

# Orchard Vale's Weekly News

## Friday, 12th February 2021

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

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



### Headteacher's message



Dear Parent/Carer

Wow, we have made it to half term!

I would like to say a huge WELL DONE to everyone for their sterling efforts in continuing the children's education throughout this very trying time. You have all shown amazing resilience.

I have been amazed with the amount of learning being completed by every child whether in school or remotely.

We are sad to be saying goodbye to our Plymouth University student teachers, Marie, David, Kirsty and Hayley, they have been a wonderful asset to Orchard Vale during their stay and we wish them good luck in their teaching careers.

Please ensure you have a good rest next week and enjoy your family time.

The government's advice remains the same for our return after half term. It is safer for children to remain at home and complete their learning remotely spaces in school are for children whose their parents are critical workers or children who are vulnerable. We await the government's update, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, which will hopefully outline the next steps in a return to school for all. Once we have received this guidance we will, of course, pass information on to our parents. Please bear in mind that school finds out the same time that you do and we will need some time to process any new instructions.

Contact Tracing – Please could I draw your attending to the next page with regards contact tracing of any children/adults who have been attending school.

Fiona Pearce, Headteacher

### Are you details up to date with the school?



Please could you ensure you advise the school if you have moved house or changed your telephone number or email address.

Parents can log into the Parent Portal to their details held by us and you are able to amend some of these details yourself. If you need a reminder of your Parent Portal login or if you are having difficulties please contact the school office ([orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk)).

### Uniform

Whilst we await the government's guidance on whether schools can open to more children after half term if you need to order uniform please do so via Parentpay.



Polo Shirts sizes: 3-4 / 5-6 / 7-8 / 9-10 / 12-13 / 14-15

Sweatshirts sizes: 3-4 / 5-6 / 7-8 / 9-10 / 11-12 / Small adult

Book bags

PE bags

Please remember to email [orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk) to advise us that you have placed an order.

Orders will be made up and you will be advised when they are ready for collection.



## IMPORTANT REMINDER TO PARENTS

### Confirmed Case of Coronavirus during half term

Here are the steps you need to take if one of the children in your family, who has been attending our school, has a confirmed positive test for COVID-19 during the half term.

- **If your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (that is up to Monday, 15th February) the school should be contacted.**

Email as soon as possible:

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

Mark the subject in the body of the email with:

**"Confirmed Covid-19 Case"**

Include this information:

**School Name:**

**Child Name:**

**Date of confirmed positive test:**

Please ensure that you send this email without delay, as it will be crucially important for contact tracing to begin immediately enabling those who have been in close contact with a positive case to take appropriate self-isolation measures. We only need to be emailed if a positive test is received, we don't need to be notified if a child is isolating due to having one or more symptoms associated with Covid-19, it is only if a positive test is received that we need to be contacted.

- **If your child develops symptoms and test positive after 48 hours, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.**

Please ensure that you send this email without delay, as it will be crucially important for contact tracing to begin immediately enabling those who have been in close contact

This has been a difficult year for all of us, but we remain committed to supporting the national effort to beat this virus and we are ever grateful for your continued support.

Fiona Pearce  
Headteacher



Sarah Felgate is our Pastoral Teaching Assistant and is available on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday—9am to 3.15pm to offer emotional support/advice to our parents and children during Lockdown 3.0.

## OV WEEKEND TEAMS CLUB

Hi Everybody

Yay! We made it to half term!

Well done you big stars (that's the parents), you little stars (that's the children)  
And a special well done to our amazing shining stars (that's the staff).

Well done to all of the children who have completed an activity from the Weekend Club Team. We have several promising chefs amongst you. They have made pancakes, soup and lots of very tasty looking delights such as chocolate cookies to banoffee pie!



Ruby and  
George's  
chocolate  
chip cookies



Ryder's lasagne



Lilly-Mai's  
banoffee  
pie

We enjoyed delivering a few of the nest boxes which Miss Felgate made. It was lovely to see some of the children and have a socially distanced chat on their doorsteps.



Several of you, while out on your daily exercise, have used the Plant Safari and Spot it sheets. We've also had a rocket made from recycled items found at home. Apart from all the different activities on the Teams Weekend Club, here are a few more things you might like to dip into over the holiday week. So if it's rainy...

Then there are LOTS of fab things here.



[The Great Indoors | Scouts](#)



[February 2021 half term activities for kids | National Trust](#)

I wonder who will get to receive the first badge from Mrs Pearce.

