

## Headteacher's Message

Dear all,

*This has been the hardest newsletter of all for me to write - there is so much I would love to say to you all and just not enough space! First and foremost, a huge well done to all of our pupils and staff this year - we had some very pleasing (but predicted!) Early Years, Phonics, Multiplication Tables and SATs results. This is the result of relentless perseverance and hard work on everyone's part, and were thoroughly well deserved, congratulations to all. This term has been another busy one, with transition events, Race for Life, whole school trips, sports day and much more - all of which you can read about further down. Gardening Club has also "blossomed" and we are very thankful to Mrs Nottingham and her band of volunteers from Orford Gardening Club for helping keep the school grounds and vegetable patches neat, tidy and fruitful! Likewise, Mrs Reeve has led choir this term, who will be performing with gusto in a special performance at church this afternoon. Sadly, we say goodbye to our Year 6s, who we will be sending off in style at the leavers' service today. We also say goodbye to Dr Biran and Miss Creed who we wish well in their new ventures, and Mrs Smy who retires after 24 years of dedicated service to be a full time grandma - I am sure you will join all of us in thanking her for all she has done for generations of children at Orford School.*

*My final message I'd like to leave with you all is a quote from the musical adaptation of one of my all time favourite books:*

*'Even if you're little you can do a lot*

*and you mustn't let a little thing like "little" stop you!'* \*

*Orford is a little school, but looking back over all that has been achieved just in the past few years alone proves that ANYTHING is possible, regardless of size. I am forever blown away by all that we accomplish, but it is a monumental team effort from our staff, our governors (who I owe immense gratitude to), the wider community, but most of all, our amazing pupils and you, our families.*

*I hope you all have a peaceful and restful summer and from the bottom of my heart, wish you all the very best for next academic year and all those to come.*

Miss Cannon

*\*(Roald Dahl's Matilda. There are many inspirational quotes from the book if you google it!)*

## Values Cup Award Winners

- **Alfie**  
Perseverance, Justice, Hope
- **Harry**  
Wisdom, Creativity, Trust
- **Darcey**  
Compassion, Hope, Courage
- **Harleigh**  
Courage, Perseverance, Hope



## TEAM POINT TOTALS

Congratulations to **GREEN team**: Sports Day Cup and House Point Cup winners this year!

Team point totals:

- 1st - **Green** - 1670
- 2nd - **Red** - 1237
- 3rd - **Blue** - 1224
- 4th - **Yellow** - 1088

## Whole School News

It seems forever ago that Year 6 went on their transition day to Sandlings Primary with a number of other local schools, courtesy of Just42. The Year 6s were treated to a full day of trust tasks, creative art activities and a water challenge.... Except they got more water on themselves than in the bucket!! They also got to meet other local

children going up to their high schools, in preparation for their individual move up days. All of which were enjoyed by every member of year 6, giving them some positivity and encouragement for September!

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who attended our Race for Life\* earlier in the term in support of all of our families affected by cancer this year. It was an emotional but wonderful event - thank you to those who made cakes, gave up their time to support and marshall and, most importantly, everyone who donated to make a whopping total of **£4170** + gift aid! Everyone put in 100% and finished their race, receiving a special medal and yummy homemade cake, well deserved after a 1km lap (Class 1) or 2 mile lap (Class 2 and 3 children). Congratulations to our winners in both categories: Jake, Oscar and Albert for Class 1, and George, Alexander and Jenson and Teddy for Classes 2 and 3.



If running all those miles wasn't enough, Sports Day\* soon followed on a beautiful sunny Tuesday! The morning was made up of an eventful athletics circuit - archery, speed jumps, sprint, javelin, long jump and vortex, which saw some really phenomenal achievements.... who knew Year 6 could throw so far?! This was followed by our annual family picnic and afternoon of racing, including hurdles and egg and spoon. Every child took part this year, including our littlest members of nursery, and full effort was put in by all, accruing individual points as well as those for their teams. It was heartwarming to watch you all cheering each other on, and congratulating winners - the sportsmanship was out of this world! It was a very close competition overall, but congratulations to the GREEN TEAM who won the trophy by just 1 point!



The same week, the whole school had a fantastic treat: a train trip to the beach!!\* Kindly funded by OSLOF, everyone boarded the train at Melton and rode up to Lowestoft, before disembarking and making their way to the sandy beach. The train trip was great fun and for many their first time going on one - what an experience! The children all mixed, with many older and younger children sharing games, drawings, sweets and each other's company. At the beach, the children's imaginations absolutely came to life: the euro tunnel was built, sandcastles constructed, pretend ice cream parlours erected amongst others. But the highlight had to be burying Jeff, Mrs Scarce and Miss Cannon in the sand. To quote Ralph. "this is SO MUCH FUN!!!!". We rounded off the visit with a picnic and ice cream before riding back to school. Thank you so much to OSLOF for funding this opportunity, and to all the adults who came along to help. It was an honour to take such a well behaved group of children out, they certainly deserved the treat.



Another group of children who deserved a treat after their years of hard work were the Year 6s. Thanks to our generous governor Richard and his wife Penny, the Year 6s were able to go for a "pool party" after school the other week. They had lots of fun splashing round, jumping in, doing handstand competitions and eating sweets and ice cream. Again, thanks to the superb behaviour, friendship and kindness of this group of children, it was a heartwarming afternoon and a brilliant memory for everyone to take up to high school.



