



Osmotherley Area Messenger

Issue 2

June 1st 2007

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Osmotherley School – Ofsted Report

Osmotherley School is a good school. This is the conclusion of the recent Ofsted Inspection Report which was carried out in April. The Inspector commented on the good way in which the school uses the facilities of the community to ensure that all aspects of the school's work are taught effectively helping to overcome the limitations of the current building. The fact that pupils really enjoy school, and value the care and guidance provided by their teachers, was praised. The Inspector noted that, 'enjoyment is palpable throughout the school' and went on to cite pupils' own comments that 'everyone

gets along and respects each other'. Pupils told the Inspector that they felt safe and trusted their teachers.

The quality of teaching was also recorded as being good, and the talents and support provided by the teaching assistants was also recognised. A particularly good feature in the eyes of the Inspector was the effective use of probing and well matched questioning to ensure that all pupils are involved in whole class introductions. Learning in a small school involves teaching groups of mixed ages and the Inspector commented that 'a good account is taken of the mixed ages of pupils so that

they are equally challenged'.

The standards in the school are in line with national averages though higher in English and science. Pupils with learning difficulties and/or disabilities achieve well because of the well planned support they receive.

Osmotherley can be proud of its school and celebrate its success. The full Ofsted Report can be read online at www.ofsted.gov.uk and more information about the school can be found on the school website.

www.osmotherley.n-yorks.sch.uk

Osmotherley Post Office

The government has recently confirmed that about 2,500 post offices, a fifth of those left in the UK are to close by 2009. Post Office Ltd. now has to decide which offices will be closed.

How can you help? Whilst we have no idea of the criteria which the Post Office will use to select the offices for closure, one of the factors which we think may be used is the amount

of business carried out by the office.

Please try to use the office as much as possible, every transaction, whether it be buying a stamp or a premium bond, is important.

Did you know the following transactions can be carried out at the Post Office?

For most of our partner banks (Alliance & Leicester, Bank of Ireland,

Barclays, Cahoot, Co-operative Bank, Lloyds TSB, Nationwide, Smile, Yorkshire Clydesdale Bank) :- Cash deposits, Cheque deposits, Balance enquiries, Cash withdrawals.

National Savings :- Savings Accounts, Premium Bonds, Children's Bonds, Pensioner Bonds, in fact the full range of NS&I Products.

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Church News

*Ecumenical
Pilgrimage to Lady
Chapel
July 1st
Meet village centre
2.30pm and walk to
Lady Chapel for
3.00pm*

The Monastery of Our Lady of Mount Grace Mass times:

Saturday 3.30pm at the Lady Chapel

Sunday 10.30am in the village

Both the Church in the village and the Lady Chapel are open during the day, if people want to go in for a few minutes of quiet prayer.

A weekly newsletter is available.

St Peter's Sunday services:

10.30am each Sunday. All are services of Holy Communion, except for the 2nd Sunday of the month, which is Morning Worship. **All are welcome.**

The Promenade Concert Series 2007 **6th June at 7.30pm** in St Peter's: Robert Houssart (Gloucester Cathedral) organ concert

Tickets will be available on the

door. More information in the Church Porch.

The Methodist Church

Sunday worship each week at 6.30pm. Mid week communion Wednesday 9.15am in the Methodist Church and St Peter's on alternate weeks.

June, July and August the Methodist Church is open to visitors on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

*Come and join us having
fun raising funds! Just
turn up at the Queen
Cath to one of our
monthly "do's" or
contact our membership
secretary, Sheila Black
on 883193. You will
be made very welcome.*

The Royal British Legion

Osmotherley Branch

The Branch is a small but active part of a very large organisation. The Legion is the UK's leading charity providing financial, social and emotional support for those who have served in the Armed Forces and their dependants, currently a total of nearly 13 million people! There are some 300,000 calls for help from these 13 million people each year and this area is not exempt. The Branch's welfare worker has dealt with 6 cases so far this year including the provision of powered wheel chairs for 2 clients, welfare holiday breaks for 2 people, arranging admission to a

Legion Home and financial aid for a handicapped spouse. So it is real and it is here! But it needs money and help to run.