**Have some great time off everybody – you deserve it!**

Hmmmm? I think I will be putting a new roof on the chicken house and tramping busily around the garden in my wellies. Mrs Manley will be enjoying my new hobby of cross stitch, I am making a unicorn picture for my granddaughter.

Love from Miss Felgate ☺ and Mrs Manley





## Foundation Stage and Key Stage One



### Mrs Youll's

Maya for trying hard in all her activities and doing some super tidying.

Pixie for good listening and trying hard in all her activities.

### Miss Cawthorne's nomination

Jessica for working so hard at home, especially with her writing



### Miss Boundy's nominations

Tahlia has been working so hard at home and has been amazing at her writing this week! Well done Tahlia

### Mr Quilter's nomination

Jake is hardworking both in school and at home. He is a lovely boy and a great friend to all. He has especially impressed me with his rhyming work and good humour. Great job Jake the Rake



### Mrs Oldfield's nomination

**In school** - Myla-Mae has blown us away this week in her attention and effort in English, we have been working on rhyme for a couple of weeks now and Myla-Mae has shown how closely she has listened to all the learning and has independently produced a wonderful rhyming poem that has gone over and above what she was asked to produce. I think we may have a budding poet on our hands. Well done Myla-Mae we are very proud of you.

**Home learner** - Reuben is a quiet boy who will often doubt his own ability, but this week I have seen a massive shift in his self-belief and self-confidence. When taking part in our 1:1 reading session he was showing wonderful blending and segmenting skills when tackling tricky words. He has also shown some excellent practical maths skills this week using Lego. Keep believing in yourself Reuben you are a star.

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

Elise is one of those lovely children who could be a Star of the Week every week. Elise is a super worker and loves to get things right first time and I have given Elise Star of the Week this time as she has developed such a super attitude to her learning, knowing that sometimes we don't get things right first time and it doesn't matter! Well done Elise you brighten everyone's day!





## Key Stage Two

### Miss Gulliford's nomination



Lara is the star of our class this week. She has been to every single online session, contributes and works extremely hard! She responds to marking to further her learning and engages 100% of the time. It has been lovely to see Lara begin to develop her confidence with her remote learning, putting her hand up to share her ideas and join in. Lara is a true delight and helps to make every day in our class wonderful! Well done, Lara!

### Mrs Johnson's nomination

**Home learner** star of the week this week is someone who has been working super hard throughout online learning. He was a little unsure of himself at the beginning of the week, but has worked really well and done brilliantly! He has also enjoyed online video calls with his friends and it's been lovely to see. So our star at home is Rafi! Well done!



**In class star** of the week has been working really hard on his maths, using greater than and less than and also working hard in English writing his newspaper article. I always look forward to seeing what toy he brings in and his smile brightens up the classroom and he's a joy to have in and out of the class. So our star of the week is Phoenix!

### Mr Whapham's nomination



Lauren always produces detailed work in English and topic, particularly in history. She is caring towards her classmates and has a bubbly personality which makes her a joy to teach. She works extremely hard and always has a huge smile on her face! A very well deserved star of the week.

### Mrs Lavictoire's nomination

Our star of the week is someone who has completely 'wowed' us with their understanding and application. In maths, he has been working with algebraic expressions to write his own formulas. Whilst in his reading sessions he is developing his responses to texts, making sure he expands on his points, providing evidence and explanations. Ernest is continuing to keep us all amused with his great sense of humour and he has such a lovely way with his classmates. Keep being a superstar!



### Mrs Harding's nominations



Annalise works exceptionally hard every day, she has pride in her work and always tries to meet any targets set. She has made excellent progress this half term in all areas of the curriculum. Annalise completes homework to an excellent standard each week and is tackling spellings with more and more complexity and remembering to spell these words correctly in all of her written work. Annalise is also a very kind and thoughtful member of the class and she will help anyone and everyone. She always has a kind word to say to both adults and children and I really enjoy our lunchtime chats. Enjoy being star of the week Annalise. You deserve it.

### Mrs Rana's/Mr Boult's nomination

Ryan - We have all been so impressed with his wonderful work he has produced, really putting in a lot of time and effort! He has also shown a great attitude in our live lessons, answering questions and asking when he isn't quite sure of something! Ryan even managed to score very highly on our Socrative quiz! Well done Ryan!!!



