

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 27th September 2024

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

The children have had a brilliant week; the Year 6 children have visited Park School open mornings to have a look around the secondary school setting. Our years 3 and 4 braved the true cross-country weather on Wednesday by attending the Barnstaple Primary Schools cross country festival at Park School. They all took part and were brilliant ambassadors for the school.

Despite the wet weather, the children have managed to get outside at break and lunch times. Please could we remind parents to send children to school with sturdy shoes and a raincoat.

Lost property

Unnamed Lost Property has started to mount up again. Over the weekend, it would be helpful if you could clearly label all your child's clothing so that we can help them find their lost items. If your child has misplaced anything, please ask your class teacher, at pick up time, to check the classroom. Please feel free to visit the Lost Property area outside the school office to reclaim items.

Medical appointments

If your child is attending a medical appointment during school time, please could you advise the school office, via email, and send a copy of the SMS or medical letter confirming the appointment. This is then attached to your child's attendance record for that day.

Lunch promotion day

We are sure you will agree the choice of menu offered by the school kitchen is superb. For £2.50, payable via Parentpay, your child can have a meal prepared each day with fresh ingredients, giving a well balance hot meal or a filling school packed lunch. All children in Reception to Year 2 are entitled to a free meal at lunch time under the Government Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme. Children across the school who are entitled to Benefit Related Free School Meals can receive a free of charge warm meal every day.



On Thursday, 3rd October there is a change to the advertised menu please see page 4.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Fiona Pearce, Headteacher

Are you entitled to register for
free school meals /
additional funding support

If you are in receipt of:

- 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 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

Apply through the [Devon Citizens Portal](#). This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. Alternatively, call the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

POP UP SHOP



WEDNESDAY 6TH
NOVEMBER

2.45 – 3.30pm
COFFEE CABIN

RECYCLED SCHOOL UNIFORM,
TOYS & A WIDE SELECTION OF
BIRTHDAY/CHRISTMAS
GREETING CARDS.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mrs Youll's class

Parker for good listening in maths and playing nicely with his friends.

Mrs Oldfield's class

To begin with Esme found it a little tricky to say goodbye to her Mummy and Daddy in the mornings. Esme spent some time with the worry worm and also writing notes to Boris; our worry monster, to help her settle in the mornings. BUT this week WOW! Esme has been amazing; she is coming into class with a giant smile on her face full of enthusiasm for the day ahead. Esme is a shining light in our classroom, she is full of fun, and giggles and it is wonderful to see how happy and settled she now is. Keep up the fantastic work Esme, you are a star.

Mrs Oldfield

Miss Cawthorne/Mrs De-Ritis' class

Elijah has made a super start to reception. He is doing a fantastic job of coming into school with no tears. Elijah is an extremely helpful member of the class, he always makes sure he is following the class aspirations and encourages others to do the same. Elijah is also a superstar in phonics, he has been working extremely hard on his letter formation. Well done. Elijah you are a sonic superstar.

Mr Quilter's class

Jacob has been trying really hard in all areas this week! His writing has been completed with increasing independence; it has been lovely seeing his ideas develop and his writing confidence grow. Jacob works hard and quietly gets on with tasks, he can ignore distractions and has been working to the very best of his abilities. Jacob, you have been a little superstar this week and you have impressed both me and Mrs Clarke greatly! Keep it up buddy! Mr Q x

Miss Huxtable's class

My star of the week is Phoebe. Phoebe was voted by the class for the role of school councillor, and I think the children made a perfect choice. Since the start of term, she has stepped into the role of a Year 2 student wonderfully. Full of kindness and always setting a great example with her listening, Phoebe is a great role model to the Year 1s (and 2s) in our class. She has also had to show a lot more independence with her learning this week, and it is lovely to see her taking on new challenges and growing in confidence. Phoebe, thank you for keeping our classroom running smoothly! You are a star.

Mrs Grimwood's class

My star of the week is Blair. Blair is a quiet member of our class but this week he has shown how he is quietly building and strengthening in his learning. I have been really impressed in maths with the way Blair has listened to the teaching and then gone away to carefully apply it to his learning. He has done his activities with accuracy and confidence. I can also really see how his writing is developing too. Yesterday he wrote a cracking sentence about his space outfit with some very well chosen adjectives. Blair it is wonderful to see how your learning is blossoming just now, Keep doing this and you will go from strength to strength. Well done. We are very proud of you.

★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★

Mr Bayliss' class

George has made a fantastic effort this week, particularly in his English lessons. I have been so impressed with how hard he has worked to improve his writing, especially his handwriting. George has shown real perseverance, staying focused and getting on with his work. His positive attitude and determination to keep going are brilliant qualities that will help him achieve even more in the future. Well done, George! Keep up the great work!

Mrs Johnson's class

My Star of the Week is Jasmyn. Jasmyn found the move to Year 3 a little bit tricky at the start, and sometimes doubted herself when it came to her learning. This week she has shown me her determination, by giving everything a go and building her independence, especially in writing. Her writing stamina is already improving, and she has been able to write descriptive sentences linked to the story Jumanji. She is also showing her growing confidence in our history lessons, where she has been able to talk about the different reasons why the Romans invaded Britain. Keep up the hard work and focus Jasmyn, you are really finding your feet in Year 3 and we are very proud of you!

Mr Whapham's class

My star of the week is Alice! She has settled in brilliantly into Year 3, working hard and showing her potential. She is a sensible and calm member of our class who is always making good learning choices. This week, she has really impressed me with her English writing—creating a well structured paragraph, including all the features we have been learning in class! Well done!

Mrs Ledger's class

My star of the week is Theo Davies. Theo is always on task, quietly getting on with what needs to be done. He has a great attitude to learning, and tries his best in everything. He will ask for help if he needs it, but also has the resilience to try to work independently. He is also polite and gives thoughtful contributions to class discussions.

Miss Williams' class

This week my Star of the Week is the wonderful George. George has really impressed Mrs Thomas and I with his resilience to learning. He gives everything 100% and it has been lovely to see his confidence blossoming since the start of September; he is now much more willing to contribute ideas in class. He is also a great support to his peers both in the classroom and on the playground. It has been lovely to see him supporting his peers in their learning and encouraging them to keep trying their best. George, you have had a great start to year 5 and I have no doubt that it will continue! Keep up the great work!

Mrs Scott's class



I have chosen James as our class' star, this week, as he is such a constant in our classroom. James continually works hard, collaborates with others, shares his ideas with the class and is a kind and encouraging presence to all. He has a lot of wisdom for someone so young, and he is just all-around fantastic. It has been lovely to see James stepping whole-heartedly into his role as a year 6, and becoming a quiet leader in our classroom. Well done, James - you are a star

School Diary Dates

Tue, 1st Oct or Thur, 3rd Oct	Y5/6 RAAM Exeter trip
Wed, 2nd Oct	Y5/6 swimming lessons—group 1
Wed, 9th Oct	Y5/6 cross country
Wed, 9th Oct	Y5/6 swimming lessons—group 1
Mon, 14th, Tue, 15th and Wed, 16th Oct	Bikeability
Wed, 16th Oct	Y5/6 swimming lessons
Thur, 17th Oct	School Photos—8am Family, during school individual and siblings
Fri, 18th Oct	Harvest Festival
Wed, 23rd Oct	Y3 Multi Skills Festival
Wed, 23rd Oct	Y5/6 swimming lessons
Fri, 25th Oct	Non Pupil Day
Mon 28th Oct to Fri 1st Nov	HALF TERM—(back to school on 4th Nov)

Week commencing—Monday, 30th September

Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <h2 style="text-align: center; color: green;">LUNCH MENU - WEEK 1</h2> </div> <p style="text-align: center; color: brown; font-size: small;">Week commencing 30th Sept 2024</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: purple; font-size: x-small;">Malted, Wholemeal Sliced Baguettes, Low Fat Yoghurts, Milk and Water available daily. All Special Diets catered for.</p>					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday Promotion Day	Friday
	Butchers Pork Sausages	Butchers Mince Beef Nachos & Wholegrain Rice	Chicken with Sage & Onion Stuffing	Chicken Goujons (DF)	Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Pasta
	Spanish Omelette	Cheese Pasty & Tomato Pasta	Vegetarian Roast	Vegan Sausage Roll	Oaty Veggie Crumble & Creamy Mash Potato
	Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese	Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese		Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese	
	Potato Wedges, Baked Beans & Mixed Vegetables	Sweetcorn & Green Beans	Roast or Mash Potato, Sliced Carrots, Cabbage & Gravy	Chips, Wholemeal Pasta, Peas or Baked Beans	Fresh Sliced Carrots & Sweetcorn
	Fruit Smoothie	Pip Organic Lolly	Strawberry Mousse with Berry Compote	Ice-Cream	Fresh Fruit
	Ham Roll	Cheese Roll	Ham Roll	Tuna Roll	Sausage Roll

**Congratulations to
Years 5 and 6
Tri-reading tournament champ**

Dylan

On reaching 25 reads

Marley

On reaching 50 reads

Olivia T Charlie

On reaching 100 reads

Chatting with Hamza Yassin

This week year 3/4 had an amazing opportunity to join a live webinar with Hamza Yassin!

