

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 26th March 2021

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parent/Carer



**DON'T FORGET TO
SPRING FORWARD**

Remember to set your
clocks ahead 1 hour on
28 March 2021

We have nearly reached the end of the spring term and Easter is almost upon us. The clocks go forward this weekend and the days are gradually getting longer. It is finally beginning to feel a little warmer and we have even had some sunshine this week, making life feel a little brighter. This weekend I shall be busy making my Easter bonnet ready for the Easter celebrations next week.

We are sad to say goodbye...

As the spring term draws to a close we have a couple of sad goodbyes to say.



Our SENDCo, Mrs Harding, who has been a huge asset to the Orchard Vale family for over 20 years, is leaving us to take up a position focussing on special education teaching. Over the years, she has worked in many areas of the school with countless children and families in various roles. She has been a huge part of making Orchard Vale a very special place to be. Her legendary villainous shoes will certainly be hard to fill in future school productions and we will miss her 'can do' attitude when getting stuck into adventurous activities on school residential and trips. I know she will be greatly missed and we wish her all the best with her exciting new adventure.

On Monday, 7th June, we will be pleased to welcome Miss Annabel Porter as our new SENDCo. She is an experienced SENDCo, currently working in a primary school in Suffolk and will be moving to North Devon in May. If you have any queries or concerns regarding SEN provision after Easter Mrs Lowrey will be your point of contact until Miss Porter arrives.

We are also sad to say goodbye to Mr Magson at the end of this term. He has accepted a promotion at a larger school, closer to home allowing him more time to spend with his family. He has also been a huge part of the team OV and again will be greatly missed. He leaves a legacy of forest school, bonfires and s'mores, which I know will continue in his absence. We mustn't forget the amazing Wild Nights Out, Exmoor Challenge, donning his best pantomime dame outfit for productions and being a super role model for many of our pupils. He is leaving behind some wonderful outdoor areas which we all enjoy, even more so with the better weather.



I am sure you will all join me in wishing them both the best of luck in their new roles and I know they we will keep in touch.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Fiona Pearce
Head teacher



Free School Meals Vouchers over Easter

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. See page 2 for full information.

Easter Bonnet Competition

Over the weekend why not get creative for the Easter bonnet competition Ready for Wednesday, 31st March. See page 7 for full details.



Free School Meal vouchers for Easter 2021

If you have not redeemed the voucher codes sent to you for the February half term from Devon County Council via the school you must do so by 25th April 2021 before it expires.

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.

The unique code you've been sent can be used to get vouchers to the value of £30 for Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrisons, Asda, Aldi, M&S Food and Waitrose to purchase food over the Easter 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 an organisation called 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) 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 February holidays and haven't used it to get your supermarket vouchers via Black Hawk's 'Select' website yet, please do so by Sunday 25 April 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 or 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.

If you're experiencing severe financial hardship, support is available. Please visit devon.cc/support or 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.



Birthday celebrations

As children are currently unable to celebrate their birthdays with their friends outside school, all classes held bubble birthday parties this afternoon for everyone whose birthday fell in January, February and March.

Thank you to Liz and Becky for making each birthday girl/boy their own birthday cake.

African Silhouette Art by Elisha

This week we have been doing African Silhouette Art.

We had to look at texture, primary and tertiary colours. For my final piece I did a reflection using a water colour wash. I sketched African animals reflecting in the water. I also stippled the haze of the sun.



Menu for week commencing 29th March 2021

Week 2

Jan 11th, 25th Feb 8th, Mar 1st, 15th, 29th

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
JP- Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	M - Focaccia bread pizza with crispy round potatoes, carrots and peas	M - Roast chicken potatoes and 2 fresh vegetables with gravy	M - Hotdog, potato wedges and peas
SPL - Sausage roll	JP - Jacket potato Tuna/cheese/tuna	SPL - Sausage roll or Cheese & Onion pasty	JP - Jacket potato Tuna/cheese/tuna
D - Fresh fruit	SPL - Cheese sandwich	D - Fruit smoothie	SPL - Cheese roll
	D - Banana cake		D - Apple cake

Yoghurts and fresh fruit will be available daily

Gluten free menu available on request



Foundation Stage and Key Stage One



Mrs Youll's

George W for settling in well and happily taking part in lots of activities with a beaming smile.

Eliza for settling in well and joining in with circle time.

Miss Cawthorne's nomination

Charlotte for working hard, especially with her phonics and writing.

Riley for always working hard and being helpful.



