



ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2023

Dear Parents,

It has been a very positive Summer Term so far and we couldn't be more proud of your children. As well as working extremely hard to make good progress in all areas of the curriculum, we have also been impressed with the 'character' shown by so many of our pupils. We have been particularly impressed with how our Year 6 pupils have grown in confidence, independence and maturity - they are more than ready to move into Year 7, and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Thank you and 'well done' to staff, who have worked incredibly hard again this year to ensure that the school goes from strength to strength. They are a wonderful team and a privilege to work with.

Finally, thank you as always, for your support and partnership. Having great relationships with parents is something that we are always very appreciative of.

Here's to a good Summer, and a great start to the next school year ...

Best wishes

Fiona Shields & the Orchard Team

STAFFING UPDATE

We are delighted to be welcoming two new LSAs to our team from August - Mrs Joanne Serne and Miss Penny Smith. Both LSAs come to Orchard with a huge amount of knowledge and appreciation of school life, having worked in schools for a number of years.

I'm also delighted to inform you that a number of staff who have undertaken various roles for us this year will be remaining with us. Mr Caldwell, Miss Tisdell, Miss Walters and Miss Dahle will all stay on to teach their own classes - some people are just too good to let go!

REMINDER: ANNUAL REPORTS

A reminder that annual reports and a letter informing you of your child's next class teacher/s will be sent out on Thursday 22nd June. Please check your child's bag.

For any parents' wishing to discuss their child's report, there will be an opportunity to do on Wednesday 5th July. See separate letter in report envelope for details on how to book an appointment.

TRANSITION MORNING - Friday 30th June

All pupils will get the chance to work with their new teacher and/or class group during our whole school transition morning on Friday 30th June.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of transition regarding your child, please contact your child's 'new' class teacher in the first instance, or myself, so that we can help to alleviate any anxieties or concerns you or your child may have.

CLUBS

Pupils have had a super time again this term with a variety of clubs on offer. Gardening club have been particularly busy!

Thanks to staff for leading these activities.



Y5/6 ENTERPRISE SCHEME

Congratulations to Year 5 & 6 pupils for running a fantastic Enterprise morning. They raised £650 by 'growing' their £1 loans. We were blown away by their high levels of creativity, teamwork and entrepreneurial skills. Thank you so much to parents for sending children in with money to spend. They had a great time! All of the money raised will go towards enrichment activities for all classes.



YEAR 6 SATS RESULTS

Unfortunately for schools who break up in mid July, Y6 SATS results are not being published until Tuesday 11th July this year.

We will be endeavouring to let pupils know their results on this day and will send out paper copies of results to parents before the end of the last day (Wednesday 12th).

Y6 LEAVERS' ASSEMBLY

Parents/carers of pupils in Year 6 are invited to attend a special leavers' assembly on Wednesday 12th July. Doors will open at 9.10am for a 9.30am start. Please arrive via the main foyer.

SAFER CYCLING

Please could parents encourage pupils who cycle to school on their own to keep their helmets on when riding their bike. A number of staff have passed children on their way to school with helmets dangling off their handle bars!

FIRST AID

Children are very prone to bumps and knocks when playing outdoors. Whilst we will always offer treatment to children who urgently require it, to make First Aid more manageable at break/lunchtimes, we need to create a triage system. Therefore, we may decide not to send a pupil in for First Aid if there is no visible sign of injury and the 'accident' was very minor e.g. ran into another child and banged the muscly part of their arm. Staff will monitor the injury however, to ensure that there is no further discomfort.

REMINDER: FROZEN FRIDAY

To raise money for School Council funds, members would like to sell ice pops for 50p at break time on Fridays.

We will run sales on alternate weeks:

EYFS & KS1: Friday 23rd June, 7th July

KS2: Friday 16th June, 30th June

Pupils who would like to purchase an ice pop are invited to bring in money on their Friday.

REMINDER: Summer Term B Clubs are due to end Friday 30th June.

RUCKSACKS

Apologies for any disappointment, but we really do need to ask that pupils in EYFS and Y1-4 do not bring large rucksacks into school unless they are needed to store items for playdates/sleepovers.