The children were fascinated to hear Hamza talk about his experiences working with wildlife all over the world, and to find out about the amazing animals he has filmed and photographed. We even found out that Wombats do square poos!



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Continuing our community work we will be holding a Harvest Festival on Friday 18th October.

We will be supporting the Freedom Transforming Lives Charity.

Last year we had a fantastic response and would really like to be able to replicate this again.

Below is a list of things the Freedom Centre need to continue to run their kitchen and provide food parcels for clients.

Meals in a tin (chilli, stew, curry)

Tinned fruit

(pineapple chunks, pears, peaches, rhubarb, apple or mandarins)

Tinned custard/rice pudding

Coffee

Pot noodles

Biscuits

Granola bars

Chocolate bars

Orange juice – large or small cartons

Blackcurrant squash

White flour- self raising and plain.

Granulated white sugar.

Jelly any flavour

Mayonnaise

Lasagne sheets

Gravy granules – beef, chicken and vegetable

Vegetable oil

Washing up liquid

If you would like to support this effort, children can bring in donated items and hand to their class teacher by MONDAY, 14th OCTOBER.





Primary Admissions - September 2025 Reception Class

The admissions process for children joining a Reception Class in September 2025 has changed.

Parents/carers will no longer receive a letter inviting them to apply. Instead you need to use the Microsoft form [\(CLICK HERE\)](#) to express your interest in applying for a school place.

Once registered you will receive an automated text/email when the application window opens on 15th November 2024.

Woolacombe Surf Lifesaving Club – Nipper Taster Session

WSLSC will be running a Nipper Pool Taster/Assessment Session on Saturday 28th September at Ilfracombe Swimming Pool from 2:00pm - 4:00pm for any children born 2012-2017 looking to join the club.

2-3pm will be for any child born 2017

3-4pm will be open to any child born 2016 – 2012

Please can you arrive 15 minutes before the taster/trial session to register your child on the balcony. All children should arrive in their swimming costume/dry robe/robie/flip flops. Please also remember your child's swimming hat, goggles and towel. The changing room will be open for the first session but not the second. So your child will require something warm such as a dry robe to put on after the session. No changing is permitted on the balcony by Lex Leisure.

This session is not only an opportunity for your child to be assessed by our experienced Nipper Coaches but for them to see if this is a sport that they would like to continue with. Whilst we are always supportive of all our Nippers in the variety of sports that they also take part in, places are precious in the club and regular attendance is expected for pool and beach sessions to warrant a place.

Although we do have places in the club, and no waiting list at present, we do have to adhere to the Lex Leisure Swimming Pool assessment criteria for entry into the Nipper section.

I would like to assure you that there will be at least three experienced Nipper Coaches who will be leading the taster/trial session, as well as myself. There will also be experienced older Nippers helping in the pool.

If we can offer your child a place, then they will be invited to attend our pool sessions which will commence from Saturday 5th October. They will be allocated a 1-hour time slot between 1:00-4:00pm dependent on their age and ability.

If we are unable to offer your child a place at this time, we will keep them on the new waiting list and will look to take them on at a further date when their swimming has met the Lex Leisure criteria, or a space is freed up.

Surf Lifesaving is an amazing sport for so many reasons and WSLSC is a lovely, friendly club to be part of. It is not however, a substitute for swimming lessons/club and we would expect all children to be taking part in regular swimming lessons. Many of our Nippers also swim for Ilfracombe or Barnstaple Swimming Club. They do have waiting lists and this is something that we would suggest joining to support your child's development and enjoyment of the sport.

All aspects of WSLSC are run voluntarily and we do expect all parents to help in some capacity throughout the season.

Please email me at nippers@woolacombesurflifesaving.org if your child would like to attend and please do not hesitate to email me with any questions.

Best Wishes,

Jacqui

WSLSC Head Coach & Nipper Rep