

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 19th April 2024

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been lovely to see so many keen faces waiting at the gate this week eager to race into school. Please try to remember the correct gate to enter and exit the school. This really has helped to speed things up and make the journey a little less stressful for everyone. A gentle reminder to ensure your child is on time. The gates close at 8:50am and we will be following up on those that are persistently late again this term.

The summer term always brings an enthusiasm and appetite for learning and is, of course, the term that is packed full of assessments, some of which will be very key to the next stages in your child's education. We talked today about the need for good routines at home such as bedtime. Getting a good night's sleep can have such a positive impact on your child's ability to focus and concentrate in class.

Some of our younger children had the opportunity to learn to ride balance bikes this week. They loved trying to keep their balance while riding around trying to avoid obstacles. In assembly this morning we talked about developing resilience - Never give up! - and how this can impact on learning. These children were developing resilience and having a go which was lovely to see.

The weather seems to have turned a corner and after many wet days we are beginning to see some sunshine. We are hoping to get out in the fresh air as much as we can so, please remember to equip your children for the correct weather conditions (sensible shoes and coats).



Have a wonderful weekend.

Fiona Pearce
Headteacher

Re-opening of the Coffee Cabin

WE NEED YOU!

Can you spare us 2 hours per month working alongside a member of staff to re-opening the Coffee Cabin.

If you are interested, please contact Sue Manley via the school office or by email.

We appreciate any time you can spare.

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk

Come and
join us.

Orchard Vale
Coffee Cabin
Open

Wednesday, 24th April



COFFEE

And

TEA

8.15am to 8.45am

And

3pm to 3.45pm

We will be offering tea, coffee, hot chocolate, and milkshake. Ice creams and lollies will be on sale in the afternoon.



STARS OF THE TERM

The Pink Panthers

Isabella for settling in well and happily joining in with a variety of activities.

Harry for negotiating well with your friends and making some super buildings with the building blocks.

The Curious Corals

My star of the week this week is Skye. We've been talking a lot about confidence this week in class, and how we can cope with change or trying new things. Skye, although one of the quieter members of our class, has been working hard on her confidence behind the scenes and it is really starting to show. Skye is believing in her own abilities more, engaging in class discussion and sharing answers to questions or ideas with the class. When Skye is unsure about something, she has a range of tools she can fall back on to help herself through it.

The Silver Sweethearts

Our star of the week is Aria. Aria is fabulous. Aria always works hard and has made fantastic progress because of this. Aria is a super helpful member of the class and a fantastic friend to others. It is a pleasure to have Aria as part of our class. Well done Aria.

The Dancing Red Ravers

Lily is my star of the week because she has shown a never give up attitude and has persevered when things have got challenging! I am incredibly proud of her efforts shown during phonics where she has not only moved groups but has smashed her first few sessions this week. Lily, your hard work and great attitude is really paying off! Lily, you are an incredible mathematician and I really enjoy listening to you explain and reason when working with numbers. You are a fabulous friend, and you are always playing imaginatively and with great co-operation. Keep up the good work and you will continue to shine! Mr Quilter x

The Marvellous Midnight Blue Macaws

We have had our eyes on Pixie for a while now. Pixie has continually impressed us time and again with her fantastic attitude to learning. She always gives her all. I was super impressed this week with her choice of adjectives when describing her robot. Mrs Dunn has high praise for her in phonics, her fluidity and confidence in reading is a pleasure to see. Pixie is a great friend and is always in the right place at the right time doing the right thing. Well done Pixie, you are amazing. Keep up the great work. Mrs Oldfield x

The Lively Lilac Learners

My star of the week is Blair. Blair has been a very quiet member of our class who seemed to be happier playing than learning. But slowly and gently he has been strengthening and growing and suddenly we are seeing this brilliant learner emerging. Blair has been doing amazing writing, he is really using his phonics well. Blair has been applying himself really well in maths and is starting to gain more independence in his learning. Blair continues to do everything very quietly but he is just doing amazing learning right now. Well done Blair. You are a super learner!

