

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 17th September 2021

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

We are all getting used to being back at school. The days are busy for the children and they are being asked to do more and more thinking and concentrating and this is tiring them out. For the staff, we are trying to remember what school was like pre-Covid and what we used to do and this has been a challenge for us to remember back that far.

In spite of all of this, we have all had a really lovely week. The children have settled really well into their new classes and have been choosing names for them based on the theme 'How does your garden grow?'. We chose this as it links with the books we are reading in English.

Children have been outside in forest school and getting back into the school timetable. This includes reading, spellings, times tables and all the other practiced knowledge needed. Please encourage your children to complete their homework each week. It is an important part of your children education and it supports the retention of knowledge needed for daily lessons and is good practice for when they get to secondary school.



Fiona Pearce
Headteacher

Annual parental consent/Updating medical, dietary and contact information.

Each year parents are required to log into the Arbor Parent Portal to provide fresh consents for photos, local walks, transport in minibus/coaches, watching DVDs and online educational material.

Parents are able to log into the Parent Portal to amend this and check basic contact details.

If you have not already done so please could we ask you to login using the link below

[Parent Portal link to provide consent](#)

[Update/advise Orchard Vale of a medical/dietary condition](#)

Early Bird Breakfast Club

Our Early Bird Breakfast Club runs from 7:30am – 8:30am Monday to Friday during school term time for children in Reception to Year 6.

To use this facility you must initially register your child with the School Office. Please contact us on 01271 375074 or email orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk for more information.

Payment is required in advance and paid through Parentpay at a cost of £3 per child, per day (£2 charge for subsequent siblings per day).

School Lunches

Liz and her team offer wonderful school dinners every day. The options are main, vegetarian, jacket potato and school packed lunch (see the copy of the menu on our website or at the end of this newsletter).

For children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 school dinners can be purchased in advance for £2.30 via our online payment system, ParentPay.

Parents of Year 3 children and children moving from Little Seeds to Nursery - please note that unless you are registered under the Government Benefit Related Free School Meals system you will now need to pay for lunches.

Universal free school meals

All children in Reception, years 1 and 2 are entitled to book a school dinner which will be paid for by the Government under the Universal Free School Meal scheme.

Benefit related free school meals

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. However, parents and guardians are encouraged to apply for free school meals when they enrol their child in school, as this can help their child's school to attract additional '[pupil premium](#)' funding to support learning.

If your child is in Years 3,4,5 or 6, and parents are getting any of the following you may be entitled to free school meals:

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 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, 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 for benefit related Free School Meals

If you believe you may be eligible for the benefits related free school meals you can apply online and get an im-

Mr Ovey's After School Sports Clubs

Mr Ovey is happy to announce that you are able to sign Key Stage 2 child up for a sports club afterschool. To sign up for any sports clubs please follow the links provided.

Mr Ovey will advise you if your child is successful if obtaining a place. Please await email confirmation from him. If you do not receive an email, please assume your child has not been allocated a space.

Clubs will start WEEK BEGINING 27th September and run until the Christmas holidays.

You have until the 21st September at 9am to sign up.

Any applications beyond this date will be ignored.

[Years 3 and 4 ONLY Football Club \(Mondays\) online form](#)

[Years 5 and 6 ONLY Football Club \(Tuesday\) online form](#)

[KS2 ONLY Ball Skills Club \(Wednesday\) online form](#)

[KS2 ONLY Netball Club \(Thursday\) online form](#)

[KS2 ONLY Basketball Club \(Friday\) online form](#)

School Diary Dates

Mon, 27th to Fri, 1st Oct	Bike to school week
Thur, 30th Sept	Years 3 and 4—Cross Country Festival at Park School
Thurs 7th Oct	Years 5 and 6—Cross Country Festival at Park School
Fri, 1st Oct	Non Uniform Day—Wear Yellow for Mental Health Awareness
Tues, 14th Oct	Tempest Photography—individual photos
Fri, 22nd Oct	NON PUPIL DAY
Mon, 25th to Fri, 29th Oct	HALF TERM WEEK (back at school Mon, 1st Nov)
Fri, 5th November	Possible Bonfire Night celebration (more information to come)
Mon, 20th Dec to Mon, 3rd Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Tues, 4th Jan	First Day of Spring Term.