Miss Boundy's nominations

Kaylan has been such a great friend this week and has been amazing in phonics. Well done Kaylan

Bella has shown lots of confidence in her phonics and writing this week. Well done Bella.

Mr Quilter's nomination

What a star! Grace is an excellent student with a great attitude. She is excelling in her learning and I love having her in class. Grace is a fantastic friend who is both kind and caring. You have a great attitude Percy, sky's the limit!



Mrs Oldfield's nomination



My star of the term this term is the Fabulous Cheryl! Cheryl has come so far since starting in year 1 in September, she is the life and soul of our class. She never has a down moment, she is always smiling, happy and full of fun. Cheryl works so very hard in all she is asked to do and she has made enormous steps in her learning and we are very excited to see all that she will continue to do. Well done Cheryl you are a Super Duper Star.

Mrs Grimwood's/Mrs Huggins' nomination

Star of the week is Archie has had a brilliant week. Full of smiles and happy to learn. He has thoroughly enjoyed his learning this week Well done Archie you are an absolute Star.

Our Star of the term is Ella Rose for having a super attitude to work. She does not give up and always does her best. Well done Ella Rose you are our shining Star





Key Stage Two

Miss Gulliford's nomination



Kaleb has been an incredible learner. He has shown resilience, perseverance and is just a true delight. He knows how to push himself out of his comfort zone and how to challenge himself. He is supportive of his peers and will do whatever he can to raise smiles and the spirit in the room. Kaleb is a super role model for year 4 and has a bright future ahead of him with his amazing personal attributes and love of learning.

Mrs Johnson's nomination

My Star of the Term for Spring Term is Dexter! Dexter, I know you had a hard time during this recent lock down, but you have come back with a bang! You have tried your hardest to be positive and work hard, despite feeling the strain of getting back into the swing of the school routine. You have also been your usual super-helpful self, organising me and doing jobs for me around the class. You blew my mind this week by reading with such amazing fluency and accuracy. You remembered and understood everything you read, and you were able to answer questions about the story with such ease! Keep moving onwards and upwards Dexter - your hard work is paying off!



Mr Whapham's nomination



Star of the term goes to someone who is extremely hard working and completes every task with no fuss! Lexi isn't someone who is loud or shows off her abilities, but these do certainly not go unnoticed. She is a wonderful friend, who is very popular because of her kind nature and lovely smile! Your work ethic and attitude to learning make you a joy to teach. Well done!

Mrs Lavictoire's nomination

It has been so difficult to pick a Star of the Term as everyone in our class has been truly 'starry' through what has been a tricky term for all. However, our Star of the Term is someone who is not only helpful, kind and hardworking but really has that 'OV Spirit'. Natalie, it has been a privilege to watch you grow into the model OV year 5 student that you are. You have made such incredible progress this year, already, and are incredibly determined- you won't let anything stop you from succeeding! You are focused and driven, but you will always stop to help someone, before yourself. Always keep being an OV star!



Mrs Harding's nominations



Our star of the term in the Adventurers class is Sophie. Sophie has been working hard to achieve this award since the start of the school year. At times she has found it challenging to be in the right place, at the right time doing the right thing every day of the week but she has shown great perseverance and has reached her goal. We are very proud of you Sophie. Sophie has also been working hard on her writing and we really enjoy reading her Forest School writing each week. She uses such a wide range of vocabulary and some highly descriptive phrases. Enjoy being star of the term Sophie and keep up the good work,

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

We are very fortunate enough this week to have not one, but 2 Stars of the Week! Our first, Kelsey, has worked so hard on boosting her own confidence in all her lessons, especially maths. She has pushed herself hard and it has had a massive impact on her learning and progress. Our second is Talia. Talia has worked so hard this week on making the right choices, focusing on her work and really playing an active part in all her lessons. This has had a wonderful impact on her learning, proving that when she puts her mind to it, she can produce excellent work! Well done Kelsey and Talia!



Miss Squire's nomination



The star of the term for our class is William P, for his fantastic approach to learning. Despite being at home for the first part of the Spring term, Will was constantly engaged in his learning. He joined in with all online sessions, including afternoon drop-in/check-ins and the standard of his work was excellent. Will even responded to feedback, just as he would in the classroom! Since returning to school, he has jumped straight back in and has made great progress. Well done Will, you are a true superstar!