The Legion is also a membership organisation with some 550,000 members. These members help raise the £55 million the organisation needs each year to carry out its welfare work such as running 7 care homes (our nearest is in Ripon and each year our Branch raises some £2,500 for Lister House). As a Branch we hold a number of events including a monthly meeting and bingo session in the Queen Catherine every 1st Wednesday of each month. All villagers, not just

members can attend and try their luck -last month the "snowball" was £65! We hold lunches, outings, a BBQ and take part in the Show and Summer Games. Then of course we hold Remembrance Sunday Parade and the Poppy Appeal raising £2,850 last year.

Anyone can join, it's not just for World War II veterans as is sometimes thought, nor do you have to be an ex-Service man or woman. All you need to do is support our aims and you'd be welcome.

Contact Sheila Black on 883193

Ossy Village Hall

Summer Games

Sat 7 July

Race Night

*Friday 29th in the
Queen Catherine
from 8.30pm*

Remember - you heard it at Ossy Village Hall

What? Well, hopefully **everything** as the Hearing Loop system (for those wearing hearing aids) is working once again.

Big forthcoming event to fund

the Hall is of course Summer Games, 6/7/8/ July, organised once again by the tireless Alan Woof - thanks Alan.

Alan will be telling you all about it in due course, but rest assured you will be astonished by the variety of exciting

things on offer. And be ready for "the knock on the door" heralding persuasive people seeking things to sell on the stalls, and requests for 'just that little bit of help' in one way or another! **Be warned.**

Osmotherley Post Office - continued

Bill Payments:- a wide range of bills can be paid. Please check before you go to town to pay a bill.

Post Office Products:- Saving Accounts, Growth Bonds, Gift Vouchers for a wide range of companies,

Credit Cards, Saving Stamps (useful for paying car tax and other bills), Post Office Telephone (check our rates - you will be surprised).

Insurance :- Home, Car, Van, Travel.

E Top-ups.
Foreign currency for your

travels - no commission charged.

Lottery - and if you win, we can pay out up to £55,000 (did you know Tesco can only pay out up to £500?!).

REMEMBER—USE IT OR LOSE IT



*Your Post Office
Needs your help
and support*

Osmotherley Pre-School

Did you know Osmotherley has its own pre school? It's a small friendly place run as a charity by the parents. The Local Education Authority funding and fees only cover staff salaries so all other running costs have to be paid for by fundraising. We need to raise £3000 this year to ensure our pre school stays open.

How can you help? Attend one of our fundraising events.

Buy an Ossy Teddy Bear. These are very cute and cost just £5.50. They are designed by Pre-School so all profits go back to us. They can be bought from Pre-school and will also be on sale at our events. Alternatively if anyone has any ideas or can help at school or at one of our events,

please let us know.

We are presently looking for volunteers to donate a cake or offer help at our church tea on Sunday June 3rd. If you would like to help in any way please contact Sarah Fitzgerald at fitzgerald.s@virgin.net or 883508. Alternatively cakes can be taken to Church house on June 3rd from 12.30pm.

*Pre School
Fundraising*

*events coming up
Church Teas- June 3rd,
July 1st and July 22nd*

*Summer BBQ
Sunday 15th July.*

Osmotherley Area Parish Council

Because only 7 nominations were submitted for the Parish Council additional members were co-opted to fill the vacancies. Five candidates submitted applications to be considered by existing members which led to Mike Read being asked to fill the Thimbleby vacancy. After a ballot Tim Swales and Tim Wood were successfully elected to fill the two remaining Osmotherley vacancies. Alan Woof was then asked to represent Kirby Sigston. Alan Turner was unanimously asked to remain as Chairman and he will be joined by Maurice Drabble as his Vice-chairman for the coming year starting on the 21st May.

The Police have been

extremely busy with several instances of anti-social behaviour, particularly at Sheepwash.

