith leaders suggests that this is not a requirement for KS1 children.

We do understand that some younger children may want to take part in fasting but, we are concerned that full fasting may impact on their energy levels, concentration and overall health. Please bear in mind that pupils will still be active at play and lunchtimes as well as, of course, taking part in PE lessons.

We would ask parents to consider exploring alternative ways for our young children to participate meaningfully, such as shorter fasts, fasts on non-school days when children can rest more or engaging in acts of kindness throughout the day.

We are committed to supporting every family's wish while ensuring our children remain safe and well at school. Therefore, if you do still intend for your child to participate in fasting whilst at school, we would like to discuss this further with you to find the best approach. Please inform the school in writing via email to [support@overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:support@overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk)

On behalf of the staff, please accept our best wishes for this period of religious observance.

## Reminders

- Please contact Reception if you are still having problems signing in to the Arbor app on [reception@overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:reception@overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk).
- Please can we ask that children and parents leave the school site promptly at the end of the school day. We need to ensure the site is safe and secure for our after school clubs.
- Please can we ask that parents and carers refrain from knocking on classroom windows or waving for extended periods during drop-off. Please keep goodbyes brief to help your child transition smoothly into their school day and to avoid congestion at the school entrance.

## Important Dates



Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	PA Family Bingo Night – Full details sent on DoJo
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 1 Spring Assembly There will be two performances on the day, one at 9.20am and one at 2.15. To ensure we maintain a safe and manageable number of people in the hall, we kindly ask that parents attend only one of the performances.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of term for the Easter break Special Easter Menu
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	School reopens for the start of the Summer term
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Class Photos – In school time. No sibling photos
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Harry Potter Menu

## Class assemblies

Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Owls
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# FAMILY BINGO NIGHT!

with food from Grimsby Fisheries

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**in the dining hall**

5.30pm start - finish at approx. 7.30pm

(We'll start with a game whilst we get the chippy order – eat at approx. 6pm)

£3 per adult (children free)

Entrance fee includes your bingo tickets

(Extra tickets will be available to purchase on the night)

Bring all the family & your own soft drinks.

Enjoy the food and join in the fun!

(Don't forget your cutlery and ketchup!)

**To save paper, all payments are to be made via bank transfer and food orders via email.**

To book tickets and place your food order:

1. Please send an email entitled "Family Bingo Night 2025" to [overdalepa@gmail.com](mailto:overdalepa@gmail.com) with:

- Your email address
- Family name
- Number in your group
- Number of children and adults
- Name and class of your child/children
- Food order (see below for menu and prices)