

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 10th September 2021

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

I trust you all had a good summer, it is over far too quickly.

I can't begin to explain how delighted I was to see the children running into school on Wednesday morning when we opened the gates. They all looked so keen, smartly dressed in uniform and excited to be back with their friends. By quarter past nine they were all happily settled in their new classes and eagerly chatting about the holidays and the new year ahead. The lifting of some Covid-19 restrictions in school has made it feel like we are beginning to get back to where we were and this is also a joy.

The children all looked so smart with the correct uniform and sensible school shoes which was delightful to see. Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled and children do not bring any unnecessary bags or toys to school to avoid the risk of them getting lost or causing a distraction in class. With the weather changing please don't forget to send in a raincoat as we encourage the children to get outside as much as possible whatever the weather.

This term we welcome some new staff, Ms Richardson who will be teaching alongside Mrs Rana, Mr Askew and Miss McKinnon, are teaching assistants working in Key Stage 2.

Congratulations to Miss McDine who got married over the summer and is now Mrs Turner.

Congratulations too to Mr Whapham and his wife for the safe arrival of a baby boy. Mr Whapham will be taking 2 weeks' paternity leave from Monday, 13th September. Mrs Moore and Miss Porter will be covering his class in his absence.

This year our class names will all be related to the theme "How does your garden grow?". This relates to the book we will be covering in English this half-term. It would be lovely if you could help your child think of any suitable class names and send them in to be considered. Children will be voting on their class names next week.

We are currently setting up the new year's Teams online learning platform for Years 1 to 6 and we will be in touch with you to confirm login details. Our Foundation Team online platform, Tapestry, is now up and running.

It is lovely to be back and we are very much looking forward to the new term.



Have a wonderful weekend.

Fiona Pearce
Headteacher

Morning drop-off arrangements

Please could we remind all parents that children should be in class by 8.50am each morning ready to start their day. The playground gates will be locked at this time.

If you arrive late and the school gates are locked, you will need to sign your child in via the School Office.

Collection times		
3:00pm – 3:05pm	Reception	Children will be brought out to the playground.
3:05pm – 3:10pm	Year 1 and 2	Children will be brought out to the playground.
3:10pm – 3:15pm	Year 3, 4, 5 & 6	Children will be brought out to the playground.
3:30pm	Nursery and Little Seeds	Parents please enter the nursery gate and wait for the teacher.

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.

Individual Education Assessments—Assumed consent



During your child's time at Orchard Vale, there may be occasions when they may need a range of extra assessments to enhance our knowledge of their educational needs. Naturally, we would share with you the outcome of any assessments requiring further action.

If assessments are required, Orchard Vale will assume that you give your consent to these. If you would like further information to discuss an assessment, please feel free to talk to your class teacher.

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.

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).

OV Explorers After School Provision

The OV Explorers after school provision started this week 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.

Music Lessons

We are again allowed to host music teachers in school. If you have booked these directly with IMS NorthDevon.

Keyboard and drum lessons start next week, week commencing 13th September.

Guitar lessons start the week commencing 20th September.

If you would like further information or to book please contact IMS North Devon via email imsnorthdevon@gmail.com or 07974849303.

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.

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!

Visit
Asda.com/green-tokens
for more info

#AsdaFoundation #GreenTokenGiving

Terms and conditions apply.



**CAROL ANNE
NETBALL CLUB**

COME AND JOIN US!

**Starting on 7th September 2021:
U9s fortnightly on Tuesdays 6-7pm
U11s weekly on Tuesdays 6-7pm
@ Park School, Barnstaple**

We are always looking for new junior members to join our friendly, supportive and competitive club. We welcome players of all abilities and experience levels. Playing netball is a great way to make new friends and have fun playing sport!

Email: carolannejuniors@gmail.com

Website:
<https://carolannenetballclub.co.uk>



Chulmleigh College



Open Evening

Tuesday 21st September 4.30-7pm

Our results are amongst the 'BEST IN THE SOUTH WEST'



We are delighted to invite prospective pupils and their parents/carers to meet our teaching staff and take part in activities across a wide range of subjects. Presentations by Executive Headteacher Michael Johnson & the opportunity to meet with SENDCo Laura Mackie. Please pre-register here <https://tinyurl.com/CC-Open-Evening-2021>

OUT OF SCHOOL TRANSPORT AREA? Ask about our school transport from Barnstaple, Crediton, Rackenford & Torrington areas

w: www.chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk t: 01769 580215

e: admin@chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk



@ChulmleighAT



@ChulmleighCollege



Celebrate 15 years of FiG!

We're holding a **Forget-Me-Not Walk** in Victoria Park, Bideford on Sunday 26th September to remember all those we love who have died. [Find out more.](#)

Remember to send your stories and pics into info@familiesingrief.org as we'd love to see and share them. And, of course, give you any support you may need.

Keep in touch!

FiG Team 😊

Mila's Great South Run

Mila has entered the junior Great South Run in Portsmouth on Saturday, 16th October. She is running for Children's Hospice South West.

If you would like to sponsor Mila you can do so on [Justgiving.com/milagore](https://www.justgiving.com/milagore).