

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 20th June 2025

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@thsp.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Guardians

This week, some of our year 5 and 6 children attended the Heatree residential and have certainly had the luck with the weather. They have had a fantastic time, and we have loved seeing the photos and hearing all about the activities they have been doing. A huge thank you to the staff that have accompanied the children, and for keeping us all up to date with what they have been doing. We are sure both the children and the staff will enjoy being back home and catching up on some well-deserved rest.

The remaining year 5 and 6 children enjoyed a trip to the park this week. We also had a group of children attend the Olympic Legacy Festival at Park School on Thursday. They came 5th overall and did so well competing in the heat. Our Nursery children enjoyed a visit by a keeper and some of the animals from Exmoor Zoo. They loved meeting a range of animals and insects and learning all about them. Another huge thank you to our PTFA, whose fund raising throughout the year help support activities, trips and events in school.

Our PTFA are currently working hard preparing for our summer fayre on Wednesday, 25th June from 4-6pm. With your support and attendance they hope to raise further funds that will support future trips and events making these possible and affordable for all. We are also busy planning our sports days. Letters will be coming home to you soon with all the information you will need. This will be posted on teams. I know this is an important date in the school calendar and we are looking forward to welcoming you all to share this with us.

The children have been brilliant adapting to the heat this week. We have been trying hard to cool the classrooms with fans and open windows and changing timetables, so the children are not outside in the sun for too long. The children have loved the changes to lunchtime this week, providing more inside time to keep them out of the sun and have requested to do this every week. In the afternoons, the PTFA provided ice lollies as a refreshing and welcome treat for all. As the good weather is likely to continue, please remember to provide your child with hats, sunscreen and extra drinks as needed, water refills are always available in class.

Finally, a big thanks to our parents who have been reading the newsletters and have helped make the beginning and end of the school day better for all. We have had several comments this week from parents who have been appreciative of the kindness and consideration shown by some. We know we still have some work to do, especially with the parking around school. Please continue to report any instances of dangerous driving or parking to the police or civil enforcement to help us work together in making the roads safer for all.



Have a wonderful weekend enjoying this glorious weather.

Fiona Pearce, Headteacher



Parking and behaviour on the public highway outside the school

Please could we remind parents/families to consider your child's safety and that of the community by parking considerately and safely and being courteous to other people during drop off and pick up times.

Do not park on pavements, block drives, drive at speed, harass other parents or members of the community.

If you witness any unsafe parking, dangerous driving, or anti-social behaviour on the main road outside the school please report this directly to the non-emergency police contacts either by telephone (101) or contact form on the Devon and Cornwall Police website, some links shown below.

[Contact us | Devon & Cornwall Police](#)
or by phone on 101

[Report illegal parking | Devon & Cornwall Police](#)

The more people that report incidents they witness will highlight the issues to the authorities who have the authority to ask enforcement officers to investigate and speak to those who do not observe safe road use and behaviour near the school.

As a school we have no jurisdiction over the public highway, but everyone has a responsibility to behave in a safe and courteous manner.

Thank you for your co-operation to keep all your children safe on the roads.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mrs Youll's class

Star of the week is Charlie G for settling in well, showing good independence and playing nicely with his friends.

Mrs Oldfield's class

My star of the week is Alice. Alice is amazing, she has been showing us all her times tables skill over the past few weeks which is fabulous. This week we have been reading 'Where the wild things are', we have been focussing on using capital letters, full stops and finger space to help release Professor Klump and his crew from jail. Alice independently wrote a fantastic description of her wild thing, including all of these things, I was super impressed! Well done, Alice, you are amazing. I am very proud of you. Mrs Oldfield.

Miss Cawthorne/Mrs De-Ritis' class

Amelia is our star of week. Amelia is super helpful, she is always the first to be tidying up. Amelia looks after her friends and is always looking for ways to help them. Amelia listens beautifully and is always doing the right thing. Well done Amelia, you are a superstar.

Mr Quilter's class

My star of the week is the one and only Carter! Over the past couple of weeks, we have been completing year 2 testing. To begin with, Carter was very unsure and struggled with the idea of testing, often getting upset. Fast forward to this week, where Carter has smashed all of his SATS and gained confidence in himself. When asked to complete his testing, Carter was ready, happy, confident and full of spirit. Carter has worked extremely hard over the past few weeks to believe in himself and trust the knowledge he has gained throughout the past year. Carter is constantly engaged on the carpet, joining in with classroom discussions and always eager to learn something new. Whenever he receives feedback, you can always expect the changes to be made in his work. He has worked incredibly hard in English, ensuring he uses capital letters, a range of adjectives and beautiful handwriting. I often catch Carter trying to join up his writing, and it is so wonderful to see this love of learning he has! Carter is a joy to have in the classroom, a kind friend and a hilarious addition to our class. Carter, you never fail to amaze me; you are a superstar! - Miss Tillman

Miss Huxtable's class

My star of the week is Theo F... again! Theo has had a phonics challenge this week and he has been taking it very seriously. Some adults have been checking if he is okay as he's been tucked in the corner practising his sounds so intently. It has been lovely to see such a drive and excitement in him, and he has already almost mastered his set 2 sounds. It has been lovely to see him also trying hard to use these sounds in his writing. He is so deserving of star of the week this week as he has impressed us all. Keep it up, Theo!

Mrs Grimwood's class

My star of the week is Ben. Ben is an amazing learner and a wonderful member of our class. Ben is hardworking and is always looking to do the very best learning he can. He listens so well to what he is asked to do and always produces fantastic learning. This week it is his story that has just blown my socks off! It has everything! It has suspense, funny moments, great vocabulary and is so well written. And Ben is only in Year 1 ! Ben, you are a superstar and I absolutely love the story you have written this week! I am so proud of you! Keep being this outstanding learner!

★ STARS OF THE TERM ★

Mr Bayliss' class

Arthur has had a brilliant week. He has been working hard in all of his lessons and putting in lots of effort to do his best. What has been especially lovely to see is how he has been managing his emotions during competitive games—he has stayed calm and positive, even when things haven't gone his way. He should be proud of how he is learning to enjoy both winning and losing with a smile. Well done, Arthur—keep up the brilliant attitude and determination!

Mrs Johnson's class

My Star of the Week is Owen. Owen is just such a little star in our class and is always on hand to help others. He is always one of the first children to offer to do jobs for me and reminds me of things I have forgotten! This week Owen has shown such a mature and positive attitude whilst completing his assessments. He always faces challenges with a smile, and it has been great to see how much more confident he has become this year. Owen, you are one chatty, cheeky superstar and my classroom would be a bit duller (and quieter) without you! Well done!

Mr Whapham's class

Lily has really impressed me this week in class with her attitude to learning. We have been completing a series of tests in Year 3/4 this week and Lily has approached these tests with confidence and a positive mindset. It is great to see her believing in her own abilities and having the confidence to show her ability in each test. She has drawn on her learning from throughout the year and performed very well this week! Well done!

Mrs Ledger's class

Bonnie has had a great week. She has been positive and helpful, has got involved with all the activities and worked really well in different groups. She has been a pleasure to have in the classroom and has produced some lovely artwork. Well done Bonnie!

Miss Williams' class

Colby has been a delight this week, just getting on with all the activities with a smile on his face, looking after his peers and being helpful, mature and reliable. He has worked well in groups with other people and maintained a sensible attitude throughout. Well done Colby!

Mrs Scott's class

Evy has had a really positive week. She has dealt with all the changes this week with a mature and sensible attitude, and also represented the school at the Olympic Legacy event. She has been involved with all the different activities and has been helpful and happy throughout. Well done Evy!

Year 5/6 Residential at Heatree



Year 5/6 have had a brilliant time on their residential trip to Heatree this week. From the moment we arrived, the children threw themselves into every activity with energy and enthusiasm. Throughout the week, they took part in climbing, kayaking, rock scrambling and archery - pushing themselves out of their comfort zones and showing real resilience and determination along the way.

Outside of the main activities, the children made full use of the beautiful surroundings. The large sports field became our playground for football matches and grass sledding during free time. A particular highlight was the newly discovered game 'Storm the Castle'. This fast-paced game saw everyone darting to hide behind trees and rocks in a bid not to be spotted!

Evenings were just as fun and full of variety. One night, we gathered around the campfire to toast marshmallows and enjoy some singing. On others, we played group games or wound down with a movie night, complete with hot chocolate, which was a much-appreciated treat after busy days outdoors.

It's safe to say everyone is coming home a little muddy, very tired, but full of fantastic memories. The children have supported one another, embraced new challenges, and made the most of every opportunity presented to them.

One thing's for sure – they'll all sleep very well in their own beds tonight!



Olympic Legacy

A huge well done to the 20 children, from year 2 to year 6, who represented the school at the Olympic Legacy Festival on Thursday!

They all performed amazingly, running their socks off in the heat and finishing a brilliant 5th place out of 10 schools!

A special well done to the year 2 team Lilly, Grace, Charles and Mason who finished first in their race. Well done all!



