



# ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2022

Dear Parents,

Thanks to everyone (parents/carers and staff) for their involvement in both the recent parents' consultations as well as our open evening. It was lovely to see so many visitors! We would love to now welcome volunteers back into school to hear readers, support with admin tasks, help out with classroom activities. If you feel that you would like to become a volunteer in school, please contact both the school office as well as your child's class teacher. We'll then get back to you!

Best wishes - Fiona Shields & the Orchard Team

### SPORTING NEWS

Well done to pupils who took part in the recent rugby, hockey and multi-sports competitions. We were very proud of their positive attitudes and team spirit. The hockey and rugby teams even came back to school with a First Place winner's trophy and a medal each. Well done all! Thank you to the staff in our Sports Leadership Team who accompanied the children to these events.

### KS1 FIT FOR LIFE

Pupils in classes 1-4 had a great Fit for Life PE session led by Progressive Sport.



### BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK 14TH –18TH MARCH

This year's theme was 'growth', therefore activities were mostly be based around humans and living things.

Pupils participated in a carousel of activities for a whole day where they explored the theme, having taken part in a super exciting Science assembly led by Miss Hudspith to launch the week.

### SPRING TERM B - INSPIRATION DAYS

Inspiration Days to launch new topics have been amazing for Spring Term B.

Pupils in Classes 7,8 and 9 were slightly terrified of their exceptionally strict teacher as they experienced life in a Victorian school during a visit to The Black Country Museum.



Roman Ron invaded Classes 5, 6 and 7 for the day, to teach them all about the Romans in Britain. Pupils particularly enjoyed dressing up as Centurions and exploring lots of unusual artefacts.



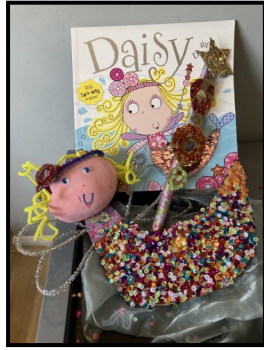
Children in KS1 were very excited to discover that a giant egg had mysteriously appeared in school. Curious pupils tracked down CCTV footage showing a giant T-Rex sneaking onto the school grounds!



## WORLD BOOK DAY

Another fantastic World Book Day was had by all!

Thank you parents for all of your support with this special day, especially those who encouraged their children to take part in our Extreme Reading and 'Decorate a Potato' competitions.



Thank you to Mr Cooper for organising events in school. Pupils especially enjoyed the Book Swap and the bedtime story session.

Don't forget about the PTA Sponsored Readathon. As a reminder: Children have until Friday 1st April to set themselves a challenge, get sponsored and most importantly get reading. We would then like all sponsorship forms and money to be returned to school the following week (4th – 8th April).

## CHOCOLATE RAFFLE

Tickets for the Easter raffle will be available to purchase in school from **Monday 28th March**.

Mrs Daft will visit classrooms to sell the tickets at 50p each. Children can bring money in to buy tickets on their specific days:

**EYFS & KS1 - Mondays & Wednesdays**  
**KS2 - Tuesdays & Thursdays**

The raffle will be drawn on Friday 8th April (last day of term). We are very grateful to Castle Donington Football Club and Tim's Running World for their generous donations of Eggs and Treats for the raffle—Thank you!

## REMINDER: Y6 SATS WEEK (Mon 9th – Thurs 12th May 2022)

Year 6 will be taking their SATS tests throughout the week. Children are preparing for these important tests currently. Your help and support with any revision tasks sent home is greatly appreciated.

A Y6 parents' meeting regarding SATS has been set for **Tuesday 29th March at 5pm**. This will be an opportunity to find out more about the tests, and how you can support your child at home. If you would like to attend, please Dojo your child's class teacher.

## LOCKDOWN

Pupils had lots of positive feedback regarding how much they had enjoyed (!!) practicing lockdown and being 'silent ninjas'. We were exceptionally proud of how brilliant they were in making the drill a huge success.

## REMINDER: YEAR 2 SATS TESTS

Pupils in Year 2 will be sitting their SATS tests week beginning 16th May.

## RAINBOW OF HOPE

Thank you for supporting us with our Ukrainian fundraising appeal.

It was a very poignant moment when we created our rainbow and held a minute's silence as we wished for peace.

Thanks also to those of you who donated items for the Rotary/T4U appeal.

## PTA - SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you to the PTA for providing the refreshments for Film Night and for organising the Mother's Day event. Huge thanks also to the PTA for providing the funding to purchase books, support enrichment events in school and to refurbish 'The Bubble Room'. It's really appreciated.

## COMIC RELIEF

Thanks for your support with our 'dress yourself silly' fundraising day. There were some absolutely ingenious ideas.



## PROGRESS CHECK REPORTS

Progress Check Reports for the Spring Term will be sent out on **Friday 8th April**. We hope that you will find these reports about attainment, behaviour and attendance useful and informative.

## STAFFING UPDATE

We say goodbye to Mrs Brothwell -White who will be leaving Orchard on 1st April. We wish her well.

## **'OUT-OF-SCHOOL' BEHAVIOUR ISSUES**

At Orchard we will always strive to maintain an excellent reputation for pupil behaviour both in school and also out of school hours. This includes 'online' issues which may arise.

As a school, we will investigate any incidents of misbehaviour or anti-social behaviour that we are made aware of and this is important to ensure any behaviour issues do not spread into the school day.

It is noted however that the school only has a limited level of jurisdiction for out-of-school behaviour and in such circumstances, we would work alongside parents/carers to ensure they play the lead role in resolving such behaviour

The school also reserve the right to involve other agencies to support their stance on out-of-school behaviour issues (for example, the police).

We would certainly be in immediate contact with such agencies if any aspect of safeguarding for a child/ren was being compromised by their out-of-school or online behaviour.

It is important for parents/carers to note that the school will always assist with out-of-school behaviour issues but cannot be held responsible or accountable for them.

## **ONLINE SAFETY**

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school. It would be really useful if you could continue the conversation at home and help to ensure that your child's social media accounts are closely monitored.

We have had to deal with an increasing number of issues in school, relating to pupils' misuse of social media out of school hours.

Some resources which you may therefore find helpful in supporting your child online are:

*Advice for parents and carers from: [www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers](http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers).*

*Tips, advice and guides for parents and carers from the: [www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers).*

*Guides on popular apps and games from: [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk)*

## **SAFEGUARDING**

As a reminder, if you have any concerns about a child's welfare or safety, please contact one of the school's Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Shields, Mrs Daft or Mr Patching.

## **TIMES TABLE-ATHON**

Whilst the children regularly practise rapid recall of times tables up to 12 X 12 in school, we thought it would be great fun to have a Times-Table-A-Thon in House Groups as part of a special 'Times Table Rockstar Day' to be held on **Friday 1st April 2022**.

The children will be taking part in a variety of musical themed activities to get the children thinking about how they can use mathematical concepts in a variety of real-life situations.

Each child will be given specific times tables to learn which they will bring home for you to see. Their homework will be based on times tables and there will be lots of activities in school prior to the event to help them practice.

On 1st April, they will have a low-key 'quiz' to see how many questions they can answer correctly. The points will be collected for each House Team and the winners awarded with a special Golden Afternoon.

See separate letter emailed 22.3.22 for more information.