

# Orchard Vale's Weekly News

## Thursday, 20th July 2023

[www.ovschool.co.uk](http://www.ovschool.co.uk)

[orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk)



### Headteacher's message

*Dear Parents/Carers*

We have finally reached the end of term and this week has been dominated by year 6 leavers events. The children enjoyed a fun trip to the Milky Way, followed by a staff/pupil game of rounders that, despite a great effort made by year 6, the staff won. We enjoyed a fantastic award evening last night and the children danced the night away at the disco. This morning a few tears were shed at the leavers' assembly. We had some amazing performance, speeches and presentations, which clearly showed how confident and talented our year 6's are. It has been an absolute privilege to watch them grow and blossom during their time at Orchard Vale. I remember lots of the children running around in nursery and reception and now look at them, all grown up and ready for their move to secondary school. We would like to wish them all the very best as they move to their new schools.

Thank you to the families of all the children at Orchard Vale. It has been lovely seeing everyone at parents evenings and on the playground and I hope you all have a lovely summer. Thank you for your support and kind words, it is very much appreciated. Today we are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Roberts from Little Seeds and Mr Carter in Year 5 and 6. We wish them all the very best of luck as they move to new jobs.

It was also a pleasure to meet children who are new to the school this week and watch the children enjoy their taster sessions in their new classes. We were joined by Mr Bayliss, our new year 3 and 4 teacher, with Miss Williams heading over to year 5 and 6. All the children looked happy in their new classes, and I think it really helped to settle a few nerves. We are very much looking forward to September and welcoming you all back to school after the summer break.

**All pupils will return to school on Wednesday, 6th September 2023.**

#### **Morning drop-off arrangements**

Parents and children are to enter the school playground through the emergency gates.

**The playground gates will open at 8:30am and will remain open until 8:50am.**

Members of staff will be on the playground to direct your child to their new class. For safeguarding reasons, parents are asked to refrain from entering the school building either through the office entrance or through the playground.

Registration is at 8:50am; children arriving after this time will be recorded as 'late' or 'late after register closes' if they arrive after 9:15am. If you arrive late and the school gates are locked, you will need to sign your child in via the school office.

#### **End of the day collection**

When collecting your child at the end of the day we will ask parents to wait on the playground and your child will be brought to you by the staff members in their class.

**Children will be released at the following times:**

**3:20pm – Reception, Year 1 and 2**

**3:25pm – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6**

**3:30pm – Nursery**

Please arrive promptly at the allocated time, as children will need to wait on the playground until collected. Once you have collected your child/children please leave promptly by the exit next to the cabin allowing space for other parents to collect.

I really do appreciate your help and support in making the beginning and end of the school day such a positive time. It is always very busy, and your patience is greatly appreciated.

Have a wonderful summer holiday. See you all on Wednesday, 6th September.



Fiona Pearce  
Headteacher

## Price Changes as from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

We need to inform all parents that, after careful consideration, we are having to increase the cost of:

**Breakfast Club - £3.50 per child/per day (£3 for siblings)**

**After School Club – OV Explorers - £7 per child/per day**

**School meals - the cost of a meal will be £2.50.**

This decision has not been taken lightly, but with the significantly higher costs we are now facing for our gas and electric, along with the food and non-food inflationary costs increasing by over 12%, we are now at the point where we need to reflect these in our price costs.

We fully understand how difficult times are, therefore, we have tried to keep the increase as small as possible. As a nation we are all hoping that food and utility costs stabilise or potentially drop in the months ahead but as a precaution we will be undertaking a further review of meal prices in spring 2024.

The Government has continued to support the Universal Infant Free School Meals project, and this means that all the children, from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can be provided with a school meal free of charge.

If your child is in Years 3-6, they can also have a free school meal if you are in receipt of certain allowances. Please contact the school office for information or help in completing forms.

If there is a difficulty in providing payment for meals, please contact the school office as soon as possible. All queries and requests for support are confidential and we will always work with families to ensure find the best solution we can.

**Nursery and Little Seeds fees remain the same.**

Thank you for your support and understanding.

### Settling ParentPay debt

Please could we ask parents/guardians to settle any outstanding ParentPay debts by the end of next week:

School dinners  
Breakfast Club/Breakfast Club Siblings  
Explorers After School Club  
Late pick up charges  
Little Seeds and Nursery fees.

This is especially important for parents/guardians of Years 6 leavers.

In the event of a built up of debt you may be refused access to some of these services.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support.

### September Reception Class optional staggered start

We are aware that there are children starting in our Reception classes in September who already attend a setting for full days so starting in Reception should be an easy transition with attending full days.

Therefore, we have arranged a staggered start, if its required:

#### Wednesday 6th September

You have the option of collecting your child before lunch at 11:35, for the first day only.

#### Thursday 7th and Friday 8th September

You have to option of collecting your child at 12:45, after the attendance register.

#### Week commencing Monday 11th September

Children are to stay all day.



# Stars of the Year

## Rising Rosens

**TERM:** Ellie for showing excellent progression in your readiness to learn and for being a kind and helpful member of the class.

**YEAR:** Harrison for being a kind, helpful and conscientious member of the class, showing enthusiasm in your learning and always trying your best.

## The Dazzling Donaldsons

Our Star of the Year is Niamh has not only been a kind friend and a hard worker, she has also developed her confidence enormously! She has gone from being a shy and anxious individual to a confident and 'brave' person who is willing to tackle new experiences and situations. Well done Niamh, we are so proud of you!

## The Extraordinary Elizabeth

The first year of Reception is a big journey for all children, but Elodie really has come an extremely long way since she first walked through our door. For those of you who know Elodie now, it can be hard to remember how difficult Elodie found the transition into starting school. Her independence has come such a long way since September, and it is so wonderful to see such a confident, self-assured girl walk in the classroom doors each morning. Elodie is a wonderful role model in our class - she treats others with constant kindness and is an expert at following school routines. She has developed a great sense of motivation and self pride when it comes to her learning, and it has been great to see her thrive in the face of challenge over the past few months. **We have had so much fun this year, on what has been the first year in Reception for both of us! It really feels like we've been along for the ride together. Elodie, we are so so proud of you! Keep believing in yourself.**

## The Buzzing Buzz Aldrins

Lily is an absolute gem to teach! She is kind caring and a delightful to work with. Lily has made excellent progress this year and this is due to the enormous amount of effort she puts into her learning. Lily is very helpful and is always keen to help me and her friends in class. She is the first to offer her services if a job needs doing; and I know she will complete this task as competently as most adults! Lily you are wonderful and never change! Mr Q x

## The Positive Tim Peaks

I am so proud of Lilah and all she has achieved over the last year. Lilah likes everyone to think that she is a quiet, shy girl however the moment you spend more than 2 minutes in her company you find out what a fun loving, caring funny child she is. Lilah has been my absolute rock this year, she is always there doing the right thing at the right time. She gives 100% in all that she is asked to do and she does it with the biggest smile on her face. I feel like I am losing my right arm; Lilah has organised and looked after me all year. I am going to be both a emotional and physical mess next year. Lilah, it is the little things that matter in life and you do all the little things that make you such a BIG and wonderful person. It is my pleasure to award you star of the year. Always shine bright my darling. Mrs Oldfield xx

## The Amazing Armstrongs

My star of the year is Leelan. Leelan has had a fabulous year in year 1. He has been consistently fabulous from beginning to end! Leelan is a resilient learner and puts a huge effort into everything he does. Leelan is also beautifully behaved. He listens to what is required in the classroom and acts on it straight away. He is helpful and cooperative. Leelan is a role model for our class. He has been an absolute star this year and I am very proud of him. Thank you, Leelan for all you brought to our class.

# Stars of the Year

## The Winning Williamsses

My Star of the Year is Ella-Rose! Ella is the most fantastic young lady. She is the most helpful, thoughtful, and caring person, who consistently puts others before herself. Learning can often pose a challenge for Ella, but since September, she has never let it phase her. She is motivated and determined to do her best and thrive in every aspect of her schooling life. The progress she has made this year is incredible, in her writing, maths and reading, but also in her confidence and selfbelief. She never doubts or judges anyone else and just tries her utmost to help them! I know she is apprehensive about going into year 5, but I have no doubt she will shine so brightly. Ella we are beyond proud of you and I will miss having you in my class next year.

## The Hamilton's Helpful Heroes

My Star of the Year is someone who has shown remarkable determination and perseverance this year in her learning. She always gives 100% to our class tasks, always producing quality learning. She has been a mature role-model in our class and across Year 4, showing that you can have the right balance of fun and focus! She has been a friend to many and is a popular member of our class. She always tries hard to support others around her when they are struggling, with kind words and a caring attitude. What truly amazed me this year was the incredible learning that she produced during a period of absence - all beautifully presented in her homework book. This to me was such a clear example of how much effort and pride she takes in her school journey. Congratulations Teagan - you are truly what it means to be an OV Star!

## The Limitless Lionesses

Cole is my star of the year for his incredible journey in year 4. After a difficult start to the year, Cole has really shown how great he can be! He has worked hard, been sensible on the playground and been a good friend to all. Cole should be proud of how mature and responsible he has been and I truly believe that Cole understands what it takes to be a success at OV. Keep working hard! Well done. Mr W

## The Marvelous Malalas

My star of the year is Kelsey. I am so proud of the journey that you have been on this year, and it is fabulous to see what an amazing young woman you are becoming. You are still a sass queen but a kind and caring one who sets a great example to all of your peers. You have shown such dedication in your schoolwork this year which has been noted by all of the adults that have worked with you. You have also grown in maturity which has helped you to support your peers throughout the year. You are going to be missed next year but I know you are so ready for your next adventure at Park School. Good luck for the future!

## Resilient JK Rowlings

My star of the year is Ronnie. I am incredibly proud of the progress Ronnie has made this year; he has an excellent work ethic and gives every task 100%, if not more. Ronnie attitude and application to his Sats should be admired by his peers. Ronnie is incredibly polite and often checks in with staff to see how their day is going when it should be the other way around. He is helpful around the class and often does jobs without being asked. I wish Ronnie all the best for secondary school, he is going to be missed.

## The Efficacious Emma Watsons

My star of the year is Jorja. I have had the pleasure of teaching Jorja for the past two years and have noticed that, over the past year, she has begun to allow her caring and more vulnerable side to show, not just her hilarious exuberance! She is a hard worker and a good friend, but it is this patience and kindness which has enabled her to truly shine this year. Well done, Jorja - now go and do incredible things.



## Pupils hold crazy hair day to support Orchard Vale's Sue—article in the North Devon Journal

Pupils at a Barnstaple primary school have held a 'Crazy Hair Day' fundraiser in support of a long-standing member of staff who lost her hair while being treated for cancer.

Sue Manley has worked at Orchard Vale Community School since it opened in 1991 and was diagnosed with endometrial cancer in November last year. The school project co-ordinator has undergone chemotherapy at North Devon District Hospital, following a hysterectomy and radiotherapy at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

Sue, 63, returned to work last month and visited each class at the Whiddon Valley school to explain to the children why she had no hair.

"I wanted to let the children know that the medication to make me well had resulted in me losing my hair for a while," she said. "They were all so lovely and decided to hold a crazy hair day to support me and raise some money for the school PTA and for the Over and Above Fern Centre, which has been helping me during my cancer treatment.

"There were some fantastically creative hairstyles; one child had a farm yard on his head and another had a bottle with their hair coming out like water. One of the children had a message on their hair saying 'you've got this Mrs Manley'."

PE teacher Mr Ovey shaved his hair off in support after pledging to pupils that he'd brave the shave if they could raise more than £1,000.

On Thursday, Sue visited the Fern Centre with some of the staff and pupils to present a cheque for £1,243.70. Pupils were given a tour of the cancer and wellbeing centre, which is funded by the Over and Above hospital charity.

Kate Constable, community fundraiser for Over and Above, said: "It was wonderful to hear about how the staff and pupils at Orchard Vale have been supporting Sue and very special to be able to welcome them to the Fern Centre to learn more about how it supports cancer patients and their families in North Devon.

"The money the school has raised will help ensure the centre can continue to offer a whole range of free information, complementary therapies, counselling and support for local people at the time they need it most.



## Year 6 Leavers' trip to Milky Way

On Monday, as an end of Primary School celebration, Mrs Scott, Mr Carter and Mr Ovey took the year 6s to the Milky Way, where they had an amazing day of rollercoasters, getting lost in the maze, death slides, Ninja Stars and much more.

On their return to school, the children faced off against OV staff in a Y6 vs staff rounders match - inevitably, it was once again a win for the staff...!

We then finished the day's celebrations with a barbecue and ice cream.

The Year 5/6 team would like to say a big thank you to Tim and Katy Roberts, for their generous donation, which enabled every child to take part in the additional Ninja Stars experience at the Milky Way, alongside the donation of ice creams.

Many thanks also to the OV PTFA who kindly supplied the burgers, sausages and rolls for the barbecue.





## School Diary Dates

Fri, 21 July	Non Pupil Day
Mon, 24th—Tue, 25th July	Non Pupil Days
Wed, 26th July to Tues, 5th Sep	<b>SUMMER HOLIDAYS</b>
<b>Wed, 6th Sep</b>	<b>First Day of Autumn Term</b>

### Well done Lauren

On Saturday 15th July Lauren donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust.

The charity uses hair donations to make wigs for children with cancer.

She raised £65 in sponsorship. Thank you to Sarah Garrett for performing the Big Cut.

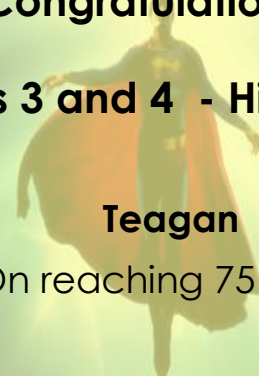


### Congratulations to

### Years 3 and 4 - High Flyers

**Teagan**

On reaching 75 reads



## Week commencing 6th September 2023

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>M</b>	Macaroni Cheese	Breaded fish fillet	Butcher sausages
<b>V</b>	Veggie Bolognese	Veggie sausage	Quorn wrap
<b>Sides</b>	Crusty bread and mixed vegetables	Chips, pasta, homemade coleslaw & cucumber sticks	Mash potato, baked beans & peas
<b>JP</b>	Cheese/Beans/Tuna	Cheese/Beans/Tuna or Coleslaw	Cheese/Beans/Tuna
<b>SPL</b>	Cheese roll	Tuna mayo roll	Sausage Roll
<b>D</b>	Fresh smoothie	Cookie	Chocolate cornflake crunchies

Low Fat Yoghurts, Fresh Fruit, Bread, Water will be available daily, Milk on request.  
Gluten Free/Dairy Free/Vegan menu available on request

# Orchard Vale Community School Fundraiser



Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
9:30am – 12:00pm

Woodland Walk &  
Kids Treasure Hunt



Fun Quiz

Prizes to be won!



5K Run

Guess the weight of  
the cake..?

Or just come along  
for coffee and cake!



Venue: OV School Hall, Westacott Road, Barnstaple EX32 8QY





THE KIDS ADVENTURE  
COMPANY

# Kids Summer Holiday activities



## Coasteering

Sat	22nd July	09.00 - 11.30
Sun	23rd July	09.30 - 12.00
Tues	15th Aug	17.00 - 19.30
Sat	19th Aug	08.30 - 11.00
Sun	3rd Sept	09.00 - 11.30

## Climbing

Sun	23rd July	14.30 - 17.00
Mon	24th July	13.30 - 15.30
Mon	24th July	15.45 - 17.45
Wed	16th Aug	13.00 - 15.00
Sat BH	26th Aug	10.00 - 11.30
Sat BH	26th Aug	12.00 - 13.30
Sat	2nd Sept	10.00 - 12.00
Sat	2nd Sept	13.00 - 15.00

## Kayaking

Thur	24th Aug	10.00 - 12.00
Thur	24th Aug	13.00 - 15.00
Sun BH	27th Aug	10.00 - 12.00
Sun BH	27th Aug	13.00 - 15.00

## Kids Full Adventure Days Age 7+

Wed	16th Aug	10.00 - 15.00
Fri	25th Aug	10.00 - 15.00
Tues	29th Aug	10.00 - 15.00
Thur	31st Aug	10.00 - 15.00

Booking essential  
More information online  
[thekidsadventurecompany.co.uk](http://thekidsadventurecompany.co.uk)

Coasteering  
2.5 hour session  
Age 8 +  
Kids, teens & families welcome  
Must be able to swim  
confidently in the sea

Super easy abseil and climb  
Pollies Gully, Baggy Age 6+  
**Pollies Gully, Baggy Age 10+**  
Pollies Gully, Baggy Age 6+  
Valley of the Rocks Age 6+  
Valley of the Rocks Age 6+  
Family climb at Hay Tor Dartmoor  
Family climb at Hay Tor Dartmoor

Stocklands Lake Braunton age 6+  
**Stocklands Lake Braunton age 11+**  
Family Kayak Tiverton canal  
Family kayak Tiverton canal

Baggy Point Coastal Adventure  
**Climbing day Hartland age 11+**  
Wistlandpound Forest adventure  
Baggy Point Coastal Adventure



# PETROC



Are you interested in a career supporting children and young people in a school environment?

Our Supporting Teaching and Learning qualifications will put you on the right track!

Our one-year teaching assistant programmes have been designed to support your learning and help you discover and evaluate your natural abilities and skills within the classroom.

Each week, you will undertake between one and three days of school-based placement\*, alongside one day of knowledge-based learning at our North Devon campus in Barnstaple.

This blend of theoretical learning and practical placement will allow you to put your new-found knowledge into practice and develop your skills as a future Teaching Assistant.

Whether you're already employed within the sector and are looking to upskill, or would like a change of career - if you have a passion for supporting children's learning, we'll support you every step of the way!

- Level 2 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning
- Level 3 Diploma in Supporting Teaching and Learning

*\*If you need any support with securing a placement, our assessors will be happy to help.*

"This course allows me to gain the knowledge needed to become an enthusiastic and encouraging teaching assistant, through work experience and knowledge-based coursework assignments. It has given me the ambition to progress onto university and pursue my goal of becoming a primary school teacher."

Holly, Level 3 Diploma in Supporting Teaching and Learning

For more information, please visit our website, [petroc.ac.uk](http://petroc.ac.uk) or contact our Advice & Guidance Centre, 01271 852422.

Ofsted  
Good  
Provider



## PILTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPEN EVENING

**Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Headteacher talks at 6.00 pm & 7.00 pm**

**Open Mornings : 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 9.30 am**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK  
PLACES AT OUR OPENING  
EVENING/MORNINGS



SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW OUR  
ONLINE PROSPECTUS.



THE PARK  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL



**PARTICIPATION ASPIRATION RESPONSIBILITY KINDNESS**

## OPEN DAY EVENTS

**Open Evening**

**Thursday 21st September from 5.45pm**

**Open Days**

**25th - 29th September Daily 8.50am - 10.40am**



Scan here to book your place  
and to find out more





**Before and After school  
care places available from  
Sept-23.**

Aimee offers a breakfast club  
from 7am which includes  
breakfast and drop off to  
School for 8.30am

And

After school club until 6pm  
which includes school  
collection, a variety of snacks  
and drinks, activities and  
homework.

Contact Aimee on  
07841839893 or email  
[littlepea.aimee@gmail.com](mailto:littlepea.aimee@gmail.com)