We do not have the cloakroom space for the *huge* bags that are being brought into school. As stated at the start of the year, pupils in EYFS and Y1-4 should only bring in **book bags** please otherwise pegs get crowded resulting in coats falling off onto the floor which becomes a trip hazard.

DIARY DATES

Friday 16th June: Father's Day Breakfast 8.40am

Friday 16th June: EYFS trip to Carsington Water

WB. 19th June: UKS2 Wow Week

Thursday 22nd June: Annual Reports sent out

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

Tuesday 4th July-Animal workshop for LKS2

Wednesday 5th July: Parents' Evening

Friday 7th July: Character Awards Assemblies

Wednesday 12th July: Leavers' Assembly & School closes

DIARY DATES FOR THE FIRST HALF TERM 23-24

Mon 29th August – Bank Holiday

Pupils in Y1-6 start back to school Tuesday 29th August

Staggered start days for EYFS:

Group A - Wednesday 30th August 2023

Group B - Thursday 31st August 2023

Group C – Friday 1st September 2023

Fri 1st September Character Ed Day including Rock Kidz visitors (phase sessions)

Fri 1st September - 3.15-3.45pm: Meet the Teacher

Tues 5th Sep: Medical Mavericks Visitors for KS2

Mon 11th School Council President Hustings (Assembly)

Thurs 14th September: KS1 visit to the Adventure Farm

Thurs 28th - Macmillan Coffee Morning and non-uniform day (official date 29th)

National Grandparents Day (officially 1st) – bring your grandparents to school P.M. Mon 2nd Oct

Parents' Evenings Mon 9th (3.30-6.30) & Thurs 12th (4.30-6.30)

School closes Friday 13th October

ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS

We are so proud of our Anti-Bullying Team this year. They had completed their final 'Diana Award' training session, and are now ready to apply for their 'Respect' badge. As part of this, they will be running a campaign over the next couple of weeks, and making a video for the website.



SOCIAL NETWORKING BEHAVIOUR OUT OF SCHOOL

Orchard 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.

Recently, we have had to deal with several issues involving inappropriate WhatsApp messages.

It should be noted that dealing with issues involving social network sites takes up a huge amount of time by school staff, and notably, the school only has a limited level of jurisdiction for out-of-school behaviour.

In such circumstances, we would work alongside parents/carers to ensure they play the lead role in resolving such behaviour. However, we also reserve the right to involve other agencies to support our stance on out-of-school behaviour issues (for example, the police; Social Care/Early Help).

We would certainly be in immediate contact with such agencies if any aspect of safeguarding for the 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.

GOVERNORS

We have a very strong board of Governors who, as volunteers, have worked hard this year to ensure that the school remains efficient and effective. My thanks to them for their support, input and ideas.

WATER BOTTLES

Please could all pupils bring a water bottle into school during these warmer weeks to reduce the need for beakers. Can you please ensure it has your child's name on. Thank you.

SUN AWARENESS

With the weather becoming warmer, it is advisable that children bring a hat/cap to wear outside.

On hot days, could you also please ensure that sunscreen is applied before your child comes to school. Sunscreen can also be brought into school for self-application. Please note that staff are unable to help children with this.

Please ensure all clothing is named so that the Lost Property basket doesn't get too full!

LOST PROPERTY

We have a mountain of clothing and other items without names in Lost Property and would therefore urge parents/carers to come into school to look through the basket. Children seem to struggle to recognise or retrieve their own items despite them being circulated at the end of break or lunchtimes!

TWITTER ACCOUNT

We'd love to get a few more followers: our school Twitter account is @OrchardPSLeics.

REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCE

Please inform staff in the main office of any pupil absence so that a reason for absence can be recorded.

We are having to make an increasing number of 'Safe and Well' checks each morning because children are 'absent without leave' due to parents/carers not contacting us.

These checks are part of our safeguarding practices and are primarily designed to ensure that all children who are assumed to be in school, have been registered. Thank you.

HIGH STANDARDS OF UNIFORM

A gentle reminder please that our uniform policy doesn't change in the last term. Trainers on non-PE days, jewellery and commercial sports tops are still not appropriate. Thank you for your support to uphold our high standards.