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 Jake for excellent tennis skills

Year 3/4 Shaila for excellent encouragement and coaching to her partner

Year 5-6 Keira for great enthusiasm and lovely manners

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:

Miss Gulliford's class 100 - Kaleb

Mrs Johnson's class 150—Amelie 125— Nieve 75—Nevaeh
50—Lettie, Lilly-May, Jack, Freddie



Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Devon County Council

COVID19 School Absence

Devon County Council have created some useful resources to help you identify the symptoms of coronavirus compared to a cold or seasonal flu and what action you need to take if your child or anyone in your household develops symptoms of coronavirus. [You can find them on our website.](#)

It's extremely important that [anyone with coronavirus symptoms stays at home and gets tested](#) to avoid the risk of spreading the virus to others, including the more vulnerable in our communities.

That means if your child, or anyone in your household, has any of the symptoms of coronavirus, no matter how mild, you must keep your child off school and self-isolate your whole household while the person with symptoms gets tested and waits for the results. Just the person with symptoms needs to get tested. If you don't have symptoms, you don't need to get tested unless you are asked to by a health professional, but you do need to self-isolate until your household member gets their results.

REMEMBER to call the school office to advise us your child is self isolating and again once you have the results of the Covid 19 test.

Easter Bonnet Competition

On Wednesday, 31st March it would be lovely if the children came to school wearing your home made Easter Bonnets.



There will be a winning prize for the most imaginative bonnet from Nursery to Year 6.



Road Map out of Lockdown

STEP 1 8 MARCH	STEP 2 No earlier than 12 April	STEP 3 No earlier than 17 May	STEP 4 No earlier than 21 June
EDUCATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools and colleges open for all students Practical Higher Education courses 	EDUCATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As previous step 	EDUCATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As previous step 	EDUCATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As previous step
SOCIAL CONTACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exercise and recreation outdoors with household or one other person Household only indoors 	SOCIAL CONTACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rule of 6 or two households outdoors Household only indoors 	SOCIAL CONTACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 30 people outdoors Rule of 6 or two households indoors (subject to review) 	SOCIAL CONTACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No legal limit
BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wraparound care, including sport, for all children Organised outdoor sport (children and adults) Outdoor sport and leisure facilities All outdoor children's activities Outdoor parent & child group (max 15 people, excluding under 5s) 	BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All retail Personal care Libraries & community centres Most outdoor attractions Indoor leisure inc. gyms (individual use only) Self-contained accommodation All children's activities Outdoor hospitality Indoor parent & child groups (max 15 people, excluding under 5s) 	BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indoor hospitality Indoor entertainment and attractions Organised indoor sport (adult) Remaining accommodation Remaining outdoor entertainment (including performances) 	BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remaining businesses, including nightclubs
TRAVEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay at home No holidays 	TRAVEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic overnight stays (household only) No international holidays 	TRAVEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic overnight stays International travel (subject to review) 	TRAVEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic overnight stays International travel
EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funerals (30) Weddings and wakes (6) 	EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funerals (30) Weddings, wakes, receptions (15) Event pilots 	EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) 	EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No legal limit on life events Larger events

SUPERHERO DAY CHALLENGE

28th April
2021



Virtually run, dance,
hop, eat or sing to
become a superhero
and raise vital funds
for Children's Air
Ambulance



Sign up today to challenge yourself and become part of Team Mission
theairambulanceervice.org.uk/superhero-challenge



In partnership with
Supershero in the City



Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Part of The Air Ambulance Service. Registered in England and Wales as is limited company by guarantee. Registered Company No. 4840502. Registered Charity No. 1010416.

Covid-19

Winter Fuel Vouchers:

citizens
advice

Devon

The Basics:

On Sunday the 8th of November 2020, the government announced a new initiative; The Covid-19 Winter Grant Scheme. This scheme is designed to provide extra support to households in need this winter as a direct result of Covid-19. This includes distributing £170 million to local councils and unitary authorities as a part of the program, which will be running until the end of March 2021. As such Devon County Council is working in partnership with Citizens Advice to distribute some of this funding in the form of Fuel support.

Contact Information:

To be considered for the Winter Fuel Voucher Scheme please contact East Devon Citizens Advice through:

Telephone: 01395 265070

AdviceLine: 08082505703

Text Advice: 82727

Email:

enquiries@citizensadviceeastdevon.org

Or to find us on our website:

<https://citizensadviceeastdevon.org/>

You can find the contact details for your local branch for additional support on the universal Citizens Advice website:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Additional Support:

If you require additional support further enquiries can be made to Citizens Advice for other issues. This may include (but is not limited to) food vouchers, debt, or employment advice as well as universal credit or other benefit enquires.

