

# Orchard Vale's Weekly News

## Friday, 14th May 2021

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

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



### Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

Everyone's experience of the COVID-19 pandemic over the last year has been different, but there's no doubt that it has been a difficult time for us all.

That's why it's so important to do what we can to look after our mental health and wellbeing – now more than ever – and to reach out if you need support.

For many of us, the gradual easing of restrictions brings longed-for opportunities (even if at a social distance) – to see friends and family in person, play sports, go shopping, eat out or get back to work.

But for some, even the happy, much anticipated changes and re-adjustment can be a real worry and difficult to manage.

Just as it took us time to find ways of coping during lockdown, we should also expect that it will take time to find our way back, and to reconnect with life.

This week is **Mental Health Awareness Week**, so it's a good time to remember that taking care of your mind is just as important as taking care of your body, especially during this difficult time.



Be kind to yourselves and have a wonderful weekend.

Fiona Pearce  
Head teacher

### Change to Nursery Drop Off

From Monday, 17th May nursery parents will be able to bring their children into the nursery garden in the mornings to help their child put their belongings on their hook outside the classroom and collect them at the end of the day.

### Little Seeds Drop Off

If your child attends Little Seeds please bring them to the side door in the mornings. At the end of the day you will need to come to the nursery garden to collect them.

### Summer Fair



We are tentatively planning a Summer Fair - watch this space for more details!

### WANTED

If you have any unwanted, good quality, gifts, which could be recycled, please hand them into the office for the attention of Mrs Manley. Thank you.

### KEY STAGE 2—FOOTBALL CLUBS

### CANCELLATION—Year 3 Football Club—Monday, 17th June.

Due to Mr Ovey attending a course we have had to cancel the Year 3 football club on Monday, 17th June.

## Years 3 and 4—Cross Country at Rock Park

The children and staff of Years 3 and 4 celebrated being the first year group to take part in an activity outside school since March 2020, due to lockdown and Covid restrictions.

They walked down to Rock Park as separate year group and took part in one of 4 races on the Junior Park Run course. The children were able to have their lunch at the park, play in the playground and walked back to school. Everyone behaved impeccably and helped the teachers adhere to the extra measures put in place to keep children and staff safe under the current climate.

### Cross Country—Years 3 reported by Martha.

#### Girls race

We got to the park and walked the course just so we knew where we were going. I was at the start line feeling excited, remembering how I could not sleep. Suddenly Mr OV shouted "GO!".

There were teachers all around and we stopped at Mr Whapham to get a mark on our hand. At the very end of the course we cheered on whoever came next.

#### Boys race

When we were coming to sit down the boys started off. When one boy came past we cheered his name. At the very last part they all sprinted past.

#### Winners

Year 3 Boys - 1st Ashton, 2nd Connor 3rd Aiden  
Year 3 Girls—1st Martha, 2nd Lilly-May, 3rd Lilyana  
Year 4 Boys— 1st Zane, 2nd Matthew, 3rd Elijah  
Year 4 Girls— 1st Lexi-Mae, 2nd Jorja, 3rd Lauren

#### Year 3—Top 3



#### Overall winning class

Mr Whapham's class



#### Year 4—Top 3



## Year 4 Tennis Festival



The Year 4 children enjoyed taking part in a tennis festival provided by Chris Farr, the Barnstaple Primary Schools' Sports Co-ordinator.



They took part in various ball and racket skill activities and didn't let the unpredictable weather spoil the morning. Well done everyone!



# Star of the Week

## Foundation Stage and Key Stage One



### Mrs Youll's

Freddy for good listening and being kind a friend.

Lily for good tidying and being kind and friendly with our new children.

### Miss Cawthorne's nomination

Harry for great listening and fantastic phonics

Evie P for fantastic reading and great listening.



### Miss Boundy's nominations

Eden has been amazing this week and has shown amazing independence in her writing. Well done Eden

Archie has worked so hard in phonics all week and his writing was amazing! Well done Archie

### Mr Quilter's nomination

Spencer is my star of the week. He puts in an incredible amount of effort and is a real pleasure to teach. He is a lovely chap with a super sense of humour! You are making great strides in your learning Spence, keep it up!

\*My whole class this week are stars as we have now complete 5 miles of our 10 mile challenge for Edukid. Great job team!



