

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 6th October 2023

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Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

It is lovely to end the week with the sun shining and hopefully the warm weather will continue into the weekend. I was great to see the enthusiasm and effort the children from Year 5 and 6 put into their races when they attended cross country at Park School on Thursday. They all deserve to be commended.

I am sorry to talk about parking again, but I am sure you will agree we need everybody on board to make the roads a safer place around the school and to help reduce the inconvenience for our neighbours.

Safer Parking at the school gates

Driving children to school is seen as the most convenient choice for parents with busy lives. Many parents take the view that driving their children to school they are keeping them safe. Yet the combination of each individual decision means an increase in vehicle traffic and congestion particularly at the school gate.

What can you do to help keep everyone safe around the school gates?

Please do not:

- Block the road – emergency vehicles and other traffic may need access.
- Park on yellow lines, zig-zags or block the school entrance.
- Park on the pavement, across dropped kerbs or residents' driveways.
- Park where you will cause inconvenience to other road users.
- Leave your vehicle with the engine still running or sit in it with the engine running.

Stop in the middle of the road to drop your child off, even for a few seconds.

These changes make a real difference to the congestion around schools, making the school run less stressful and far safer for everyone. Even those who must drive to school can do their bit by parking away from the school entrance and walking for part of the journey. Research has shown that children who walk or cycle to school are more receptive to learning at the start of the school day than those who travel to school by car.

Finally, we are having a book recycle event on Wednesday next week. There will be a range of books to choose from in the Coffee Cabin for your child to take home for a small donation. In return, if you have any quality second hand books that you no longer need we would welcome them. We would like to give children a book for Christmas. If you could wrap your donated books in Christmas paper with the age range written on the front this would be a great help.



Don't forget, if you are visiting Tesco's this weekend, to vote for Orchard Vale with the blue tokens at the till.

Have a super weekend.

Fiona Pearce
Headteacher

Year 6 – Have you applied for your place at Park School?

The closing date for applications for your child to attend Park School is **31st October**.

If you would like to apply for a place please following this link to the application webpages www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

The easiest way for these families to apply is online by visiting www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline.

If families don't wish to or can't apply online, they can also complete a hard copy application form which can be obtained by calling 0345 155 1019.

Are you entitled to register for free school meals / additional funding support

If you are in receipt of:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income that does not exceed £16,190).
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

How to apply

Apply through the [Devon Citizens Portal](http://DevonCitizensPortal). This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. Alternatively, call the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.



Stars of the Week



The Pink Panthers

Harry for settling in well and playing nicely with his peers.

Scarlett for showing good independence and being kind and helpful.

The Curious Corals

Skye is a lovely girl with a big heart who is consistently trying her best in Reception. If I need her to be sat on the carpet, she's there. If I need some help with tidying up, along she comes. We can always count on Skye to be kind, helpful and a wonderful role model to those around her! Skye is one of our quieter class members, but Mrs Golding and I have really noticed her growing in confidence this week. It is so great to see her believing in herself and giving new things a go. We love having you as part of our class, Skye! Keep being your wonderful self.

The Silver Sweethearts

Mila always comes in ready to learn in the mornings and tries her very best at everything which is asked of her throughout the day. On top of that, she is a kind and gentle member of the class. Well done, Mila!

The Energetic Emerald Explorers

My Star of the Week is Lily-Mae. No matter what challenges Lily-Mae faces, she always does so with a smile and a quiet determination. She is progressing in all areas of the curriculum because of her love of learning and her enthusiastic approach to life! Lily-Mae is also such a fantastic role model to her peers. She is kind, caring and friendly to everyone. She is a ray of sunshine in the class, and it is such a privilege of mine to be able to teach her for a second year. Keep up the good work Lily-Mae!

The Precious Pearl Problem Solvers

Bella has shown exceptional listening skills this week in class. Her attention to book presentation and hard work across all subjects has not gone unnoticed, setting an inspiring example for her peers. Congratulations, Bella, on your outstanding efforts and commitment to learning!

The Groundbreaking Golds

Toby has been a star this week, setting a shining example in our class! He has worked hard to ensure that his presentation is exceptional with every piece of work he completes. It is clear that he understands how important it is that your work looks lovely! He has also shown a very sensible attitude within class this week and has been a great role model to others.

The Jubilantly Jazzy Jades

My star of the week this week is Esmail. You have settled into year 5 brilliantly and your confidence is growing. You are always engaged in lessons and keen to contribute your ideas. All staff that work with you say you are such a delight to have in a class and always kind and helpful. Keep it up Esmail!