OV Explorers After School Provision

The OV Explorers after school provision is available for children from Reception to Year 6, from 3.15pm until 5pm.
This is a trial provision for this half term.

To use this facility you must initially register your child with the school office. Please contact us on 01271 375074 or email orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk for more information.

Payment is required in advance and paid through Parentpay at a cost of £7 per child, per day.

'At OV Explorers we like to provide a variety of activities to suit every child's interests/age.

We make sure the children have fun in a safe environment with plenty of fresh air.

Activities we offer are:

Forest schools Crafts Science explorations Cooking Relaxing and social time

All children receive a snack at the beginning of the session, which they all enjoy!

Mrs May Miss Passmore Mrs Roberts'

OV Explorers is better than before. On different days we do different things and it is amazing over all.
Kaleb



OV Explorers is the best club I have a lot of fun. Mrs May, Mrs Roberts and Miss Passmore are the best part.

Our year one children have settled into school life with a smile.

Luke and some very sticky playdough



Ayden practised his sorting



Star of the Week

Foundation Stage and Key Stage One



Mrs Youll's nomination

My star of the week is Oliver for showing improved independence and playing beautifully with his friends.

Miss Cawthorne's and Miss Boundy's nominations

Summer for working hard and being helpful.

Benjamin for great listening and being helpful.



Mr Quilter's nomination

Kaylan has had an amazing start to year 1. He has shown me that he has thirst for knowledge and has such a good attitude towards his learning.

Excellent job Kaylan, I am very impressed with your hard work and efforts shown!

Mrs Oldfield's nomination

Colby is new to our class this year, he is a shy boy but over the past week and a bit he has really started coming out of his shell. He has been popping up his hand to answer questions and has enjoyed getting stuck into all the learning that has taken place. He has made lots of new friends and is already a very popular member of our class. Well done Colby keep up the confidence buddy. Mrs O



Mrs Grimwood's/Mrs Huggins' nomination

My star of the week is Evalyn. She has settled beautifully into class and is a lovely, gentle person, has produced some fabulous writing on her own and has been working beautifully on her maths tasks. Evalyn also did some brilliant ball bouncing in PE with Mr Ovey. A really sensational start to Year 1!

Government Guidance for school attendance during Covid-19

It is lovely to welcome everyone back to school under the new, more relaxed guidelines from the Government.

At Orchard Vale we will continue with good hygiene measures for everyone, maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes, keeping occupied spaces well ventilated and making use of appropriate PPE.

Symptoms of Covid-19

New continuous cough and/or high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

Isolation

Unless children exhibit symptoms they will not be required to isolate at home.

Children may still come into school even if a member of the household has a positive PCR result/Covid-19 symptoms, as long as the child does not have symptoms themselves. If you choose to keep your child off school we are currently required to register their absence as unauthorised.

If your child is showing any of the symptoms of Covid-19 you should contact 119 and ask for guidance, you will be asked to keep your child at home. You may be required to book a PCR test for them and keep them at home until the results are received.

If a child exhibits symptoms whilst in class we will isolate them, call parents and request you to collect them as soon as possible, book a PCR test and advise us when you receive the results.

In the event of a positive result you will be instructed by Public Health England to isolate your child for 10 days from the onset of symptoms.

PCR test

You will need to take advice from the NHS on 119 if you think your child requires a PCR test.

If you do not have symptoms but have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive through a PCR test OR if you have been contacted through Track and Trace and advised to, you may book a PCR test. As long as you are not exhibiting any symptoms of Covid-19 you may still come into school until the results of the test have been received.

You should not arrange for a PCR test if you have received a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days, unless you develop any new symptoms of Covid-19, as it is possible for PCR tests to remain positive for some time after Covid-19 infection.

Staff Lateral Flow Testing

All staff are required to take 2 Lateral Flow Tests per week and report the results to the Headteacher until the end of September, when this will be reviewed by the Government.

Bubbles

Classes are now back to normal, with children being able to mix, attend assembly etc.