Balance Ability—KS1 children

The children who signed up for the Balanceability training have had a wonderful time this week. The coach has told us that they have improved tremendously throughout the week.

Well, done to all that took part.



The prize for the
tidiest cloakroom
goes to

Mrs Grimwood's class
class this week.

Congratulations to
Years 3 and 4 - High Flyers

Hollie G

On reaching 125 reads

READING CHAMPIONS

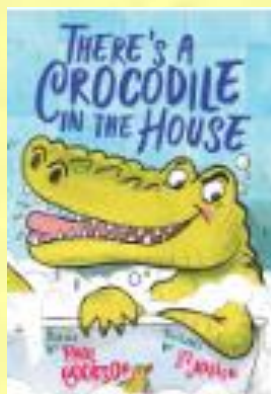


Year 1/2

'Rosie and the tortoise'

I have chosen this book because it is so adorable and super cute! It is a very welcoming book that can teach you to love someone who you have just met.

Grazynka



Year 3/4

'There's a crocodile in the house'

I chose this book because it is incredibly fun and crazy. Also, I would recommend to any age reader as it is a very funny book.

Lily-Rose



Year 5/6

'The attack of the demon dinner ladies'

I picked this book because it is one of my favourite books. I like how adventurous it is, and I enjoy the craziness of it.

Mila-Monroe

You can find all this week's Reading Champion picks on display in the school library.

Happy reading.

Written by Theo, Martha, and Mila.

Week commencing—Monday, 22nd April
Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options

<div>  <h2 style="text-align: center;">LUNCH MENU – WEEK 2</h2> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">22nd Apr-13th May - 10th June - 1st & 22nd July – 16th Sept. – 7th Oct. Malted, Wholemeal Sliced Baguettes, low Fat Yoghurts, Milk and Water available daily. All Special Diets catered for.</p> </div>					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
 Cheeseburger (100% Beef) in a Bun	 Chicken Curry, Wholegrain Rice & Naan Bread	 Toad in the Hole (Butchers Sausage & Yorkshire Pudding)	 Jumbo Fish Fingers	 Chicken Goujons with Tomato Pasta	
 Roasted Stuffed Feta Peppers	 Macaroni Cheese & Crusty Bread	 Herby Lentil Loaf	 Vegan Sausage Roll	 Sweet & Sour Quorn with Noodles	
 Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese	 Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese		 Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese		
 Potato Wedges, Peas & Corn on Cob	 Mixed Vegetables	 Roast or Mash Potato with Fresh Sliced Carrots, Cabbage & Gravy	 Chips, Pasta, Peas, Coleslaw & Tomato Sauce	 Sweetcorn & Broccoli	
 Pip Organic Ice Lolly	 Fruit Jelly	 Fresh Fruit	 Date & Rice Crispy Cake	 Fruit Smoothie	
 Humus Roll	 Cheese Roll	 Humus Roll	 Tuna Roll	 Sausage Roll	

School Diary Dates

Mon, 22nd April	Y3 / 4—Rubicon Skateboarding workshops
Wed, 24th April	Y2—Tennis Festival—Tarka Leisure Centre
Wed, 24th April	Coffee Cabin open 8.15am to 8.45am / 3pm to 3.45pm (hot drinks and ice creams)
Fri, 26th April	Y5/6—Tag Rugby
Fri, 26th April	PTA Non Uniform Day—Wear as many colours as you can
Tues, 30th April	KS1 and KS2—RNLI assembly
Mon, 6th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Fri, 10th May	Year 1 Multi Skills Festival—Park School
Mon, 13th to Thurs, 16th May	Year 6 SATS
Wed, 22nd May	Wilcombe Wobbler Ventrus Cross County—KS2
Mon, 27th to Fri, 31st May	HALF TERM (back to school Mon, 3rd June)
Wed, 5th June	Y5/6—Swimming Lessons
Wed, 12th June	Y5/6 Swimming Lessons
Wed, 19th June	Y5/6 Swimming lessons
Fri, 21st June	Colour Run (details to come)
Mon, 24th to Fri, 28th June	Y5/6 Nethercott residential
Thur, 27th June	Y6 Park School Parent Evening

Come and
join us.