The Limitless Lemon Yellows

This week my Star of the Week is Lily-Rose! She is a fantastic role model to everyone in our class and she is always engaged and focused on her learning. Lily-Rose is someone who is driven and motivated to reach the high standards she sets for herself across all aspects of school life, and she takes her additional responsibilities of playleader and reading champion very seriously. She really cares about all her peers, and it has been brilliant to see her actively going to help others who may have been struggling. Lily-Rose, you are an absolute pleasure to have in class and I am very proud of you! Keep up the great work!

The Athletic Aquamarines

Vinny is the ultimate star of the week! I have lost track of how many times adults from across the school have come to tell me how helpful, kind and hard-working he is—what a superstar! Keep up all of your fabulousness.

Orchard Vale
Individual/Sibling Photographs
Thursday, 12th October



8am
In the school hall

Families with siblings who do not attend Orchard Vale
can come along for a family photo between 8am and 9am.

Throughout the school day

Siblings
(siblings who attend Orchard Vale will have their photos taken)

Individual Photos

Please could you send your child into school in their full school uniform.
You may like to provide them with a comb/brush for them to use prior
to their photo sessions.

Draft sibling photos will be sent home on the day by Tempest
Photography – you can place your order and make your payment
online, following the instructions on the photo pack.

Individual photos will be sent to us separately by Tempest, and will be
sent home with your child.

All photos will be ordered together at a date to be confirmed.

If you have any questions, please speak to the School Office.

Times Table Rockstars Studio Speed Challenge

Friday 6th October – Thursday 12th October

Individual Competition

Fastest Average Speed for 12x12 times tables on Studio Mode (average taken from last 10 games)

You can check your own average speed by going to Studio mode.

Prizes will be awarded to the Top 3 fastest average times in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6.

NOTE – you must have placed a minimum of 10 games this week to qualify.



Years 5 and 6 Cross Country



Well done to the children in years 5 and 6 for taking part in the Park School cross Country on Thursday. The weather turned out perfect for running—with the added challenge of long grass to contend with in some parts of the course. Everyone rose to the challenge and gave their all.

A special well done to:

Lily-Mae C—1st place;
Lilly-May P—9th place

Ashton—5th place;
Martha—10th place.



★ Congratulations to
★ Years 5 and 6

Tri-reading tournament
champs

Millie Mollie

On reaching 25 reads

Congratulations to

Years 3 and 4 - High Flyers

Hollie G

Evalyn

On reaching 25 reads

School Diary Dates

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Wed, 11th Oct | Y5/6—Group 1—swimming lessons |
| Wed, 11th Oct | Book Sale—Coffee Cabin—3pm |
| Thur, 12th Oct | Tempest—Individual and Sibling photos |
| Mon, 16th Oct | Restart a Heart Day—NON UNIFORM DAY |
| Tue, 17th Oct | Y3—Multi Sports Festival—Park School |
| Tue, 17th Oct | Vision Screening—Reception |
| Wed, 18th Oct | Y5/6—Group 1—swimming lessons |
| Fri, 20th Oct | Non Pupil Day |
| Mon, 23rd to Fri, 27 Oct | Half Term |
| Mon, 30th Oct | First Day back after half term |
| Mon, 30th Oct—Thur, 2nd Nov | Parent/Pupil/Teacher update—dates and times will be made available on Arbor nearer the time. |
| Thur, 2nd Nov | Bags to School |
| Mon, 6th Nov | Nasal Flu Vaccinations—Reception to Year 6 |

Orchard Vale needs your help!

Tesco Stronger Starts



We are delighted to inform you that we have been successful in our funding application with Tesco Stronger Starts.

We are in the process of upgrading our existing Forest School area into an accessible outdoor learning and well-being provision. There are 3 grants available, £1500, £1000 and £500. The amount we receive will depend on the public voting for us instore with the blue tokens.

Please could we ask for your help when shopping at Tescos by using the blue tokens, available at the checkout, to vote for Orchard Vale before you leave the shop.

Spread the word

Ask your family and friends to vote for us too.

Voting will commence in stores from
First week in October 2023 until mid-January 2024

Participating stores are:
Tesco Extra – Barnstaple Retail Park
Tesco Superstore – Rose Lane
Tesco Express – High Street

Book recycling Wednesday 11th October

We have been reorganising our school library and have lots of books we would like to recycle.

Come along to the Coffee Cabin at 3pm and, for a small donation, you can take away books for yourselves or your children to enjoy.