Exmoor Zoo Keeper visit to Nursery

This week the nursery had the amazing opportunity to see lots of mini beasts from Exmoor Zoo. They saw caterpillars for the peacock moth, an African snail, Norman the nymph, a bug winged stick insect and a very large spider.

Thank you to the PTA for funding this event.



Reception trip to Caffyn's Farm

On Wednesday the 11th June, all the Reception went on their first school trip to Caffyn's Farm. What a fantastic day we had!

We saw donkeys, turkeys, alpaca's, chickens, horses and goats.

The children took part in feeding the animals, collecting chickens' eggs and petting the horses.

We learnt a lot of amazing facts about each of the animals.

We are very proud of all the children and how they behaved, both on the coach and at the farm, well done Reception you were incredible. Thank you to the PTA for



Year 5/6 back at OV

This week, the Year 5/6 children not attending Heatree have had a fantastic, busy week!

They have created StopMotion animations of well-known Greek myths, had a picnic at Rock Park, baked cakes, made Greek mosaics... The list goes on!





Reading Road Champions

Years 1 and 2

Congratulations to:

Ava-Mai

For completing 25 reads

Liliana

For completing 50 reads

Lucas

For completing 75 reads

Ruby Lucas Margot

For completing 100reads

Sports Day Information 2025



All sports days will be held on the school field.

Monday 7th July - Nursery 9:30 - 10:30

Tuesday 8th July - Reception 1:30 - 3:00

Wednesday 9th July - Year 1/2 1:30 - 3:00

Monday 14th July - Year 3/4 1:30 - 3:00

Wednesday 16th July - Year 5/6 1:30 - 3:00

Nursery Sports Day

Please come to the main playground gate from 9:15am for a 9:30am start.
You will be asked to sign a photo and video disclaimer on arrival.

At the end of the sports day, could all parents and spectators walk with their child/children back to the nursery garden. Children who have come in additionally will be dismissed from here with their families. Children who are remaining in Nursery will be able to say goodbye to their families and return to the Nursery classroom safely.

Reception, KS1 and KS2 Sports Days

Please come to the main playground gates from 1:15pm for a 1:30pm start.
You will be asked to sign a photo and video disclaimer on arrival.

At the end of each sports day, ALL children will be taken back to their classes to collect their things. We kindly ask parents and spectators to make your way back to the main playground and wait for your child/children as you would at a normal pick up.

Refreshments

During Sports Day, cold drinks will be available on the bottom minack.

Ice-cream will be sold from the Coffee Cabin from 2:30pm-3:30pm.

Apologies, but we are unable to sell ice-creams during Nursery Sports Day.

We thank you in advance for your support and co-operation.

We look forward to seeing you all.

The OV team.









School Diary Dates

Tues, 24th June	Reception/KS1—Oral Health Visit
Wed, 25th June	Y5/6 Top Up Swimming Lessons
Wed, 25th June	Y5—Cricket
Wed 25th June	Summer Fayer—4pm to 6pm
Fri, 27th Jun	Y6 Rising Stars—Skern Lodge
Mon, 30th June	Y5/6 Junior Lifeguards and Surfing Lesson
Tue, 1st July	Y6 Park School transition workshops
Wed, 2nd July	Y6 Pilton Transition Day
Wed, 2nd July	Y5/6 Top Up Swimming Lessons
Thur, 3rd July	Y6 Pilton Transition Day
Fri, 4th July	Y6 Wimbledon
Mon, 7th July	Nursery Sports Day—9.30am
Tues, 8th July	KS2 Oral Health Visit
Tues, 8th July	Reception Sports Day—1.30pm
Tues, 8th July	Parent Pupil Consultations (more details to come)
Wed, 9th July	KS1 Sports Day—1.30pm
Wed, 9th July	Y6 Athletics at Park School (details to come)
Wed, 9th July	Parent Pupil Consultations (more details to come)
Thur, 10th July	Y6 Park Induction Day
Fri, 11th July	Y6 Park Induction Day
Mon, 14th July	Y3/4 Sports Day—1.30pm
Tues, 15th July	September Reception Starter—Stay and play—3.45pm to 4.30pm
Wed, 16th July	Y5/6 Sports Day—1.30pm
Wed, 16th July	September Reception Starter—Stay and play—3.45pm to 4.30pm
Thur, 17th July	Y6 Milkyway