Should there be a positive case within a classroom we will be advised by Public Health England to bubble that class. All children and staff, with the exception of the child who has a positive PCR test, will be allowed to attend school but will remain within their bubble at all times and will not mix with any other groups for the advised period.

Clusters/Outbreaks

We are required to seek advice from Public Health England should there be 5 children/staff who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for Covid-19 within a 10-day period:

Or

10% of children, staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for Covid-19 within a 10-day period.

We will then act upon that advise appropriately.

Please remember to call the School Office before 9am on 01271 375074 if your child is not going to be in school. Please provide their name, class and reason/symptoms for being absent.

Cauliflower Cards

2021 Christmas Project

Did you know there are 107 days until Christmas?

In preparation, the children will be designing their own Christmas artwork that you will be able to purchase.

In the next few weeks children will bring home a form with their artwork.

If you would like to place an order for cards/other items please:



- Place your order online at <https://xmas.caulflowergroup.co.uk>. This includes making payment directly with them.
- After placing your order and making your payment online **return the artwork/completed order form to your class teacher** so that we can distribute the products once we receive them.

Please note Orchard Vale are unable to accept payments for these items.

Invitation



Miss Porter (SENDSCO)

Sarah Felgate (Pastoral Support)

Debbie Newman

(Mental Health Practitioner)

Mrs Manley

would like to invite you to join them



COFFEE



TEA

in the

Coffee Cabin

On

Tuesday, 28th September

8.34am to 9.30am

Coffee, tea, hot chocolate
and a natter





Lost Property

Have you lost your
coat, shoes, wellies
or clothing?

We will be displaying the lost
property on

Wednesday 22nd September

3pm to 3.30pm

In the

**courtyard before
the school office.**

Could you all please take the time to go online and vote for our school. At present we are running second to another local school. You can vote every 7 days until the end of September.

If we receive the money it will be spent on your children.

ASDA foundation

Green Token Giving

Orchard Vale have been nominated to be part of the Asda Foundation Green Token Giving online vote through our local Asda store in Barnstaple.

Our friends and family will be able to vote for Orchard Vale from now until midnight on Thursday 30th September.

Please vote for Orchard Vale by visiting www.asda.com/green-tokens and selecting Barnstaple from the drop-down box.

You can vote once every 7 days, so please return and revote in the following weeks.

Listen out at Asda Barnstaple for the advert on Asda radio next time you are in store.

Let the voting begin!

1st place will receive £500

2nd and 3rd place will receive £200

Visit
Asda.com/green-tokens
for more info

#AsdaFoundation #GreenTokenGiving

Terms and conditions apply.



Bike to School Week 2021

27 September – 1 October

Orchard Vale will be taking part in the Bike to School Week

Monday 27th September to Friday 1st October.

We would like to encourage both children and parents, to try to bike/scoot to school.

In school, the children will be learning how to keep safe on the roads.

**Friday, 1st October
Non-school uniform day
Wear YELLOW**

Our non-uniform day on Friday will focus on Well-being.

Donation of £1 can be made to Parent Pay.

It would be great if the children could come dressed in YELLOW (in support of Well-being).

They might like to decorate their bikes/scooters.

There will be a number of spot prizes for imagination



Free fruit and vegetable boxes offer Devon's children a healthy start

The past 18 months have been a struggle, particularly for those families with young children who face financial challenges of being on low incomes. Worrying about money can have a real impact on someone's physical and mental health, and make it difficult for families to eat healthily.

[So Devon County Council are encouraging two and a half thousand eligible families in Devon to sign up to receive a seasonal fruit and vegetable box this Autumn](#) as part of an initiative to help raise awareness of the government's Healthy Start scheme, which is due to go digital later this year.

The 'Get a Healthy Start' box contains fresh fruit and vegetables and simple plant-based recipe ideas, with tips on how to swap or add ingredients (including meat and fish) and prevent food waste. The box will also contain free vitamins and information on how to apply and make the most of the Healthy Start scheme.

