



# ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2024

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

After having a lovely Teddy Bears' Picnic before Easter, pupils in EYFS have been super busy. They have begun to explore the great outdoors as part of their 'In the Garden' Learning Adventure. They had great fun using the Now Press Play headsets to explore the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.



In Upper Key Stage 2, pupils have been very busy finding out about the Mayan Empire and Mexico. In Art, they designed and made some carnival masks, inspired by South America ...



Lower Key Stage 2 are exploring the Roman Empire and its effect on Britain. Using artefacts from Leicester Museum, as part of the Inspiration Day, pupils transformed themselves into archaeologists to solve a number of mysteries!

They also learned about Roman Legion battle formation and experienced everyday life as a Roman child by playing games that would've been played way back in history.

KS1 are still being 'Dinosaur Detectives'! They have completed some fantastic report writing and art work ...



### RSE & EVERYONE'S WELCOME

In PSHE, we will be shortly delivering 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 boys had FINALLY gone to sleep!)



### SPORTING NEWS

As well as doing brilliantly in the Cross Country league, where Orchard have finished 5th out of 24 schools, the school has also been represented exceptionally well by a squad of Y3/4 pupils who participated in the Change for Life programme, hosted at Charnwood College. External coaches also commented positively on their enthusiasm and fantastic attitudes.

Additionally, we have had huge success in the County Dodgeball Tournament, coming 3rd overall, and 1st in netball.

Huge thanks to the staff in our Sports Leadership Team for training the children and accompanying them to competitions.



## CLASS DOJO POLICY FOR PARENTS & STAFF

In case you missed an earlier email, a new policy regarding the effective use of Class Dojo by parents and staff is now in the policy section of the website. Also recently uploaded to the school's website is the WhatsApp Policy and latest E-Safety Policy.

## PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

The link for our annual parent questionnaire can now be found on Dojo Whole School Story. We see the partnership with parents as crucially important and therefore very much value your opinions and comments.

The questions are based on OFSTED's Parent View, with an opportunity to elaborate further for some answers. For each question, please indicate your **general** experience of the school.

The deadline for responses is Tuesday 7th May 2024.

## OUTDOOR SHOES

After going home at the end of last term for a good clean, outdoor shoes can come back into school again so that pupils can use the field at break/lunch.

## CHOCOLATE RAFFLE

Thank you to Mrs Thompson and Mrs Daft for organising a fantastic Easter raffle. Thanks also to all of the local businesses that donated chocolate. We were inundated with items which was absolutely fantastic. £486.50 was raised, which will go towards whole school enrichment events next year. Brilliant - thank you.



## PROUD CLOUD BOARD

We would love some new pictures to go onto our Proud Cloud board to celebrate pupils' out of school achievements.

**Please email pictures, directly to Mrs Shields or send a coloured paper copy in for display.**

## DIARY DATES

Friday 26th April - House Spellathon

Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday

Y6 SATS Monday 13th - Thursday 16th May

Friday 24th May - PTA Rainbow Bounce & School closes

Friday 7th June - Y5/6 Enterprise Scheme

Wednesday 12th June - EYFS trip to Carsington Water

Thursday 13th June - Sports Day (KS2 a.m./KS1 p.m.)

Friday 14th June - PTA Father's Day Breakfast

**NEW DATE: Tuesday 18th June - Y3 trip to Matlock Bath**

**NEW DATE: Wednesday 19th June - Y4 trip to Matlock Bath**

Friday 21st June - Annual Reports sent out

**NEW DATE: Friday 28th June - PTA Summer Fair 2.15-5.15pm**

**NEW DATE: Tuesday 2nd July - UKS2 trip to the Black Country Museum**

Wednesday 3rd July - Parents' Evening

Friday 5th July - PTA Summer Disco

Tuesday 9th July - Y6 Leavers' Assembly for parents & school closes

## CYCLING SAFETY TIPS

**As the weather improves, we know that some parents and carers are supervising their children on a bike-ride to and from school.**

Here are some links below which we hope that you will find helpful with lots of useful tips on how to encourage your children to be 'safety aware' when cycling, which includes remembering to wear a helmet.

<https://www.cyclinguk.org/article/cycling-guide/cycling-road-children>

<https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/knowledge/article/20200529-Get-Starte...>

<https://www.brake.org.uk/get-involved/take-action/mybrake/knowledge-cen...>