Week commencing— Monday, 23rd June

Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options

 <h3 style="text-align: center;">LUNCH MENU – WEEK 3</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">5th May – 2nd June & 23rd – 14th July – 8th & 29th Sept – 20th Oct</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Available Every Week - Wholemeal Bread, Salad Bar, Fruit, Low Fat Yoghurts, Milk and Water available daily. All Special Diets catered for.</p> <div style="text-align: right;">   </div>				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 Cheese Topped Sweet Pepper & Sweetcorn Pasta	Chicken & Butternut Squash Curry with Wholemeal Rice	Roast Gammon & Pineapple	Breaded Fish Fillet	Hot Dog in a Finger Bun
 Jacket Potato with Various Fillings	Quorn Stir Fry & Noodles	Summer Vegetable Crumble	Vegetable Nuggets	Veggie Sausage in a Finger Bun
 Egg & Lettuce Sandwich (Wholemeal Bread)	Pizza Muffin	Cheese & Tomato Sandwich (Wholemeal Bread)	Ham Bap	Sausage Roll
 Sweetcorn & Peas	Mixed Vegetables	Roast or Mash Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable & Gravy	Chips or Pasta, Peas or Carrot Sticks & Tomato Ketchup	Potato Wedges, Baked Beans & Green Beans
 Fruit Crunch Pot	"ABC" Cake	Ice Cream Pots	Cookie & Milkshake	Chocolate Brownie 



Summer Holidays DCC Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

Summer Holiday Activity Programme's for children eligible for benefit related Free School Meals.

Devon County Council are pleased to announce the Summer Holiday Activity and Food Programme for 2025 is now Live.

We are now using the EEQU booking system, so we no longer use unique HAF codes.

Here is a link to the new booking system
[Eequ - After school. In place of school. Beyond school.](#)

Here is a link to the parent pages of the HAF website for further information
[Information for parents and carers - Children, families and education](#)



● **LOTS OF ACTIVITIES!! MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY'S**

2025
SUMMER HOLIDAYS
10am - 2pm

Cook stars

DEVON HAF

LOTS OF FUN!!

SUMMER CLUB

5 - 11 YEARS

DEVON SCIENCE

LET'S GO

Ashleigh Church of England Primary School
Bevan Road, Barnstaple, EX32 8LJ

Ferdinand Collective



IMS Instrumental Music Services

Piano Lessons at Orchard Vale School

Apply online:

www.imsmusic.co.uk

or email:

imsnorthdevon@gmail.com





A COUNTRY SUMMER

26TH JULY – 30TH AUGUST

HELP US TO CELEBRATE SUMMER IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

SEASIDE Dressing up - Selfie station
Punch and Judy theatre

HARVEST Hunt the scarecrows hidden around the museum

CRAFTY TUESDAYS 29th July, 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th August
10 - 12 Drop in.
£3 per child with paying adult (£2.50 per child with museum member)

THURSDAY FUN 10 - 12 Drop in. Look out for a different activity each week!

GAMES Hook a Duck - Splat the Rat!
Maypole dancing and more!
... and more! Plus all our usual family friendly activities!
Follow us on social media for activity updates!



TIVERTON MUSEUM
of Mid Devon Life

Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00-4:00
www.tivertonmuseum.org.uk
Beck's Square, Tiverton EX16 6PJ
01884 256295
Registered charity 1181976



FOLLOW US
@TivertonMuseum

Summer Holiday Tennis Camps



Develop your child's tennis whilst having fun, making friends & playing games.
Our dedicated, passionate & engaging coaches welcome all ages & abilities in great locations.

Summer Holidays

Junior Camp

5 - 12 yr olds | 10am - 1pm | £15 per day or two children for £25 (Siblings or Friends)

Week 1

Mon 28th July – Braunton
Tues 29th July - Rock Park
Wed 30th July – Braunton
Thurs 31st July - Rock Park
Fri 1st Aug – Braunton

Week 2

Mon 4th Aug – Rock Park
Tues 5th Aug – Braunton
Wed 6th Aug - Rock Park
Thurs 7th Aug – Braunton
Fri 8th Aug - Rock Park

Week 3

Mon 11th Aug – Braunton
Tues 12th Aug - Rock Park
Wed 13th Aug - Braunton
Thurs 14th Aug - Rock Park
Fri 15th Aug - Braunton

Teen Camp

12 - 16 yr olds | 10am - 1pm | £15 per day or two children for £25 (Siblings or Friends)

Dates

Mon 28th July - Braunton
Wed 30th July - Braunton
Fri 1st Aug - Braunton
Tues 5th Aug - Braunton
Thurs 7th Aug - Braunton
Mon 11th Aug - Braunton

Locations

Barnstaple Park Lane Tennis Club, Rock Park, EX32 9AH
Braunton Braunton Tennis Club, Wrafton Road, EX33 2BP

To book email: bookings@devonshiretennisacademy.com

www.devonshiretennisacademy.com