Orchard Vale
Coffee Cabin
Open

Wednesday, 24th April

COFFEE

And



TEA

8.15am to 8.45am

And

3pm to 3.45pm

We will be offering tea, coffee, hot
chocolate, and milkshake. Ice creams and
lollies will be on sale in the afternoon.



**ROCK
STEADY**

YOUR CHILD COULD PLAY IN THEIR VERY OWN ROCK BAND!

Are you looking for a fun activity to boost your child's confidence and support their overall journey through primary school?



SCAN QR
CODE TO FIND
OUT MORE

Rocksteady lessons support wellbeing, grow confidence and build resilience, all in fun and inclusive environment.

Each lesson will build on your child's individual learning and motivational style, and they'll get to play real music in their own band from the very first lesson!



84%

parents say Rocksteady lessons supports their child's confidence

97%

children say they enjoy attending lessons or wish they could do more

100%

head teachers say Rocksteady lessons have a significant impact on children

CLICK HERE TO SIGN YOUR CHILD UP NOW
WWW.ROCKSTEADYMUSICSCHOOL.COM/INFO-FOR-PARENTS

What age can a child come home from school alone?



There's no legal age that your child can travel home from school alone – this is up to you and your best judgement, or your school's rules and policies.

However, you should never leave a child alone who isn't ready or is unable to care for themselves.

Every child is different – but some schools advise children under 8 shouldn't walk home without an adult or older sibling.

If you and your child do feel they're ready to come home alone, it helps to go over some rules about staying safe.

- Make sure they know their address and your telephone number by heart, in case they get lost or have to navigate home from somewhere new.
- If they have a mobile phone, remind them to fully charge it before leaving the house, and make sure they have all your contact numbers saved.
- Talk to them about road safety. They should always look both ways before crossing the street, and never be on their phone whilst crossing a road.
- Remind them never to accept a lift from someone they don't know, or let a stranger into the house. They should never give personal information away – in real life or online.
- Remind them that if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable at any time, they can call you or a trusted adult.
- If they ever feel like they're in immediate danger, they should call the police straight away on 999.

[Leaving our child at home advice from the NSPCC](#)

Become a Primary School Teacher in North Devon

- Working with Ventrus and other local schools.
- PGCE awarded by University of Nottingham (taught in Devon).
- Seminars and workshops are delivered through a mix of face to face and online sessions, so you can achieve the best work life balance
- Pastoral support from our North Devon campus



swiftteachertraining.org.uk
info@swiftteachertraining.org.uk



Classroom Experience and Information Events

Event Information

This is an opportunity to gain classroom experience in a primary school setting and find out more about SWIFT Teacher Training, our route into teaching, courses and PGCE.

These events are based in one of our partner schools where you will be looked after by an experienced Campus Lead, who will be your host for the session.

Activities could include:

- a guided training walk with the campus lead
- introduction to observing lessons and different styles of teaching
- seeing how specific subjects are taught
- engaging in learning conversations with colleagues
- learning more about the SWIFT Teacher Training programme
- questions and Next Steps

Who

Educated to degree level; recent graduates, career changers, returners to work; teaching assistants, anyone interested in teaching.

To book

Online booking form [HERE](https://swiftteachertraining.org.uk)

Or contact: Abby Spearing / Nicky Sheppard

Email: abby.spearing@swiftteachertraining.org.uk

Phone: 01548 852641 Ext 2592

PLEASE BOOK BY Friday 19 April 2024

Time and Venue

Primary

SWIFT Teacher Training | North Devon Campus | Orchard Vale Community School | **Wednesday 24 April 2024 | 1000 - 1230**

Orchard Vale Community School | Westcott Road | Whiddon Valley | Barnstaple | EX32 8QY

Online Information Events

We will also be hosting an online information session, if you are unable to attend our in-person events. This can still include classroom experience; but we will be able to arrange this for a time to suit you at a later date.