The Healthy Start scheme provides eligible families who are pregnant or have children under the age of 4 years old, with financial support to spend on cow's milk; fresh, frozen or tinned fruit and vegetables; fresh, dried, and tinned pulses; infant formula, and free vitamins.

Recent research has shown that just under a third of households in Devon with children are experiencing food insecurity, but at the moment, only around half of eligible families are signed up to the scheme, which means many are missing out on much needed support.

For more information on Healthy Start [please visit the NHS website](#)

[To check if you are eligible for Health Start Scheme](#)



THE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL



www.theparkschool.org.uk



admin@theparkschool.org.uk



Tel: 01271 373131



@ParkBarnstaple



@ParkBarnstaple

Generations of Success

Choosing your secondary school?

Built upon generations of success, Park School is ambitious with high standards, expectations and aspirations for every single student. Visit our Open Events starting 23rd September to see Park in action.

Open Evening

Thursday 23rd September at 5.45pm

A Park School Showcase for all the family – visit, tour, experience. Headteacher Talks at 6.00pm, 6.40pm and 7.20pm. No need to book.

Open Mornings

27th September - 1st October Daily 8.50am - 10.40am

In addition to our Open Evening, year 6 pupils and parents/carers are invited to visit during the school day to see Park School in action. No need to book.

If you are unable to attend, please view our virtual Open Event on our website.



Tarka
Learning
Partnership



Covid Safety Restrictions

To make the event as safe as possible, we ask that only one parent/carer attends the Open Events with their Year 6 child. Adults please wear a face covering in buildings (unless exempt), also recommended for children if possible. There will be a limit of 240 people per Headteacher Talk in the School Hall.

Parking And Access (see map)

By Car

Follow Hiern Drive and park in the public car park. Please enter by foot through the school's main entrance gates.

By Foot

Via Hiern Drive footpath or Rock Park, follow the map and enter via the school's main entrance gates.

Open Evening - 23rd September

From 5.45pm until 8.30pm

Staff will greet you at the main entrance gates and allocate you one of our three Headteacher Talks. You will be issued with a 'passport' guide to visit subject areas around the school, and take part in various activities to give you a real flavour of what life at Park is like. Collect stickers to enter a prize draw. Refreshments are provided in our canteen.

Open Mornings 27th Sept - 1st Oct

8.50am until 10.40am

Please arrive at 8.50am, students will direct you to the School Hall to be allocated to a tour group, to experience a typical morning at Park. The mornings will start with a welcome from our Headteacher and students in the School Hall. Refreshments are provided in the School Hall after the tours.



CHULMLEIGH COLLEGE

Chulmleigh College, Chulmleigh, Devon, EX18 7AA

We are very keen to meet prospective parents/carers and pupils and are delighted to be able to offer a 'package' of Covid-safe personal events to help inform your choice of secondary school for September 2022.

Small group tours – wide range of dates available

We are offering small group tours with our Executive Headteacher Michael Johnson, Deputy Executive Headteacher, Neil Payne and SENDCO Laura Mackie.

After school for those who may not be able to visit in working hours and morning tours for those who wish to visit during a normal school day.

Being able to see the school 'in action' provides an excellent window into what we offer here at Chulmleigh College, and with the tours being led by our Senior Leadership Team in a small group environment, you will have ample opportunities to ask any questions you may have.

We are offering a wide range of dates for these tours, please click on the links below to book.

After school tours: <https://tinyurl.com/CCAfterSchoolTour2021>

Morning tours: <https://tinyurl.com/CCMorningTour2021>

Year 6 Taster Morning Saturday 16th October 9am-12pm

We are delighted to be able to offer prospective pupils the chance to attend a Taster Morning at the College, where they will experience a range of lessons and activities.

<https://tinyurl.com/CCY6TasterMorning2021>

We look forward to meeting you and your child, and very much hope you can join us.

Chulmleigh College

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BARNSTAPLE LIBRARY

MICHAEL MORPURGO

**AWARD-WINNING
AUTHOR**

SATURDAY 13TH NOVEMBER - 2PM
PETROC - STICKLEPATH

Tickets £6.50pp available at www.eventbrite.com

Pre signed books available to purchase at event

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Unlimited

W
Waterstones