### Miss Squire's nomination



This week, I have chosen my star for his fantastic attitude and positivity: Riley has kept everyone in school smiling this week, which has been just what is needed. He is a great friend and a hard worker, and his Friday Free Write based on Taylor Swift was just fantastic! Thank you and well done Riley - you have been a great help to our class this week.

## Years 5 and 6—Tri-Reading Tournament



The children in Years 5 and 6 are taking part in a Tri-Reading Tournament.

Congratulations to the following children who have achieved 25, 50...nights of reading at home:

<b>Mrs Rana/Mr Boulton</b>	100 nights—Grace	25 nights—Amity
<b>Mrs Harding</b>	25 nights—Annalise	
<b>Miss Squire</b>	50 nights—Phoebe	



## 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.

Years 1/2- Jamie lentil for great effort and keeping on going even when tired

Years 3/4 Freddie Jones for brilliant uploading of work and always being present for live lessons

Years 5/6 will Phillips for great attendance and enthusiasm online



Coronavirus (COVID-19)  
Devon County Council

## COVID19 School Absence

The national lockdown restrictions are helping bring coronavirus transmission back under control.

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.**

**CORONAVIRUS**  
**Car sharing advice**  
Devon County Council

**Wear face coverings**

**Sit as far apart as possible**

**Share with the same small group only**

**Keep windows open**

**Wash hands or use sanitisers before and after**

**Clean the car after every journey (including internal and external handles)**

**Do it for your ▶ FamilyCommunityDevon**



## Menu for the week commencing 22nd February

### CHANGES TO LUNCH MENU WITH EFFECT MONDAY, 22nd FEBRUARY

Please note :

Jacket potatoes will only be an option on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

School packed lunches have changed on Wednesday and Thursday.

#### Week 1 Jan 4th, 18th, Feb 1st, 22nd, Mar 8th, 22nd

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>JP</b> – Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	<b>M</b> – Brunch grill, sausage bacon, beans and sauté potatoes	<b>M</b> – Roast chicken potatoes and 2 fresh vegetables with gravy	<b>M</b> – Minced beef Pie with crispy round potatoes and peas	<b>M</b> – Breaded fish with French fries and peas
	<b>JP</b> – Jacket potato Tuna/cheese/tuna		<b>JP</b> – Jacket potato Cheese/beans/ tuna	<b>V</b> – Quorn nuggets with French fries and peas
<b>SPL</b> – Sausage roll	<b>SPL</b> - Cheese sandwich	<b>SPL</b> - Sausage roll or Cheese & Onion pasty	<b>SPL</b> – Cheese roll	<b>SPL</b> - Ham Sandwich
<b>D</b> – fresh fruit	<b>D</b> – Chocolate sponge	<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

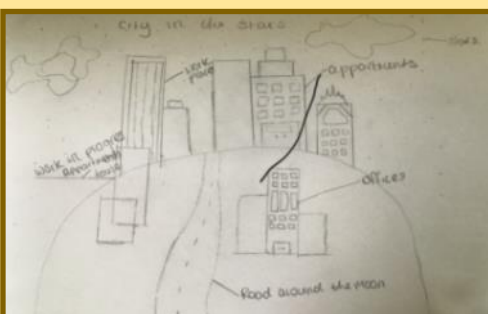
Miss Squire's class have just finished studying a Science unit on Forces, and they were set a challenge of investigating the forces of gravity and friction, including creating their own experiment report. Our overall Science star and winner, for this project, is Alyssa! Alyssa created a fantastic investigation, using items around her home, and uploaded all of her photos and findings on OneNote. Well done Alyssa!



Height	15.6 cm	
Tin Foil	Bubble Wrap	Cloth
79	78	90
65	80	88
62	83	84
72	85	89
<hr/>		
$= 278 \div 4$	$= 328 \div 4$	$= 351 \div 4$
Average	Average	Average
69.5 ms	82 ms	87.75 ms

### Moon Colony Challenge

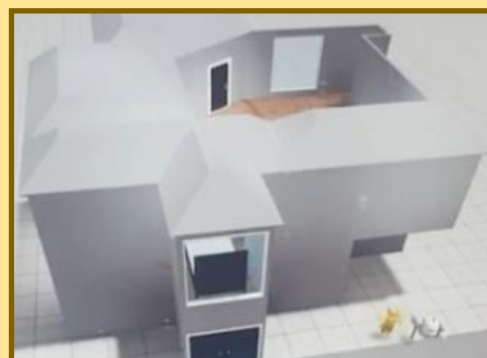
Mrs Lavictoire's class has been taking part in a 'Moon Colony Challenge' as part of their science topic. Pupils were given the task of designing and/or building their own vision of a future colony on the moon, for NASA. They had to think carefully about factors that would influence their design, such as weather conditions, atmosphere, gravity and surface