And finally, this week the whole school were treated to two amazing performances of 'The School-O-Vision Song Contest'\* performed by Years 4, 5 and 6. Despite a powercut halfway through Monday's performance, the children performed with confidence and enthusiasm, many playing multiple parts. The catchy songs were sung beautifully, and the children performed near professional dances they had choreographed themselves! Every single child has really come out of their shell during this process, and the staff were so proud to hear you performing expressively and articulately. A very special thanks to Mrs McCart and Mrs Robinson for all of the work and preparation behind the scenes to make this possible! It really was the shining star to top off an amazing year at Orford School.



\*All photos of the above events can be found on the school website:  
<https://www.orfordprimary.co.uk/gallery/?pid=0&gcatid=7>

### Class 1 News



Class 1 have had a fantastic summer term and have thoroughly engaged in all activities on offer. We have been 'Beside the seaside' and explored a wide range of related activities from making and serving ice creams in the role play area, using magnifying glasses to look up close at natural materials found at the beach at our investigation station and we created ebooks and animations about our favourite sea creatures in Computing! All of the amazing experiences the children have had over the past term were topped off nicely with a whole school trip to the beach, the memories of which contributed to fantastic creative writing based on invaluable first hand experiences. Well done Class 1, what a year we have had!



### Class 2 News

Class 2 have rounded the year off superbly. In English, we have been working on a narrative piece based on 'Dreamgiver', producing wonderfully descriptive pieces. In maths, we have continued to work hard, recently navigating decimals in Year 4. In Years 2 and 3, we have been revising calculation strategies and solving problems relating to these. In history, we have been rounding off our topic based on the Ancient Greeks and have also produced some lovely artwork in the style of Ancient Greek pots. We have also been producing lightboxes in a combined DT and Science topic and have produced some fantastic examples of these. Year 4 have worked extremely hard to support the Class 3 production and have risen to the challenge with their usual positivity and can-do attitude. On a side note, all of Class 2 would also like to wish Mrs Smy a very happy retirement. She will be greatly missed!



### Class 3 News

Class 3 have spent a lot of time this last half term preparing for their production of the School-O-Vision Song Contest: practising songs, learning lines and making the props and costumes! We have also built 'steady hand' games in our design technology lessons; learnt about life cycles of various different animals (including humans) in science; and studied the progression of medicine and health practices through time in our history lessons.



In maths we have been calculating ratios and using function machines, progressing to algebra. In English we have finished off writing some super narrative pieces based on our books, 'Friend or Foe' and enjoyed exploring themes in the book.

### Governors' Message

*I think it falls to me to add the voice of the governors to the praise from all quarters on the huge achievements of this half of the term, the culmination of a lot of hard work. All years have done well in their curriculum, and Year 6 have shone with their excellent SATs results. This stands them in very good stead as they move on to the next step in their lives, and start next term at High School. The achievement and joy of time well spent and prizes won, was reflected in the celebratory 'School O Vision Song Contest' cabaret, shall we call it, with its dance and song and very funny skits on all those groups which make up school – those who teach, those who learn, who clean, who cook, who make up the PTA. There was even an inspector. He would have found that all was well. Year 6 made it clear that they had learned their A B C, and their 1 2 3, had seized all their opportunities and were now 'moving on'. And I suppose we all will be. The children will come back in September to a new year group. Miss Cannon will move on to her new school and we will welcome Mr Head amongst us. Dr Biran, Mrs Smy and Miss Creed are leaving us too. They will all be missed but there will be newcomers in the early years and the beginnings of a new school family, to support and nurture in the good soil, in preparation for the world outside. Please also nurture the many potted plants and vegetables which Gardening Club have brought to the front porch for kind people passing by, to water, during the days and weeks ahead when our school will be refreshing its bodies and souls in rest and play - happy holidays.*

Janet Bishop  
Chair of Governors

### OSLOF News

Well what a fantastic school year the kids have all had! A huge thank you to you all for your support this year with the Christmas Fayre and Easter Egg Hunt. With these funds we were able to help pay for the bus for the residential trip for class 3 and to fund the amazing beach trip for all the kids. A big thank you to Miss Cannon and her team for their organisation and support.

We are currently looking at some new ideas for fundraising for next year and will keep you all updated over the summer.

On behalf of all the parents we wish to say a massive thank you to Miss Cannon for everything she has done as head of Orford school and we wish you great success for your next step.

Thank you all. Have a wonderful summer holidays,



### Suffolk Libraries' Reading Quest

It's **FUN**, **FREE** and **EASY**

Reading Quest is the new summer reading programme for 2-12 year olds created by Suffolk Libraries, that aims to build a fun summer of reading for children and their families. Watch the Youtube video for more information:

[Introducing Reading Quest - where will reading take you this summer? Suffolk Libraries - YouTube video](#)



You will need a library card to take part, but they are free to sign up for at your local branch. Children are encouraged to take part in activities and experiences across the summer rather than read a set number of books like in previous years.

Challenges and experiences include 'reading under the covers with a torch' to 'choosing a recipe book and making something together as a family'.

Each week, children bring their maps back to the library to share what they've read and what activities they've completed with weekly prizes/rewards on offer.

For further information please visit the [Suffolk Libraries website](#). You receive a certificate of completion at the end which would be a great first addition to our WOW wall at school!