Road maintenance and siting of bollards will feature in discussions by the Traffic Working Group as will the need to ensure that the area is kept neat and tidy. Village improvements are being made with the rebuilding of the Cemetery wall and the entrances to the villages will be visually improved by ensuring that grass verges are not allowed to become overgrown. Work is also proceeding to improve the fencing around the Play area and it is to be hoped that this area will be kept free of litter and of dogs. The footpath from the Applegarth is due to have a

makeover to permit easy access to Bog Hole and to Thimbleby, hopefully work here will be carried out during the summer.

Both the District Council and the County Council are concerned that the housing balance could be improved and a survey will soon be looking for residents' views on the matter.

Water is still leaking from a pipe near to the War Memorial but Yorkshire Water state that this is due to old pipe work and the now increased pressure needed to pump water to the highest points in the area.

Tim Swales

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Pilates in Osmotherley

Classes in village hall
Tuesday 8pm - advanced
Thursday 6pm All levels
1:1 instruction available



The Body
Control Pilates
Association®

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***Village Design Statement
(VDS)***

Village Character Workshop

June 8th 6.30 pm

Please call
Robert Thorniley-Walker
883311

Dates for your Diary

June

Wednesday 6th 7.30 pm, Robert Houssart (Gloucester Cathedral) organ concert, St. Peter's church, tickets £8.50

Wednesday 6th 7.30 pm, British Legion Meeting and Bingo, Queen Catherine

Friday 8th 6.30pm, Village Character Workshop for VDS (see box for details)

Friday 29th 8.30 pm, Summer Games Race Night in the Queen Catherine

July

Sunday 1st 2.30pm, Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Lady Chapel, Meet village centre

Wednesday 4th 7.30pm, British Legion meeting and Bingo, Queen Catherine

Saturday 7th, Osmotherley Games, Osmotherley village

Sunday 15th, Osmotherley Pre school Summer BBQ - More details next month

August

Saturday 4th, Osmotherley Show, 100th anniversary

Saturday 18th, Garden Party in aid of Street Child Africa, 19 Back Lane, Osmotherley

Parish Assembly-report

After a welcome from the chair of the Parish Council (Alan Turner) parish councillors were introduced by the clerk (Len Cragg).

This was followed by a report from Robert Lloyd of Yorkshire Water outlining their future programme regarding Codbeck Reservoir and the area's treatment and supply systems, including water quality. In his talk he explained the rationale for the change in water source and apologised for not

effectively communicating these reasons to the community when the changes occurred. He made available a range of literature explaining the causes of water hardness, health benefits, advice on water softeners and controlling scale.

Bob Dicker from the National Trust outlined proposals for improvements to the car parking facilities at Sheepwash. This included closing the far car park, enlarging and landscaping the central one and improving, but not enlarging

the Cod Beck end car park. Planning applications are currently being considered and it is hoped work will start at the end of the summer season.

Noel Coward explained the process undertaken to produce the Parish Plan and advised that working parties were implementing the recommendations.

After a brief report from Tim Swales regarding district and county matters the meeting was closed by the chair.

Osmotherley School

The school building project is well under-way now! A new classroom and cloakroom is being built onto the front of the school which will join the two present buildings. Once the work is complete, the temporary classroom around the back of the school will be demolished and a new playground created on its site.

The junior children, as part of their topic work on the environment, have been asked to plan what they would like to see both inside the classroom and out on the playground. The governors will be looking at these plans and considering the children's ideas. And I am sure that some of them will be

incorporated into the completed project. If anyone is interested in seeing the plans I would be very happy to oblige!

The children are really enjoying their involvement with the Osmotherley Garden Club's anniversary celebrations. The daffodil bulbs that the children planted in the school garden last autumn made a fabulous display of colour this spring. The infant class have planted potatoes and broad beans in the hope of a bumper harvest before the start of the summer holidays. The junior children have undertaken a project which has also involved Northdale Agriculture in Northallerton. A day's

visit to the horticultural centre included a session looking at locally occurring flora and fauna, plus a second session in the workshops creating wooden planters for the school grounds. The final session, just before half term will include planting up the planters the children have made, a composting workshop, and an after school hanging basket workshop.

Many thanks to Pat Elton and other members of the Garden Club for inviting us to take part and for their help and financial support with the project.

Penny Vernon, Headmistress