ORDERING ONLINE FOR CAULIFLOWER CARDS

If you wish to order from Cauliflower Cards online, please remember to enter a Design Name, not just Name, to place an order

If you don't want the design name on your product, please select the 'No Name' option and click the 'Add to Basket' option.

If you would like a Design Name please input the name into the box then click the 'Add to Basket' option.

You should then be able to proceed.

When using a mobile please ensure they are using this link of

<https://shop.cauliflowergroup.co.uk/auth/login>

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you are having difficulties.

Sue Manley



Restart a Heartbeat Monday 16th October

With our ongoing fundraising to support our community defibrillator we will be holding the above 'Restart a Heartbeat' day.

During the day children from Year 1 to 6 will have a "999" workshop run by the SWAST.

Throughout the day Mr Ovey will also be running various activities to increase the children's heart rates.

This will also be a non-uniform day. Children can come dressed in something red and a donation of £1 would be appreciated. Money raised will go towards the upkeep of the defibrillator.

Restart A Heart Day

16 October



Supports Restart A Heart



Dear Parent / Guardian

We are pleased to announce that Orchard Vale has organised a clothes and shoe collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for our Forest School.

Bag2School is the UK's leading textile recycler and fundraiser working with schools and since its inception in 2001 it has now paid out over £36 million.

As well as raising vitally needed funds for Orchard Vale, it also helps the environment by helping to divert unwanted textiles away from landfill. A recent DEFRA report has shown that textile collection schemes are helping to reduce the volume of textiles discarded as municipal solid waste. However it is a fact that as a nation we still send 350,000 tonnes of textiles to landfill every year.

By getting involved in our Bag2School collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles in the bag provided – this can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to <http://uk.bag2school.com/> for full details). In addition to raising much needed funds it will also raise awareness amongst the children of the benefits of recycling and reuse.

If you fill the donation bag and still have more then you can use any other bag to donate your items and don't forget to ask grandparents, friends and neighbours to have a sort out as well!

Bag2School will be collecting from Orchard Vale on **Thursday 2nd November**. Please bring your bag (or bags!) to the main courtyard behind the trellis before this date and help us have a good collection.

Many thanks indeed for helping us with this unique fundraising opportunity.

Yours faithfully

Fiona Pearce
Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer

NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe. Programme

I am pleased to inform you that we are participating in the NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe. Programme this term. Speak out. Stay safe. is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age-appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom based activities which we have reviewed. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. If you would like to know more about the Speak out. Stay safe. programme visit www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout.

Feedback survey for pupils aged 7-11

The NSPCC would like to gather feedback from pupils aged between 7-11 about the Speak out. Stay safe. programme to gauge their learning. This will be voluntary, and children can still take part in the programme if they don't take part in the survey.

- All survey questions are multiple choice and focussed on the programme.
- The survey is anonymous and confidential. However, if in the process of completing the survey, a teacher becomes concerned for a pupil's welfare (e.g., through something a pupil says) we will follow our school's safeguarding procedures.
- If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please contact your child's class teacher.
- If you have agreed that your child can take part in the survey but your child changes their mind on the day, that is also okay.

Additional NSPCC resources for families to help keep children safe.

The NSPCC have shared some important information below on wider NSPCC resources and support to help keep children safe.

Parent/Carer support Take a look at information, support, advice and activities from NSPCC for parent and carers. www.nspcc.org.uk/parents Activities to extend learning at home Take part in games and activities at home to help children learn about speaking out and staying safe. www.nspcc.org.uk/activities

Online Safety Hub For information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing images, parental controls and more. www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety Childline – under 12's Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities. Children can change the language, enlarge text and also listen to the content. www.childline.org.uk/buddy (5-7) www.childline.org.uk/kids (7-11)

Talk PANTS with your children

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages.

Download the free resources at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

I hope you find this information about the NSPCC and the Speak out. Stay safe programme helpful. Please do contact me if you have any further questions.

Fiona Pearce
Headteacher



**PARKOUR ACADEMY
FREE TASTER SESSION**

SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER. 10AM – 4:30PM

BARNSTAPLE PANNIER MARKET

URBAN SPORTS CENTRE WILL BE RUNNING A DAY OF PARKOUR TASTER SESSIONS AND PARKOUR DEMOS FROM THEIR PARKOUR ACADEMY TEAM. EACH SESSION RUNS FOR 30 MINUTES AND IS FREE. BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW. SESSIONS ARE TAILORED FOR A RANGE OF AGES – 4-6 YEARS, 7-9 YEARS, 10-12 YEARS, 12+ AND ADULTS. ALL SESSIONS SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS.

sign up here!



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