This is my colony on the moon. The big building you see is called the big shop. It has everything you could ever imagine, to give you an idea on what it sells I have listed some things below, but when you enter the building, you first walk into a space lock, which means that you can enter the shop without your space helmet as the shop has its own gravity and oxygen supplies!

- It sells various foods and drinks, such as fresh water.
- Various spacesuits, so you can dress appropriately for the freezing or boiling hot temperatures. You would want to feel as comfortable as possible whilst wearing a spacesuit, they are probably not the most comfortable of things to wear.
- There are devices like space phones and iPads so you can communicate with Earth.
- Even space buggies are available from the shop so you can explore the Moon easily. The moon's surface is covered with dead surfaces, impact craters and lava flows so being able to explore the moon with a space buggy would be really helpful.

The smaller green buildings you see are houses; it means that the people who are working on the moon are able to stay somewhere a bit more comfortable than a spaceship. The tall white tower, which is behind the shop with the grey circular item, is the satellite that allows people on the moon to be able to communicate with Earth. This is also what supplies the shops and houses with oxygen on the moon so once you're inside your space helmets can be removed. The tower transforms the carbon dioxide, helium etc into oxygen to supply the houses and shops which are nearby.





This week Miss Gullford's class were asked to produce some 'wild art' either on their walk or at home!



Vinney



Lara and Owen's 'girl in the woods'



Charlotte

In nursery we have been learning about Chinese New Year so here are some photographs of some of the things we have been doing.



Maya at the Chinese restaurant



Lily's lantern



Wyatt's money bag



Lucas using chopsticks



Heidi's dragon mask



Jasmyn's colourful dragon



Heidi's dragon

# Devon County Council's Free School Meals holiday voucher scheme

## 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 voucher code we've sent you can be used to get vouchers to the value of £15 for Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrisons, Asda, Aldi, M&S Food and Waitrose.

Please use the vouchers to purchase food over the holidays to replace the meals your child would have received at school during the day.

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 many years' experience of 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 Christmas holidays and haven't used it to get your supermarket vouchers via Black Hawk's 'Select' website yet, please do so by Sunday 24 February before it expires.

If your child was eligible for free school meals last term but you didn't receive a voucher code for the Christmas holidays, please call Devon County Council's education helpline on 0345 155 1019.

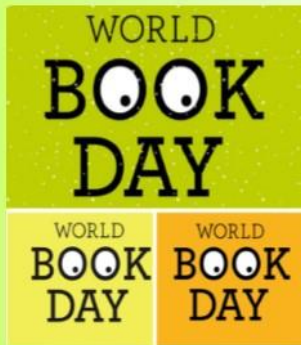
More detailed information about the free school meals holiday voucher scheme, including how to use them and what to do if there's a problem, is available on Devon County Council's website. Please visit [www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/free-school-meals-holiday-voucher-scheme](http://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/free-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 [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 emailing [freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk) so we can make sure this vital support gets to the right family.



# World Book Day 2021



Please note that we will not be asking the children to dress up this year. We feel that under the current Lockdown restrictions it would not be appropriate to encourage parents to go out to buy costumes and we are also very mindful that some people may be struggling financially.

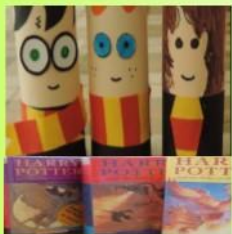
Instead we are planning some fund events on the run up to and during World Book Day. Look out for the World Book Day Team.

Over half term if you would like to do something creative, why not make an entry for the toilet roll challenge

## World Book Day Toilet Roll Challenge



- Design should be created using cardboard tubes whilst in their original cylindrical shape—that's the challenge!
- The tubes cannot be wrapped in paper but it is acceptable to stick things on to create the design.



