

# SEND NEWSLETTER



December 2024

## Open Sessions

I like to offer parents a few open sessions where you can come in and speak to me privately about your child and any additional needs they may have. After the Christmas break these will be:

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>- January 9-10am

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2-3pm

Please send me a Dojo message to confirm.



## PINS Coffee Morning

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 9am** (School Hall)

Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) will be holding their next coffee morning on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Thank you to all those people who came to our first one. The feedback was very positive.



COMPASS will also be there who can support your child's mental health needs. COMPASS now have their own App for the phone where you can self-refer your child. Just search for Changing Lives in the App store. This is a great App as it offers information, advice and support all in one place.

## YEAR 5 EHCP's

If you have a child in year 5 with an EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan) can I recommend that you start thinking about their secondary school placement. In the first few weeks of entering year 6 you will be called for their phase transfer annual review where you will be expected to name your choice of secondary school. This decision is much easier if you have already done your homework. I would suggest that you attend the open evenings or ask to visit. During these visits please ask the school whether or not they will be able to 'meet the needs' of your child.

## EHCP Update

At Oakwood Junior School we are an inclusive school with a high number of children with additional needs. We value all our children and support them in various ways when and if they need it. An Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) is the highest level of SEND support a school can provide. This process is a lengthy one and EHCP's are only given to those children who need support in school which the school is unable to provide without extra support from the local authority. The local authority write the plan which the school implements. EHCP's are becoming increasingly difficult to secure. We have had a number of recent applications turned down and I have supported parents/carers in appealing the decision, most of which have been overturned. From January the local authority are changing the process for applying for an EHCP. Please bear with me as I work through the changes and familiarise myself with them. As always I will continue to support you and your child along the SEND journey.



Merry Christmas from Mrs Fray and all the staff at OJS.