You can find out more information about future classroom experience and information events [HERE](https://swiftteachertraining.org.uk).



www.swiftteachertraining.org.uk



SWIMMING LESSONS

Enjoying your school swimming lessons?

Why not join our learn to swim programme and develop your swimming even further

Lessons available:

Monday to Friday 16.00 - 18.00
 Saturday 08.30 - 12.00
 Sunday 09.00 - 10.30

£32.50 PM via DD

Spaces for all ages and abilities

Book online or call 01271 373361

LeisureCentre.com



DiAS

Devon Information
Advice and Support
(for Special Educational Needs and Disability)

DIAS drop in sessions Thursday 25th April

At Roundswell Community Centre, Barnstaple
between 10 - 12.30pm

If you're in North Devon and looking for information and support about any SEND issue, you can talk to Kate or Michelle directly at our bookable one to one sessions. At the session you'll have a chance to talk individually face to face with one of the DIAS Officers, where you can ask questions, discuss your options and plan your next steps.

- Each slot with a DIAS Officer lasts a maximum of 30 minutes.
- Sessions are open to parents, carers and to young people.
- If you'd like to find out more or book a slot, contact michelle.johnson@devon.gov.uk or kate.boyd@devon.gov.uk

Preschooler Class

TIME TO COOK
THE LIGHTHOUSE
KEEPER'S LUNCH

TIME TO COOK®
LITTLE COOKS
BIG ADVENTURES

- Make a delicious Flapjack
- Craft your own Cheeky Seagull
- Make a Picnic Basket

Wednesday 24th April
10:00a.m.
Pilton Church Hall



SEND COOKERY
SESSIONS
FOR
KIDS

TIME TO COOK®
LITTLE COOKS
BIG ADVENTURES

TUESDAYS AT PILTON
CHURCH HALL, BARNSTAPLE

12:00PM - 1:00PM

COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR SEND KIDS
COOKERY SESSIONS WHERE EVERYONE IS
WELCOME!

- SMALL CLASS SIZES
- SIMPLE RECIPES
- TIME FOR BREAKS
- SPACE TO MOVE

Email claire@timetocook.uk to book your space!
Spaces must be pre-booked.
Classes cost £10 per child which includes all the
ingredients and equipment plus your child's bake
to take home and enjoy!



 Time to Cook  Time to Cook North Devon

TIME TO COOK®
LITTLE COOKS
BIG ADVENTURES

**Home Ed
Classes**

At Pilton Church Hall
Tuesdays at 10:00a.m.

Spice up your homeschool routine with our
cookery classes for kids!

From mastering measurements to exploring new
flavours, our classes offer educational fun that
boosts creativity and confidence.

Get your little chefs excited about exploring
ingredients while bonding over delicious bakes.

Reserve their spot today and let's cook up some
unforgettable memories together!

Email claire@timetocook.uk to book your space!
Spaces must be pre-booked.
Classes cost £10 per child which includes all the
ingredients and equipment plus your child's bake
to take home and enjoy!



 Time to Cook  Time to Cook North Devon

**COOKERY
CLASSES
THIS WEEK**

TIME TO COOK®
LITTLE COOKS
BIG ADVENTURES

TUESDAY
Home Ed Class Pilton Church Hall at 10:00a.m.
SEND Class Pilton Church Hall at 12:00p.m.

WEDNESDAY
The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch
Cookery Workshop Pilton Church Hall at 10:00a.m.

THURSDAY
Preschooler Cookery Class World of Wonder at
10:00a.m. - includes FREE Stay and Play

FRIDAY
Preschooler Cookery Class Studio Kind at 10:00a.m.

SUNDAY
Cookery Workshop at The Bull & Bear - FULLY BOOKED



 Time to Cook  Time to Cook North Devon