For further information regarding the Covid-19 Winter Grant Scheme can be found on the Governments website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/he-w-winter-package-to-provide-further-support-for-children-and-families>



Calvert Trust Exmoor Day Activities

Day Activities are back and open for all!

Starting from Monday 5th April 2021

£50pp for the day, 10am - 4pm

(lunch not provided)

For school bookings, please contact us

For more information, or to book a day at the centre, call
01598 763221 or email us at [receptionexmoor@calvert-](mailto:receptionexmoor@calvert-trust.org.uk)

trust.org.uk

Visit calvertexmoor.org.uk for more
information about our activities

the plough ARTS CENTRE

Even though The Plough is closed, they have been very busy in their virtual theatre! The Plough The Future team (aged between 8-18 years) have been organising some great virtual opportunities, including some Youth Takeovers! These are FREE thanks to The National Lottery Community Fund & The Devon Community Foundation.



The Youth Takeovers will be taking place on the 9th and 16th April. You can find the booking links to the FREE workshops below. Please book in advance as we have limited numbers! You will find opportunities such as singing, backstage & costume design workshops, YouTube video content workshops and much more!

<https://www.theploughartscentre.org.uk/whats-on/day/2021-04-09>

<https://www.theploughartscentre.org.uk/whats-on/day/2021-04-16>

Please find the link below to the Plough The Future questionnaire. This is a survey kindly created by one of our participants to get some feedback from the younger generation (8-18 years) on how they engage with The Plough Arts Centre.

We are going through many changes at The Plough at present and it would be great to hear the voices of young people. If you could please complete the form by Tuesday 20th April that would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.

[Click here for the Plough The Future Questionnaire](#)

the plough
ARTS CENTRE

Calling all 8 to 18-year-olds!

PLOUGH THE FUTURE

PHOTO COMPETITION is now OPEN

THIS YEAR'S THEME IS

UNMASKED

the plough
ARTS CENTRE

PLOUGH THE FUTURE PHOTO COMPETITION

Submit your entries by
uploading to Instagram
with the hashtag

#ploughthefuture

#unmasked

#theploughartscentre

or email entries to

sophie@theploughartscentre.org.uk

the plough
ARTS CENTRE

PLOUGH THE FUTURE PHOTO COMPETITION

Each week we'll share all the
submissions on Instagram,
and on the **7th May**
we'll announce the winner.

1st prize £200

2nd prize £100

3rd prize £50

WELLBEING FOR PARENTHOOD WORKSHOPS

For families expecting a baby and with children under the age of two.

If you are pregnant or have a new family, you will have spent a lot of time thinking about your baby's wellbeing, but have you thought about your own?

Becoming a parent is a huge change and you need to take care of yourself too. TALKWORKS is an NHS talking therapy service, here if you are feeling low or struggling to cope through this life change.

To book your place please call:

0300 555 3344

or visit www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk

WELLBEING FOR PARENTHOOD WORKSHOPS

For families expecting a baby and with children under the age of two.

Is your family growing this year? With feeding, changing, and sleepless nights, there is no shame in struggling with welcoming a new baby – so if you're feeling low, stressed or feel you can't cope, don't suffer in silence.

At TALKWORKS, our dedicated NHS team can help you to handle this life change and look after your own wellbeing, while you look after your family.

To book your place please call:

0300 555 3344

or visit www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk

WELLBEING FOR PARENTHOOD WORKSHOPS

For families expecting a baby and with children under the age of two.

With lockdowns and social isolation, it's a challenging time to be pregnant or a new parent

It's important to have the opportunity to talk about anything you're struggling with. At TALKWORKS from the NHS, we're here to support you through this challenging time, and help you cope with the pressures of having a baby.

To book your place please call:

0300 555 3344

or visit www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk

WELLBEING FOR PARENTHOOD WORKSHOPS

For families expecting a baby and with children under the age of two.

Pregnant or a new parent? It's completely normal to not be feeling as happy and able to cope as you thought you would.

It's important for you to know that experiencing these feelings doesn't mean that you are failing as a parent. You're dealing with a life-changing event and we all need some support sometimes. As you look after your growing family, TALKWORKS from the NHS can help to look after you.

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WELLBEING FOR PARENTHOOD WORKSHOPS

For families expecting a baby and with children under the age of two.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact so many areas of our lives, it's a difficult time to be pregnant or a new parent

With less support groups, increased health worries and less contact with loved ones, you're likely to feel like there is more of a strain on you.

TALKWORKS is a free NHS talking therapy service, to help you to cope during this stressful transition, and to help you look after yourself so you can look after your family as well.

To book your place please call:

0300 555 3344

or visit www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk