

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 11th July 2025

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@thsp.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Guardians

Firstly, thank you to Mr Ovey and the staff for their efforts in planning, organising and running 3 successful sports days this week. The younger children in school have been practising their skills and loved taking part in all the activities on offer. It was noted that there was a mixture of activities, some competitive and other for fun and enjoyment; this is always a difficult balance, so well-done everyone! We look forward to next week where the older children get their turn to participate in Sports Day and show off their skills!

It was lovely to be greeted by so many brightly coloured outfits this morning, Mr Quilter was hugely impressed with the efforts made. The children have been amazing today, dealing with the hot weather! We have been enjoying the shade, where possible, and even had a cheeky ice lolly in assembly; thank you to the PTFA for supplying us with these!

The last few weeks of school are always busy for our year 6's. Last week a small group attended Wimbledon, where they appeared on television and were even interviewed live on the radio; what an amazing experience! This week, year 6 have attended transition days at both Park / Pilton schools in preparation for next year. We look forward to talking to them about their positive experiences next week.

Parents evening in the hall was a huge success! Both evenings ran smoothly and we received a lot of positive feedback; thank you for your comments on this!

We hope you enjoy your weekend and remember to stay safe from the sun!



Fiona Pearce,
Headteacher

Sports Day Information 2025

All sports days will be held on the school field.

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

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

KS2 Sports Days

Please come to the main playground gates from 1:15pm for a 1:30pm start. Please arrive on time. You will be asked to sign a photo and video disclaimer on arrival. Members of staff will guide you to the sports field.

Please read email sent out to parents, on 11th July, with important information for the smooth running of this event.

At the end of each sports day, ALL children will be taken back to their classes to collect their things.

We kindly ask parents 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 top minack.

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

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

We look forward to seeing you all.
The OV team.



LOST PROPERTY

We have a lot of unnamed items in Lost Property, in the courtyard.

If these items are not claimed by the end of term they will be placed in the New 2 U sale items or donated to charity.

Please do come and check for any items your child may have lost.

Fees for September 2025

School dinners—£2.60 per child

Breakfast Club—£3.50 per child

After School Provision—£7 per child

Nursery—0 to 2 year olds—£9.96 per hour

Nursery—2 year olds—£7.46 per hour

Nursery—3 to 4 year olds—£5.56 per hour

School uniform can be ordered online through
[School Threads](#)

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mrs Youll's class

Frank for continuing to show enthusiasm for learning at carpet time and demonstrating some super blending in phonics.

Mrs Oldfield's class

Mila has blown us away with her multiplication knowledge over the past few weeks. She has been helping other children to learn the 2 times tables, especially when singing/practicing them on the carpet. Mila is also our loom bands queen. She is very kind and is helping younger children to learn how to make bracelets and rings and is very happy to share her supply of loom bands with others. We all adore Mila, she is a wonderful role model to others, and she is going to make a fantastic year 2 child. Well done Mila, you are a super star. Mrs Oldfield x

Miss Cawthorne/Mrs De-Ritis' class

Our star of the week is Amelia. Amelia has had a fantastic week, she was amazing at sports day and took part in all the activities. Amelia has blown us away with using her words this week. Amelia has been having lovely conversations with adults and her friends, and it has been lovely hearing her voice. Well done Amelia we are so proud of you.

Mr Quilter's class

My star of the week is Lillie-Mai! Week after week, Lillie-Mai impresses me with her quiet determination and positive attitude to learning. She gets straight on with her tasks and seeks support when needed, showing growing confidence and independence. The quantity and quality of her work continue to grow, especially in her writing. She now uses an impressive range of vocabulary, adverbs, expanded noun phrases, and most recently, inverted commas. One challenge we've been working on is remembering full stops, and this week, I was delighted to see them appearing in all the right places. Her writing flowed beautifully, allowing me to truly appreciate how much effort she's put in. It's a proud moment to see that persistence pays off. Lillie-Mai is kind, considerate, and always ready to help. She's the type of student who quietly lifts others and brings joy to the classroom with her warm, polite nature. I've genuinely loved teaching you this term and watching you flourish has been a highlight of my week. Though I'll miss having you in my class, your next teacher is incredibly lucky to work with someone as wonderful, happy, and lovely as you.

Miss Huxtable's class

My star of the week is Phoebe. Phoebe has been such a little superstar this year and I have loved teaching her in Year 2. What is so amazing about Phoebe is that she puts so much effort into everything she does. You only have to ask Phoebe something once and she is always ready to learn. Phoebe is a fantastic role model to those around her, and I can always count on her to help organise the classroom or volunteer to do a little job. One thing we all love about Phoebe is just how kind she is. She is lovely to everyone around her, makes no fuss and is the glue that holds our class together! Even if drama and fallouts do occur around her, she remains very diplomatic and keeps everyone positive. Phoebe has worked so hard in her reading, writing and maths this year and will always take on an extra challenge to try and push herself. Over the past week and a bit, she has written a fantastic story and has persevered even when things felt hard to begin with. Every class needs a Phoebe, and I am very grateful I had one this year! Well done lovely girl. Miss H x

Mrs Grimwood's class

My star of the week is Jessica. Jessica is always a lovely, kind-hearted member of our class. She continues to be a fabulous role model and quietly gets on with all she is asked to do. Jessica works hard in all areas of learning and really tries hard to act on the advice and guidance she is given to improve her learning. This shows a real maturity. This week Jessica has blown me away with her writing. She has written a fabulous story about the Bag of Joy and the faithful friends. Her story was carefully written and had some fantastic vocabulary and phrases in it. Jessica, you have really impressed me this week and the quality of your writing is excellent. I am so happy I get to teach you for another year! Well done, Jessica. You are an absolute star!

★ STARS OF THE TERM ★

Mr Bayliss' class

Luka has had a fantastic week and has shown excellent listening and concentration in all of his lessons. He has been respectful and polite in the classroom, showing a positive attitude towards his learning. Luka has worked very hard and challenged himself, not allowing any distractions to get in his way. His determination to stay focused and give his best effort in every activity this week has been brilliant. Well done, Luka—keep up the brilliant focus and hard work!

Mrs Johnson's class

Ati is just a complete superstar, and she could be my Star of the Week every week! She is so hardworking and impresses me every day with her positive attitude to learning. I have made Ati my Star of the Week for her incredible achievements in her times tables learning. She has reached the very highest level of our Safari and Ninja challenges already, despite only being in year 3! Ati, your maths knowledge and problem solving never fail to amaze us all and I can only imagine the successes you will achieve as you move further through KS2. Well done!

Mr Whapham's class

Chloe is my star of the week! Chloe has worked extremely hard recently and always strives to produce her best work. Chloe is a kind friend, who enjoys helping her friends. I have really enjoyed seeing how Chloe supports her peers with their learning. Each day, Chloe makes a conscious effort to give 100% in her learning and this supports her fellow class mates in their learning too—having a role model to aspire to be!

Mrs Ledger's class

My star of the week is Esmail. She has had a great week, participating in the Park School athletics, and then being super helpful as one of the few year 6 pupils in school on Thursday and Friday. She is always polite and positive, and she joins in with everything. She was really helpful when the Year 5s were doing their DT projects, showing them what they needed to do. Well done Esmail for a fantastic week.

Miss Williams' class

This week, we're celebrating Jake as our Star of the Week! Jake has been a real joy to teach and has made fantastic progress – not just in his learning, but in his resilience and confidence too. Learning hasn't always been easy for Jake, but he's developed some brilliant strategies to help him stay focused and positive. It's been wonderful to see him starting to believe in himself and approach challenges with a "can-do" attitude. Talking with his mum at parents' evening was a lovely moment to reflect on just how far he's come. Jake is also learning to express himself more clearly and is gaining a much better understanding of how to manage big emotions. His maturity and self-awareness are really shining through. Well done, Jake – we're so proud of you and excited to see all you'll achieve in Year 6!

Mrs Scott's class

My star this week is Charley-May - over the course of this year, I have seen how much progress she has made in so many ways, and it was lovely to get to celebrate this at parents' evening. Charley-May is very quiet (in class, anyway!) but she has a great sense of humour and is a fantastic friend to many, as well as being a hard worker. I know she will continue being superb as a Year 6 - keep it up!

Wimbledon 2025

On Friday, 4th July a lucky group of year 6 pupils had the exciting opportunity of attending Wimbledon.

The day began at 6.30am and ended at 12pm.

The children watched some great tennis and even had a go themselves in the children's area.

Paddington Station was also a great hit with the children not to mention the cheeky fast-food treat when refuelling.

Myself and Mr Whapham would like to thank all the children who attended; they were impeccably behaved and a real pleasure to spend the day with, even you Bella!



Year 6 Athletics










On Wednesday, Year 6 attended an athletics festival at Park School, where they competed alongside other schools to win victory for their country team, across a range of athletics activities. As always, the children represented themselves and the school superbly, and were a pleasure to take out of school for the day.



School Diary Dates

Mon, 14th July	Y34 Sports Day—1.15pm for 1.30pm
Tues, 15th July	September Reception Starter—Stay and play—3.45pm to 4.30pm
Wed, 16th July	Y5/6 Sports Day—1.15pm for 1.30pm
Wed, 16th July	September Reception Starter—Stay and play—3.45pm to 4.30pm
Thur, 17th July	Y6 Milky Way and Staff—V—Y6 rounders
Thur, 17th July	Y3/4—Park School Theatre/Choir performance at OV
Fri, 18th July	Rocksteady end of term concert
Fri, 18th July	Whole School & Reception Starter transition 10.45am–11.45am
Mon, 21st July	Whole school & Reception Starter transition 10.45am–11.45am
Mon, 21st July	Year 6 Presentation evening
Tues, 22nd July	Leavers Assembly
Tues, 22nd July	LAST DAY OF TERM
Wed, 23rd July—Wed, 3rd Aug	SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Thur, 4th Sept	First day of autumn term

Week commencing— Monday, 14th July
Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options

<div>  LUNCH MENU – WEEK 3   </div>				
5th May – 2nd June & 23rd – 14th July – 8th & 29th Sept – 20th Oct <i>Available Every Week - Wholemeal Bread, Salad Bar, Fruit, Low Fat Yoghurts, Milk and Water available daily. All Special Diets catered for.</i>				
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

Measles warning issued to Devon residents ahead of Summer holidays.

25th June 2025

Parents in Devon are being asked to make sure their children are vaccinated against measles as the disease spreads across the UK and Europe.

Measles is among the most contagious diseases in the world, but two doses of the MMR vaccine during childhood can offer lifelong protection. However-vaccine uptake in Britain is below recommended levels, and cases have been rising.

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has also warned that the spread of measles in Europe could put families at risk on their summer holiday. This year, outbreaks have been seen in several European countries, including France, Italy, Spain and Germany.

Dr Alex Degan, a GP in Devon and primary care medical director at NHS Devon, said: "It's essential that everyone, particularly parents of young children, check all family members are up to date with two MMR doses, especially if you are travelling this summer for holidays or visiting family.

"Measles cases are picking up again in England, and outbreaks are happening in Europe and many countries with close links to the UK.

"Measles spreads very easily and can be a nasty disease, leading to complications like ear and chest infections and inflammation of the brain, with some children tragically ending up in hospital and suffering life-long consequences.

"Nobody wants that for their child, and it's certainly not something you want to experience when away on holiday."



If you aren't sure whether your child has received both doses of the MMR vaccine, you can check their Red Book (child health record) or contact your GP.

Data published in May 2025 showed there have been 420 laboratory-confirmed cases of measles in England since the start of this year. Of those, two in three cases (66%) were in children aged 10 and under, but measles has also been diagnosed in young people and adults.

Since the introduction of the measles vaccine in 1968, at least 20 million measles cases and 4,500 deaths have been prevented in the UK.

Getting vaccinated means you are also helping protect others who can't have the vaccine, including infants aged under one year and people with weakened immune systems, who are at greater risk of serious illness and complications from measles.

However, measles remains endemic in many countries around the world, and with declines in MMR vaccine uptake observed over the last decade, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, we have also seen large measles outbreaks in Europe and other countries.

Y6 PARENTS/CARERS

You are invited to an online workshop:

SUPPORTING A SUCCESSFUL SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSITION

DATE - TUESDAY 5TH AUGUST 2025

TIME - 15:45 - 16:45

ONLINE VIA TEAMS (joining code below)

Discuss the
common
secondary
transition
concerns.


Helpful tips to
support your
child's mental
health during the
transition.

Explore signs and
reasons for
worries about
change.


Microsoft Teams

Meeting ID: 379 847 996 671 5

Passcode: Ge3FE33U



Join us online



AT CLARKS, WE'VE DONE OUR HOMEWORK

AUTUMN/WINTER 2024

SPRING/SUMMER 2025

With almost 200 years of children's foot health expertise, parents trust Clarks to deliver perfectly fitting, science-backed pairs of shoes that empower kids to be their very best selves - all day, all term, all year.

We understand that buying shoes can be stressful, so at Clarks we aim to make the process as quick, easy, and stress-free as possible.

As the cost of living continues to bite this summer, Clarks will be keeping our market-leading school shoes at 2023 prices. From a reassuring 3-month fit guarantee to money-saving bundles, we have also got plenty of offers and services to make life a little easier for parents this back-to-school season.

MORE THAN A FIT. IT'S A GUARANTEE.

If kids' shoes don't fit three months from their in-store fitting, parents can exchange them for a new pair. It's as simple as that.

IN-STORE FITTINGS

We offer Free expert fitting and measuring. Appointments can be booked ahead of time via the QR code attached or drop in for a walk-in appointment, available all day.

QUIET TIME APPOINTMENTS

If shoe shopping is overwhelming for little ones, customers can visit Clarks stores at a time when there are fewer crowds, less noise and gentler lights. Pre-book an appointment or just walk-in, the option is yours...

Please contact your local store if you'd like to book a Quiet Time appointment.

We want to make the Back to school season as smooth as we can for parents whilst continuing to make school shoes that help kids move comfortably and freely.

We look forward to seeing you in-store soon!

**MOVE THE
WORLD
AHEAD.**



SCAN TO
BOOK AN
APPOINTMENT

Clarks.



Summer Holidays

DCC Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

If your child is eligible to benefit related Free School Meals don't forget to check the Devon County Council Holiday Activities and Food Fund program for activities you can try and book for your child in the summer holidays using the HAF code you were given.

See links below:

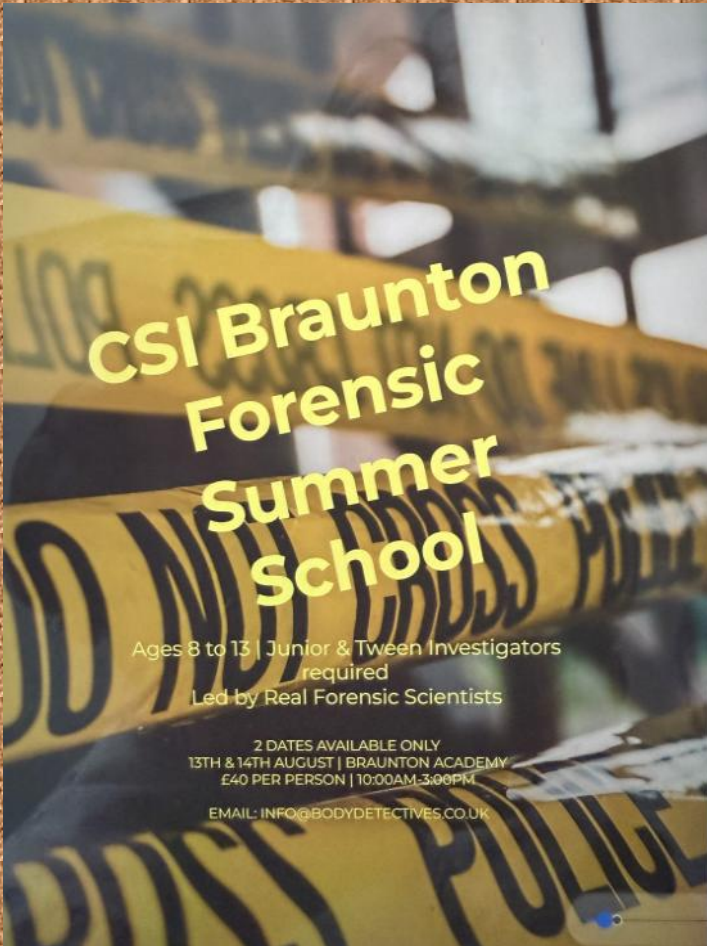
Devon County Council

[Click here for how to access the programme](#)

Guide on how to book

[Click here to see how to book a HAF session.](#)





CSI Braunton Forensic Summer School

Ages 8 to 13 | Junior & Tween Investigators
required
Led by Real Forensic Scientists

2 DATES AVAILABLE ONLY
13TH & 14TH AUGUST | BRAUNTON ACADEMY
£40 PER PERSON | 10:00AM-3:00PM
EMAIL: INFO@BODYDETECTIVES.CO.UK



National Trust

Are you ready for a
Summer of Play
at Arlington Court?

Step into Olde Arlington and uncover the characters who once kept the country estate running. From sword-fighting bandits to a laundry labyrinth, adventure awaits around every corner!

Find out what's on at
nationaltrust.org.uk/arlington-court

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 **THE OUTDOORS GROUP**

TREE TOTS TODDLER CLUB

HOLIDAY CLUBS

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

FIRST AID TRAINING

OUTREACH

EXMOUTH

TOTNES

ESCOT

OKEHAMPTON

 **BOOK NOW!**



TREE TOTS TODDLER CLUB
Every session is different and might include games, free play, craft activities and songs.

HOLIDAY CLUBS
Enjoy the adventures, fun and endless excitement across our woodlands.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES
Take your party outdoors this year and enjoy the ultimate woodland adventure birthday!

LEADERSHIP TRAINING
Learn the skills to set up and manage a forest school setting.

FIRST AID TRAINING
Gain the necessary skills to safely administer First Aid in a Forest School setting.

OUTREACH
Working with local schools, giving learners the chance to take part in inspiring sessions

 **THE OUTDOORS GROUP**

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THE SUMMER BOOK QUEST

LAUNCH DAY!
Saturday 12th July 2025
Barnstaple Library

What To Expect:

- **Face Painting**
10.00am - 12.00pm - Drop-in
- **Badge Making**
10.00am - 3.00pm - Drop-in
- **Wizelfloor Interactive Games**
10.00am - 3.00pm - Drop-in
- **Drop-in Crafts**
10.00am - 3.00pm
- **Mermaid Story Telling**
Throughout the morning - Drop-in
- **LEGO SPIKE**
2:00pm - 4:00pm (£3.50 per person)
To book, call 01271 318780 or visit the Library.
- **Deep Sea Diver Meet & Greet**
AND MUCH MORE!!!



Libraries Unlimited

THE SUMMER BOOK QUEST

JOIN US ON A DEEP SEA ADVENTURE
Launching 12th July 2025

Visit your local library for your **free pack** and join in with our brand new reading challenge this summer!

EVENTS ACTIVITIES ARTS & CRAFTS CERTIFICATES AND PRIZES

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 8700102. To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk



Libraries Unlimited

THE SUMMER BOOK QUEST

Dive into a **Deep Sea Adventure** with Pip, Zena and Liba at your local library this summer!

Read what you love, complete fun sea-themed activities, and collect stickers along the way. Finish the quest to earn a certificate, keyring and finisher sticker - all for **free!**

We've teamed up with some of our local leisure centres, Surfers Against Sewage, Surfing England and Active Devon to help keep our oceans clean and families active this summer.

Pop into your library between **12 July - 6 September** to get started!

[Click here for The Deep Sea Adventure 2025 - Schools](#)



Libraries Unlimited

BARNSTAPLE LIBRARY

JULY SUMMER EVENTS

- **Summer Book Quest Launch Day**
Saturday 12th July - 10.00am - 3.00pm - Various events around the library.
- **Boogie Books Summer Special: Sharing A Shell**
Thursday 24th July - Room 3B - 10.30am - 11.30am
Donations Appreciated.
- **The Mermaid of Zennor Drama Workshop**
Monday 28th July - 10.00am - 3.30pm - Room 3B - £5.00 per person
Booking Required
- **Drop-in Crafts**
Tuesday 29th July - 2.00pm - 4.00pm - Children's Library - FREE
- **Mama G Story Time**
Wednesday 30th July - 1.00pm - Library Foyer - FREE - Drop-in
- **Duo Tutti: A Classical Music Concert for Kids and Their Grown-ups**
Thursday 31st July - 2.00pm - 3.00pm - Library Foyer - FREE - Drop-in
- **Summer Bounce & Rhyme - No Stay & Play After**
Thursday 31st July - 10.30am - 11.00am - Room 3B - FREE
Please arrive 10 minutes early to allow time for buggies to get to the top floor.



Libraries Unlimited

BARNSTAPLE LIBRARY

AUGUST SUMMER EVENTS

- **Breakfast & Crafts**
Friday 1st, Friday 8th, Friday 22nd & Friday 29th August
9.30am - 11.00am - Library Foyer - FREE - Drop-in
- **Tiddler Drama Workshop**
Monday 4th August - 10.00am - 12.00pm - Room 3B - £5.00 pp - Booking Required
- **Summer Bounce & Rhymes - No Stay & Play**
Tuesday 5th, Tuesday 12th, Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 27th August
10.30am - 11.00am - Room 3B - FREE
Please arrive 10 minutes early to allow time for buggies to get to the top floor.
- **Drop-in Crafts**
Tuesday 5th, Tuesday 12th, Tuesday 19th & Tuesday 26th August
2.00pm - 4.00pm - Children's Library - FREE
- **Boogie Books Summer Special: Rainbowfish**
Thursday 7th August - Room 3B - 10.30am - 11.30am
Donations Appreciated.
- **Coppice Theatre Presents: How to Catch A Book Witch**
Thursday 28th August - Shows starting at **11.00am & 2.00pm**
£ Per person