

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week in class we have continued our work on Romeo and Juliet, creating storyboards and summaries for the play. In maths, we have been working on decimals, with the children using their reasoning and problem solving skills to order and compare them. We have also been studying Tudor clothing and costumes this week and the children have sketched, designed and painted some Tudor outfits.

Steve Cole – Visiting Author – Monday, 9th October

Steve Cole, author of *Astrosaurs* and *Secret Agent Mummy* will be visiting Orchard Vale on Monday. He will be giving a lively and fun assembly explaining his inspiration for becoming an author. Steve will be selling autographed books after the assembly. If your child would like to buy a book they will cost £5 – please send this in an envelope with your child's name and class on to their class teacher.

Friends of Orchard Vale – School Discos – Thursday, 12th October – Letters have been sent home with details of the disco. Tickets will cost **£2 per child**, which includes a drink. See our website for more information.

School photos – Friday, 13th October

The Tempest photographer will be visiting us on Friday in the school hall. 8am – Family Groups only, first come first served. Photos of siblings attending Orchard Vale, individual and class photos will be taken during the day. You should receive proofs of sibling and family photos on the day. The individual and class photos will be sent home at a later date.

Hampton Court trip – Friday, 3rd November

Thank you to everyone who has returned their permission slip and payment. We still have one or two to come in. As you will all know, the funding we receive from the Government has been severely cut and we currently have no spare funds in school to cover any payments not made, which may mean having to cancel the trip if all contributions are not received.

Nethercott Residential – 6th to 13th July

We still have a couple of places available for this residential. If you have not already expressed an interest and would like your child to attend this residential please let your class teacher know.

Informal Welcome Mornings – Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th October

We would like to invite parents/guardians to our class open Welcome Mornings, between 8.30am and 9am. Please do come along for an informal chat with your class teacher. We will be happy to tell you how your child is settling in and you can have a look at some of the work they have completed so far.

Communication Books

This year, we are looking to reduce the amount of printing with Year 5 and 6 and as a result, our weekly newsletters and all homework are now shared on the school website. Further to this, we have made the decision not to issue Year 5 and 6 children with Communication Books this year. If you have any issues regarding your child, homework or any other issues, please pop in and talk to your child's class teacher. However, if you would like to be issued with a Communication Book, then please see a member of the Year 5/6 team.

Harvest Heroes Appeal – We are collecting non-perishable food (tins, dried milk, biscuits, pasta or rice) to donate to the Harvest Heroes Appeal. This is a food bank specifically for people in North Devon. Each client receives a carefully designed food parcel containing 3 days' worth of nutritionally balanced food. All donations gratefully accepted. Please bring these into your class teacher before Wednesday, 18th October.

Diary Dates

Have you visited our website lately for the school calendars 2017/18/news of school events www.ovschool.co.uk.

Thur, 19th and Fri, 20th Oct – Non-Pupil Days

Mon, 23rd to Fri, 27th Oct – Half Term.

Tue, 31st Oct – Flu Vaccinations – Reception, Years 1,2,3 and 4.

Mon, 18th Dec to Tue 2nd Jan – Christmas Holidays