



Although Christmas and the welcoming of the New Year feel like a distant memory, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for sharing our celebration afternoon and although I regrettably could not be present I do have a great appreciation for the efforts and achievement our children and young people make for such an event.

We are delighted to welcome 3 new members of staff : Elaine is SENCo Administrator, Sheena and Tracey have joined as Teaching Assistants.

Ofsted Inspection Outcome

A huge thank you to those of you who supported us during the Ofsted inspection, either in person or via questionnaire.

Ofsted acknowledged:

- We are a happy school!!
- Students feel safe, valued and nurtured.
- Teachers' confident subject knowledge across a wide range of subjects is a striking feature of the school's effective teaching.

We are a Good school!!

Full report should be available on Ofsted website from Friday 2nd March <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk> once this is published it will be on our school website www.greatoakssmallschool.co.uk

Julie Kelly Head Teacher

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

All emails and phone calls in the first instance, must be made to Jackie (Julie's PA) who will ensure your request is directed to the relevant member of staff.

This will allow your enquiries to be dealt with as soon as possible.

Snow

If we have any severe weather affecting school opening you will be updated via our website. Radio Kent, the school closures website: www.kentclosures.co.uk and our own website: www.greatoakssmallschool.co.uk.

Our policy will always be to try and remain open as long as it is safe to do so.



Information

Parents Visiting

Please only enter via the main reception green door at the front of the school building. Please sign in and collect a visitor's badge from the front office.

You must be accompanied by a member of staff at all times.

Appointments

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Clothing:

Please remind your child to wear appropriate clothing; The weather is extremely cold and students must bring a coat.

Attendance

It is of utmost importance that you inform the school of any absence before **9am each day**. Failure to do so will result in an unauthorised absence being recorded and may involve a visit from the Student Liaison Officer.

Sickness

Please note that if your child is unwell with a sickness bug they must not come into school until they have had 48 hours clear of vomiting or diarrhoea.



Students travelling to and from school by taxi are escorted by staff.

If you are collecting your child at 3.15pm (not before), please park at the back of the Chai Stop and make your way to the front of the school where your child will be 'released' to you by a member of staff. If you are aware that you are going to be late, please let the office know immediately. Your child will wait in the common room. If you are already doing this, please continue as it has been successful to date in ensuring the safety of all students.

Jot it down!



School is open to student's from 8.30am-3.15pm.

Thank you to all staff, trustees and volunteers who help keep Great Oaks Small school a wonderful place to be.

Emails should be sent to: office@greatoakssmallschool.co.uk and not to individual staff. This allows emails to be prioritised and dealt with promptly.



SAFEGUARDING MESSAGE FROM KENT POLICE

Warning about the popular app ROBLOX

The majority of children the Police talked to in school revealed that most of the children disclosed that they had online friends in ROBLOX that their parents didn't know about. It became alarming when many of the children stated they had received many messages in game messages from 'strangers' and that they hadn't told their parents. All of the children then stated that they had seen 'naked' characters walking around the game and that the characters were doing very adult things. The children also revealed that they were using headsets to speak. The headset usually being a normal set of ear pods that you would get bundled with an Apple device as opposed to a specific gaming accessory.

Kent Police are advising parents to check their child's ROBLOX account and look to see if they have friends that they do not know. Parents are also being asked to check their children's game message inbox to check if they have been receiving inappropriate messages.

We have a lot of information regarding staying safe and contacts you can access on our website, however if you feel you need support from a member of our Great Oaks Team please do not hesitate to contact the School Office: 01843 822 022 or email office@greatoakssmallschool.co.uk.