- The design should represent your favourite book character or book.
- Any size cardboard tube is acceptable eg kitchen roll tube, wrapping paper tube.
- Any medium can be used to achieve this eg felt tip, ink, paint, collage



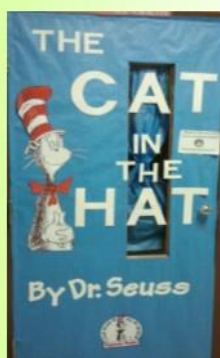
Why not upload your finished designed to the World Book Day Teams under the Toilet Roll Challenge channel



Mr Boulton's Taskmaster Challenge is coming.

Here is a sneak preview of a special World Book Day Taskmaster Challenge

If you would like to take part in this challenge you may like to starting thinking of ideas and collecting materials together. More information to follow...







# Your Fire Service needs YOU!

As we are still unable to visit our schools for the annual fire safety talks, we still want households with children to be aware of the importance of having working smoke alarms.

If you don't have working smoke alarms then you can call  
**0800 05 02 999** to request a **free HOME SAFETY CHECK**  
(quote code : 294)

And if you or someone you know answers "yes" to at least one of these questions:

- is over 65 years old?
- finds it difficult to move around?
- can't hear things very well?
- smokes?
- doesn't have one smoke alarm for each level of their home?
- has NO smoke alarms?

They can also request a free **HOME SAFETY CHECK** by calling **0800 05 02 999**



## My Fire Safety Notes



If we had to attend a fire, we want to know that we have the right details and you know what to say and do so we can get to you as quickly as possible.

Fill in all these important details and keep them somewhere where everyone can see:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

I live at \_\_\_\_\_.

My postcode is \_\_\_\_\_.

I have \_\_\_\_\_ working\* smoke alarms in my home.

The smoke alarms\* are in these places: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

We test our smoke alarms, once a month on a \_\_\_\_\_.

I know that if my clothes catch fire I need to S \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ and R \_\_\_\_\_.

I know the number to phone for the emergency services is \_\_\_\_\_.

I have told these people in my family all I know about how to keep safe and stop a fire starting: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Don't forget to tell your grown-ups that if you do not have working smoke alarms or you do not have any smoke alarms they can call **08000 05 02 999** for a **FREE Home Safety Visit**.

Children can access these activity sheets on our OV Weekend Club



Beep the smoke alarm





# Devon Libraries Online Services

If you are unable to access our online resources and need to borrow physical books, Barnstaple Library is open for Choose & Collect. This service is currently strictly by appointment to make sure everyone stays safe. Again, we have boosted our collections of children's Beginner Reads to support those children learning to read, and we have also increased our non-fiction collections in some libraries to support some popular topics from the school curriculum.

We have lots of resources for families which will be helpful to support home schooling. We have an extensive selection of information books for children along with junior fiction. We have preselected goodie bags of board and picture books which can also be collected by appointment.

Library membership can be obtained online via this link [Devon Libraries](https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/) and this will enable you immediate access to the services we offer.

These services are all delivered following a COVID secure and contactless procedure.

We are encouraging customers to time their collections with other essential journeys, for example a food shop or collecting medication.



Reserve items online - <https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/> and make an appointment made to collect.



If you would like to arrange to collect a bagful of books handpicked for you by our library staff, then please contact: Barnstaple Library on 01271 318780 or email [barnstaple.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:barnstaple.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk).



In the absence of real-life events in our libraries, we have put together a programme of digital events for children which are posted on our Facebook pages. These include a weekly Bounce & Rhyme session and events during the school holidays,

including the Barnstaple Library  
<https://www.facebook.com/BarnstapleLibrary>  
and Devon Libraries pages  
<https://www.facebook.com/Devon.Libraries>



## Digital Library for children

We have been increasing our catalogue of eBooks and eAudiobooks for children including our Beginner Reads collection. This means that families who do not currently have access to books from school can find new things to read via their laptops, tablets, eReaders or smartphones.



## Digital Library for adults

In addition to eBooks we have free access to eMagazines and newspapers and other digital resources such as Ancestry Online.



## Oxford Owls banded reading books

Our [free eBook library](https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) has been created to help children aged 3–11 to develop their reading skills at home.

As well as much-loved characters such as [Biff, Chip and Kipper](#) and [Winnie the Witch](#), you'll also find some great [non-fiction eBooks](#) to help your child explore their world. We have also added some books used in schools, such as [Read Write Inc.](#) and [Oxford Reading Tree](#).

All our eBooks are free to use, but you will need to register or log in to read your book. Please note, our eBooks are not optimised for mobile phones and are best viewed on a computer, laptop, or tablet.