### Mrs Oldfield's nomination

Isaac is such a wonderful young man but at times, when writing, he can be a little bit lazy. For a while now I have been nagging Isaac about his handwriting; not using capital letters in the middle of words, not writing in BFG handwriting and making sure he is using clear finger spaces. I am so very happy to say that all the nagging has been worth it, Isaac has made such an effort with his writing over the past few weeks that I haven't needed to nag him AT ALL. Well done Isaac, keep it up buddy, I am super proud of you. Mrs O x

### Mrs Grimwood's/Mrs Huggins' nomination

This week our star of the week is Mila. She is an amazing girl who without fail always does her best at school every day. Mila has a delightful sense of humour that she loves to share and is a great friend to have. Mila makes us laugh and the classroom is a happier place with her here. Mila, remember you are amazing and just keep being you!



# Star of the Week

## Key Stage Two

### Miss Gulliford's nomination

Mahi deserves star of the week for his mature attitude towards adults, his peers and learning. He understands the concept and importance of mutual respect and demonstrates this within every part of his day. Mahi is an eager learner and puts his heart and soul into his learning and knows how to develop his understanding and improve his ability. I am so proud of Mahi for his perseverance with his learning and being a brilliant role model for OV.



### Mrs Johnson's nomination

This week for Star of the Week, Miss Yorke and I have chosen a girl who always impresses us with her determination and effort, even when faced with activities she finds a challenge. She works extremely hard in all areas at school and has a fantastic attitude to her learning. As well as this, she is a kind friend and a brilliant role model in the class, showing maturity and wisdom when tackling problems. Well done Millie! This is a long overdue Star of the Week for you!



### Mr Whapham's nomination

Ronnie is my star of this week for his overall effort. He has tried hard in his learning, pushing himself to complete tasks and show his potential. He also showed great perseverance during our cross country event this week, containing even when things got tough with a huge smile on his face! Well done Ronnie.



### Mrs Lavictoire's nomination

My star of the week is someone who approaches both her learning and friendships with thoughtfulness and in a careful way. My star of the week, was a star during Lockdown and has continued this incredible, independent attitude as she's returned. This week, I have used Elisha's writing as a model for others, have asked her to share her learning and she is such a keen mathematician! What a star! Elisha, you are growing into such an incredible OV year 6 student: a fantastic role model and exciting learner.



### The Adventurers nomination

Our star of the week in the Adventurers is Abi. This week in particular we have seen Abi grow in confidence and become a more independent learner. Abi has some excellent strategies to help her with her work and uses them well. This is reflected in the work she produces. Well done Abi, keep up the fabulous work.



### Mrs Rana's/Mr Boul't's nomination

Ethan has put 100% effort into every lesson this week. His reading work has been thoughtful and detailed, he has done extra maths work, and he even made a video to explain his mathematical thinking to others. Ethan can achieve great things and his extra focus and effort this week have shone through in his work. You are our star of the week, Ethan. Well done!



### Miss Squire's nomination

Our star this week is, Macie. Macie works so hard in all our lessons, listening and making great contributions. She is always cheerful and lifts the class up!



## Mr Ovey's PE Champions

Mr Ovey has been impressed with everyone positive attitude to PE this week.

Well done to the PE Champions from Key Stages 1 and 2.

Year 1/2 Seb for brilliant basketball skills and always enjoying PE.

3/4 Millie for an amazing effort at cross country.

5/6 Ryan for amazing improvement in PE and great throwing skills.

## Year 3 and 4—Proud Cloud (High Flyer Readers)

We are proud to share the children's success for consistently reading 25 times a week at home. The following children have reached their first step on the Proud Cloud. When children reach 50 they will receive their first certificate. Well done to:

<b>Mrs Johnson's class</b>	25 - Emily	50 - Thomas, Freddie	75 Lettie, Nevaeh
	100 - Elena, Lilly-May, Ezra	200 - Nieve, Martha, Larisa, Amelie	
<b>Miss Gulliford's class</b>	100, 150, 200—Theo C		

## School Diary Dates

<b>Mon, 31st May</b>	Half Term
<b>Wed, 26th May</b>	Allotment Group working party
<b>Mon, 31st May</b>	HALF TERM WEEK
<b>Mon, 14th June</b>	Wheelchair Awareness Week
<b>Tue, 22nd June</b>	KS1 trip to Rosemoor Gardens—Mrs Oldfield / Mrs Grimwood/Mrs Huggins' classes
<b>Wed, 23rd June</b>	KS1 trip to Rosemoor Gardens (- Mr Quilter's class
<b>Wed, 23rd June</b>	Allotment Group working party
<b>Tue, 20th July</b>	Allotment Group working party
<b>Thurs, 22nd July</b>	Last day of summer term

## Menu for week commencing 14th May 2021

### Week 2 4th May, 17th May, 7th June, 21st June, 5th July, 19th July

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>M</b> – Breaded fish with wedges and peas	<b>M</b> – Macaroni Cheese & bacon with Focaccia bread and Sweetcorn	<b>M</b> – Roast chicken, potatoes and 2 fresh vegetables with gravy	<b>M</b> – Butchers sausage with fries and peas.	<b>M</b> – Shepherds pie with crunchy potato topping and Sweetcorn
<b>V</b> – Quorn mild chili with rice and peas	<b>V</b> – Sweetcorn and courgette fritters with bbq sauce, sauté potatoes and salad	<b>V</b> – Vegetarian wellington with potatoes and 2 fresh vegetables	<b>V</b> – Quorn nuggets with French fries and peas	<b>V</b> – Roasted vegetable bolognaise with pasta and Sweetcorn
<b>JP</b> – Cheese/beans/tuna	<b>JP</b> – Cheese/beans/tuna	<b>JP</b> – Cheese/beans/tuna	<b>JP</b> – Cheese/beans/tuna	<b>JP</b> – Cheese/beans/tuna
<b>PL</b> – Pasta pot (pasta with carrot, cucumber, tomato, sweetcorn, diced pepper, onion, ham)	<b>PL</b> – Cheese roll	<b>PL</b> – Ham sandwich	<b>PL</b> – Chicken salad	<b>PL</b> – Sausage Roll
<b>D</b> – Fresh fruit	<b>D</b> – Flapjack	<b>D</b> – Fruit smoothie	<b>D</b> – St Clements cake	<b>D</b> – Cookie

Yoghurts and fresh fruit will be available daily  
Gluten free menu available on request

# Wheelchair Awareness Week

The week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> June is Wheelchair Awareness week. At Orchard Vale we have children who spend the majority of time in their wheelchairs and we feel it would be good to help other children understand what this might be like.

Children will be coming home with a sheet designed by Lacey-Rae for them to colour in the pictures of the UNA Wheelchair. The UNA equipment represents how uniting the adaptation of a powered wheel and chair, can enable Lacey-Rae to become more independent. As a school we would like to support the family to raise money for a piece of new equipment (an UNA) to help Lacey-Rae, in year 5/6, and her ever-growing mobility needs.

## Nursery/Reception, Years 1/2, Years 3/4

If you would like to support our fundraising, please try and cover one of the image outlines with coins and hand it into your teacher by **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June**. The class that has managed to raise the most money will enjoy a special class treat!

## Years 5/6

During Wheelchair Awareness week, each child and member of staff in year 5/6 will spend a short time experiencing the everyday challenges that wheelchair users face. Hopefully, this will be a fun and exciting activity to take part in whilst also highlighting daily difficulties people in wheelchairs might have.

We would like to make this a sponsorship event in year 5/6. (More information will be shared with the children in class about why we are fundraising and the specific piece of equipment we are trying to raise money for).

All children will be taking part in the event but if you would like to support us, please complete the sponsorship form on the back by **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June**.

The child who raises the most money will receive a hamper full of goodies for the whole family to enjoy.

We completely understand if this is not something you wish to contribute to at this time, there will be other opportunities during the year to support a range of causes.

## THE BIG ASK

The new Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched [The Big Ask](#) – the largest ever consultation for young people aged 4 to 17 in England. The 5-10 minute [survey](#), aims to find out your concerns and aspirations about the future, so that they can put young people at the heart of our country's recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

The results from this survey will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing young people from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve.

If you are aged 18+ and are a care leaver, parent, or you work with children please complete the [adult survey](#) to share your views.

It's time to give something big back to young people after COVID and we need your help to do it - thank you.



**PETROC**  
your future starts here

Are you aged 19+ and  
looking to upskill or retrain?

Join us for our upcoming webinar,  
where we will discuss:

- What is adult education?
- Course options for adults at Petroc
- Where to start
- The National Skills Fund

We offer courses from Level 1 to 6 so  
you can start at a level that suits you.

Join us on Zoom at 6pm,  
on Wednesday 19 May  
and start your new future!

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73074359914?pwd=dDJjVU55eUxTTzdiV0xjVzRXcXRUT09>

## **Devon County Council's Free School Meals holiday voucher scheme – May half-term 2021**

### **About the scheme**

Devon County Council is supporting families of children who currently receive free school meals during term time with supermarket vouchers to help buy food during the holidays.

If your child is entitled to free school meals you will be sent a unique code to get vouchers to the value of £15 for Sainsburys, Tesco, Morrisons, Asda, Aldi, M&S Food and Waitrose to purchase food over the half term holidays to replace the meals your child would have received at school during the day. Please be advised that the Morrisons voucher must be used in store and cannot be redeemed online,

If you have more than one child entitled to free school meals, you should receive a unique code for each child, as the holiday vouchers are issued separately.

### **Getting the vouchers**

Devon County Council has partnered with Black Hawk Network to help us distribute these vouchers as quickly as possible via their 'Select' website because they have lots of experience managing voucher schemes like this and are working with several other local authorities too.

To get your vouchers you will need to visit a website called 'Select' ([www.select-your-reward.co.uk](http://www.select-your-reward.co.uk)) and input your unique code.

You will then be able to choose your preferred supermarket and add your vouchers to your basket.

Please then checkout of the 'Select' website by providing an email address for them to send you your chosen supermarket vouchers electronically. There is no option to receive physical vouchers by post.

Once you have received the vouchers to your email inbox, you can save them to your phone or tablet to use online (depending on the supermarket) or show at the checkout in store. Alternatively, you can print the vouchers off to give to the cashier.

### **What if I need some help?**

If you are struggling to get your vouchers because you don't have access to the internet or a mobile device to receive and store the vouchers on, and don't have any friends or family to help, please contact **Devon County Council's education helpline on 0345 155 1019**.

Arrangements are in place to support you if you cannot shop, either in store or online, at one of the supermarkets where the vouchers can be spent. Again, please call Devon County Council's education helpline on 0345 155 1019.

### **Further information**

If your child has siblings attending school in a neighbouring authority (for example Plymouth or Torbay) who are also receiving free school meals, the local authority their school is located within will have arrangements to support them over the holidays.

If you received a voucher code for the Easter holidays and haven't used it to get your supermarket vouchers via Black Hawk's 'Select' website yet, please do so by Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2021 before it expires.

More detailed information about the free school meals holiday voucher scheme, including how to use them and what to do if there's a problem, is available on Devon County Council's website. Please visit [devon.cc/holidayvouchers](http://devon.cc/holidayvouchers) or [www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/free-school-meals-holiday-voucher-scheme](http://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/free-school-meals-holiday-voucher-scheme).

There are also some useful FAQs on the Select website along with contact details for any technical support if you have a problem using the codes and accessing your vouchers. Please visit [www.select-your-reward.co.uk](http://www.select-your-reward.co.uk).

If you're experiencing severe financial hardship, support is available. Please visit [devon.cc/support](http://devon.cc/support) or [www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/support-for-people-and-families](http://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/support-for-people-and-families) for information about how to access local financial support, where to find foodbanks and community larders and what to do if you're on a low income and need to self-isolate.

Finally, if you have received this message in error, please let us know by calling 0345 155 1019 or email-ing [freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk) so we can make sure this vital support gets to the right family.



Devon County Council's Connectme update contains information, which you may find of interest, affecting residents Devon. [Link to DCC Connectme website](#)

**STEP 3**

No earlier than 17 May

At least 5 weeks after Step 2

**EDUCATION**

- As previous step

**SOCIAL CONTACT**

- Maximum 30 people outdoors
- Rule of 6 or two households indoors (subject to review)

**BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES**

- Indoor hospitality
- Indoor entertainment and attractions
- Organised indoor sport (adult)
- Remaining accommodation
- Remaining outdoor entertainment (including performances)

**TRAVEL**

- Domestic overnight stays
- International travel (subject to review)

**EVENTS**

- Most significant life events (30)
- Indoor events: 1,000 or 50% (plus pilots)
- Outdoor seated events: 10,000 or 25% (plus pilots)
- Outdoor other events: 4,000 or 50% (plus pilots)

## Have you got your free rapid COVID-19 tests yet?

Alongside the vaccination rollout, regular testing of people without symptoms of coronavirus is at the heart of easing restrictions and reopening society and the economy safely.

The aim is that as many positive cases as possible can be found and isolated to stop the virus spreading, particularly as one in three people don't know they've got it as they don't have any symptoms so could be passing it on without realising.

That's why every adult in England is being encouraged to take a free rapid COVID-19 test (known as a lateral flow device (LFD) test) twice a week. They are easy, quick and convenient, and the results are usually available to you within the hour.

Devon County Council are running a [mobile community testing service in Devon](#) so you can get tested or collect home-testing kits at a range of locations across the county. DCC have published a timetable on their website, but please bear in mind that this schedule is subject to change as they make new locations available and to accommodate any operational issues. To avoid disappointment, [please check DCC website each time you plan a visit](#).

You can also [order home-testing kits from the NHS by post](#) or collect home-testing kits from [NHS testing locations](#), and any of the 133 pharmacies that are part of the Pharmacy Collect scheme so far.

Remember, these rapid lateral flow tests are to be taken regularly if you do not have any symptoms of coronavirus. If you do develop any symptoms, you should immediately self-isolate and [arrange a PCR test via the NHS](#).