



ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2023

Dear Parents,

As we start the Summer Term, I would like to praise our children for being exceptional on their return to school, from the Easter break. We have been so very impressed by their positive attitudes, their excellent conduct and huge enthusiasm for learning. They are fab!

Fiona Shields & the Orchard Team

CREATIVE CURRICULUM UPDATE

We wanted to really celebrate in this newsletter, the fantastic work that pupils have been undertaking.

In Upper Key Stage 2, pupils have been very busy finding out about the wonderful landscapes of Africa and vast array of life that can be found there.

As well as learning about lifecycles, habitats and evolution, Y5/6 have thoroughly enjoyed their class novel, 'The White Giraffe', which has poaching as a central theme - this has linked beautifully to their work finding out about conservation projects and has provided the inspiration for their stop motion animations.

Classroom displays are filled with the vibrant colours of Africa, showcasing the children's wonderful artwork inspired by Gakonga.



Adventure is Out There for Key Stage 1 who will be exploring the sea, land and air before blasting off into space!

After flying from Orchard Airport, pupils had a great time exploring the planes located in the local aeropark.

After having a lovely Teddy Bears' Picnic before Easter, everyone in EYFS has been getting outside even more than usual to enjoy the sunshine...



Pupils have been super busy in LKS2. They have begun their thought provoking topic of 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' and have already discovered some fascinating facts about Rainforests and how important it is that we preserve this amazing environment.

They have also had a super author visit from Katherine Wheatley from Bumblegreen Studio, who taught pupils about the Borneo Rainforest and the plight of the orangutan.



All classes have been treated to a pack of beautiful books to celebrate 'Earth Day', kindly funded by the PTA.

RSE & EVERYONE'S WELCOME

In PSHE, we have started to deliver lessons from our Relationships and Sex Education scheme, as well as the 'Everyone's Welcome' programme. The RSE scheme of work is located in the Curriculum section of the school's website should you wish to view it.

YEAR 3 RESIDENTIAL TO BEAUMANOR

They had a great time! Well done to our fab Y3's for using their Character Muscles so well. Thanks also to the staff for giving up their time. (And for getting up at 3am to check that the girls had FINALLY gone to sleep!)



CHOCOLATE RAFFLE

Thank you to Mrs Daft and Mrs Thompson for organising a fantastic Easter raffle. Thanks also to all of the local businesses that donated chocolate and to Mr Patching for helping out! We were inundated with items which was absolutely fantastic. £464.72 was raised, which will go towards whole school enrichment events next year. Brilliant - thank you.

REMINDER: Y6 SATS WEEK (Tuesday 9th May – Friday 12th May 2023)

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

REMINDER: YEAR 2 SATS TESTS

Pupils in Year 2 will be sitting their SATS tests week beginning 15th May.

HOUSE SPELLATHON RESULTS

Thank you for supporting your child/children with learning spellings for the House Spellathon.

Here are the scores:

McLeans – 2265 points

Wheatcroft - 2055 points

Coppice – 1968 points

Redgate – 1753 points

The winners will be awarded with a special treat or Golden Afternoon. Well done McLeans House!

TIMES TABLE-ATHON/ROCK STAR DRESSING UP DAY

Reminder: Pupils will be taking part in a House Times-Table-A-Thon as part of a special 'Times Table Rockstar Day' to on **Friday 28th April**. To make the day even more fun, we're inviting pupils to dress up as 'Rockstars'!

SPORTS WORKSHOPS

Pupils have taken part in some super Street Dance and Zorbing sessions led by SH Active Sports.



DIARY DATES

Friday 28th April : Times Tables Rock Stars Day

Monday 1st May: Bank Holiday

Thursday 4th May: King's Coronation Celebration Day

Friday 5th May: Class Photos

Monday 8th May: Bank Holiday

Tuesday 9th-Friday 12th May: Y6 SATS week

WB 15th May: KS1 SATS Week

Friday 26th May: School closes

Monday 5th June: School opens

Tuesday 6th June: Y6 Dental Survey

Thursday 15th June: Sports Day

Friday 16th June: UKS2 Enterprise Day

WB. 19th June: UKS2 Wow Week

Friday 23rd June: Annual Reports sent out

Friday 30th June: Whole school transition morning & PTA Summer disco

Wednesday 5th July: Parents' Evening

Friday 7th July: Character Awards Assemblies

Wednesday 12th July: Leavers' Assembly & School closes

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

The link for this year's Parent Questionnaire has been posted on Class Dojo. The questions are based on OFSTED's Parent View, with an opportunity to elaborate further for some answers. The deadline for responses is Tuesday 2nd May 2023. Thank you.

FORMS FROM OTHER PROFESSIONALS

Please could we ask that if another professional, such as a GP, or private Dyslexia or Autism specialist provides you with a form for school staff to complete, could you pass these onto class teachers in good time.

Most of these forms take a good couple of hours to complete so it really helps if turnaround times are at least a week rather than a couple of days. It just helps staff to plan their workload. Thank you. So much.