



# ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER - MAY 2021

Dear Parents,

It has been a wonderful Summer term so far and pupils should be very proud of their achievements. I have seen some truly fantastic learning on my classroom visits and can't commend the children's enthusiasm highly enough. Moreover their attitudes have been very good. We are especially proud of pupils for showing such determination, commitment and perseverance when completing their school work.

Best wishes

Fiona Shields & the Orchard Team

### STAFFING UPDATE

After many years working at Orchard, Mrs Godsell has decided to take a break from teaching in order to pursue new, more flexible working opportunities. She will be very much missed.

I know that you will wish to join me in thanking her for her dedication to sport over the years, and for enabling the school to retain its Platinum Sports Mark for another two years. We wish her all the very best for the future.

As a result of her departure, we have appointed a new teacher, Miss Hudspith, who will be teaching in Year 4.

We will also be welcoming Mrs Rees who will be working as a Teaching Assistant in Y2 next year.

### YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 ENTERPRISE MORNING

Pupils in all year groups are invited to bring up to £5 on Friday 18th June to spend at the Enterprise Scheme which will be lead by pupils in Years 5 and 6.

Given the challenge of 'growing' their £1 loan, our oldest pupils have been busy planning their profit making stalls.

As well as a number of groups selling food and drink items, there will also be plenty of competitions to enter, games to take part in and of course the usual favourites including the popular nail varnish bar!

### FORTHCOMING PTA EVENTS

#### Kids' Cinema Night

Thursday 20th May for EYFS and Classes 1,2 & 3  
Friday 21st May for Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9

All parents of pupils who wish to attend Cinema Night are asked to book their child's place via School Money (Eduspot), thereby enabling us to compile a register and collect monies in advance of the event. The deadline for booking a place is 9.30am Monday 17th May.

#### Rainbow Bounce - Friday 28th May

All children are encouraged to join in with the PTA's sponsored Rainbow Bounce. By collecting sponsors and then seeing how many bounces they can complete on the bouncy castle! Pupils can bring their sponsor form along on the day, together with their sponsorship money.

All pupils may wear their favourite rainbow coloured clothes for the day as well, even if they are not taking part in the bouncing activity.

### PUNCTUALITY

We have an increasing number of children who are regularly missing morning registration, as well as early morning learning activities, as they are not arriving at school on time.

Arrival times remain staggered: Group 1 (Classes 6,8,1,2,4) should arrive between 8.35-8.45am; Group 2 (Classes 7,5,3,9 and EYFS) should arrive between 8.45-8.55am. Gates are locked at 8.55am.

Your support would be appreciated.

## **ANNUAL REPORTS**

Annual reports will be sent out on Friday 25th June. Please check your child's bag to ensure that the 'pupil post' service is efficient.

For any parents' wishing to discuss their child's report, there will be an opportunity to do so on Monday 5th July (See separate letter in report envelope for details).

## **5 STAR FOOD HYGIENE RATING AWARD**

Congratulations to our super kitchen staff for achieving a 5 Star Food hygiene rating in their recent Food Standards Agency inspection. The inspector was exceptionally impressed with the high levels of professionalism demonstrated by the staff and the quality of food delivered in the school kitchen.

## **IMPORTANT LETTERS: INFORMATION REGARDING NEW PE UNIFORM & WRAPAROUND CARE**

Please keep an eye out for an email which contains important information regarding arrangements for the next academic year. The details are being finalised with governors and will be circulated to parents shortly.

## **LOST PROPERTY**

The mountain of jumpers/cardigans in Lost Property is increasing! Please could you check that all of your child's personal belongings have their name on them as this makes it so much easier to return items to their owner. Thank you.

## **PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

We will be circulating our annual questionnaire to parents shortly. Whilst it has been a busy year for everyone, we would really value your opinions and input.

Please bear in mind that Lockdown and the pandemic will have had an impact on the enrichment opportunities and clubs that we have been able to offer, PTA events, the progress some children may have made this year, and to some extent, how happy and settled pupils will have been so please answer 'overall' so that we get a general sense of where we are at as a school.

## **SCHOOL PROSPECTUS**

The school prospectus has been updated to reflect new initiatives introduced in the last year. It will be uploaded to the website shortly for parents to view.

## **REMINDER: COVID TRACK & TRACE DURING HALF - TERM**

A reminder that during the holidays, school is still required to support the NHS Test and Trace process, and fulfil necessary contact tracing responsibilities when notified of any positive Covid test cases.

Therefore, please would you ensure that you inform us of a positive case if symptoms have occurred within 2 days of your child being in school.

Updates need to be sent via Dojo to Mrs Daft (or emailed to [school@orchard.leics.sch.uk](mailto:school@orchard.leics.sch.uk) if you can't access Dojo). A Dojo to the class teacher is also very useful.

## **REMINDER: THE GREAT BUG HUNT 2021**

This is an exciting competition for primary school children that takes you outside to explore the bug world! What will you find? Identify a local habitat, explore and discover the bugs that live there, draw them and record your findings – it's that simple!

Entries should be sent to [www.schoolscience.co.uk/bughunt](http://www.schoolscience.co.uk/bughunt) by June 10th 2021.

## **SUN AWARENESS**

With the weather becoming warmer, it is advisable that children bring a hat 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.

### **DATES FOR THE DAIRY**

Friday 28th May - School closes for half-term

Monday 7th June - School opens

Friday 25th June - Annual reports sent out

Monday 5th July - Remote parent consultations to discuss reports if required

Friday 9th July - School closes for the Summer

Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th August - INSET days (school closed for pupils)

Wednesday 25th August - School opens to pupils