

# Orchard Vale's Weekly News

## Friday, 7th February 2022

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



### Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

With 2 more weeks until half term the children and staff are getting quite tired. This is very usual at this time of year with the dark nights and cold weather. Thank you all for your support in getting the children up and to school on time. We often find that once children are in school they pick up and are running around and having fun very quickly.

We have had several parents expressing concern about vehicles obstructing the highway directly outside the school which is putting children at risk. Please see the notice below about where you are allowed to park during drop off and pick up times.

We are really excited to be starting our fundraising for a community defibrillator on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> February. We hope the children will have fun during the organised events through the year and that the community will benefit from the defibrillator once it is installed.

The government is again providing food vouchers for those children who are eligible for benefit related free school meals. Please see page 10 for information regarding half term. If you would like to check to see if your child is entitled to free school meals please click here [Devon Country Council School Meals](#).

The new lunch menu will shortly be available for the spring/summer term. During the cold weather it is nice for children to be able to have a hot meal at lunch time. We have a good selection of warm options through the week – why not try some. Meals cost £2.30 payable on Parentpay and children have the option of a main, vegetarian, school packed lunch or jacket potato – why not sign your child up for one next week.



Fiona Pearce  
Headteacher

## We need your help to keep our children safe!

We are sure you will all agree that the safety of our children and families is of the utmost importance to us all. **Please could we urge our parents/families to put safety first by parking responsibly during drop-off and pick-up times.**

**Please do not park immediately outside the school entrance, within the coned off area or directly opposite this as you are reducing visibility for drivers to see pedestrians who may be crossing the road.**

Where possible you should park in the designated area just past the school after Kingfisher Drive and behind the bollards. If you are unable to park there you are able to park in one of our neighbouring residential roads but please park considerately and do not block driveways or mount the footpath.

Please could we ask you to report any parking or speeding issues to the non-emergency number of 101 or email 101@dc.police.uk.

The Highway Code tells us you must not stop or park in the following locations, except when forced to do so by stationary traffic:

1. Near a school entrance.
2. Anywhere that would prevent access for emergency vehicles.
3. On a bus stop or a taxi rank (please do not obstruct the bus stop opposite the school)
4. Opposite or **within 32 feet of a junction**, except in an authorised parking bay.
5. Opposite another parked vehicle (if it causes an obstruction).
6. Where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair and mobility vehicle users.
7. In front of an entrance to a property.
8. On a bend.
9. Where you would obstruct a cycle lane.
10. A cycle lane during its period of operation.
11. A cycle track.
12. A pedestrian crossing, including the area marked by the zig-zag lines

# Star of the Week

## Key Stage One and Foundation



### Mrs Youll's nomination

Lainie and Aria for showing good settling in and independence.

### Miss Cawthorne and Miss Boundy's nominations

Amber for working hard and being helpful.

Pippa for always working hard and fantastic phonics.



### Mr Quilter's nomination

Mini M is a certainly a deserving star of the week. She is always incredibly kind to everyone and is always being helpful around class. She is a very quirky young lady who makes me smile each and every day.

You are a wonderful, caring, and full of energy. Keep on smashing year 2 Evy, you are ace!

### Mrs Oldfield's nomination

Magda has been working really hard this week with all of her learning. She has been using the phonics displays to help her spell and has shown a real pride in her work.

Magda has been keen to learn about the Lunar New Year and is able to recall facts which she has written in the leaflet she has created.

Well done Magda!



### Mrs Grimwood's nomination

My star of the week is Arlo. Arlo is a quiet and extremely hardworking member of our class. He does not say a lot but he puts such a lot of effort into his learning and produces such high quality products. This week I was especially impressed with his writing in his Chinese New Year leaflet which was beautifully presented with careful spelling. Fabulous! Arlo is also a very accurate mathematician and he does his learning independently and carefully. Arlo is also such a kind hearted and sensitive person which makes him a wonderful friend. I am so impressed with Arlo's hard work and the quiet, unfussy way he takes everything on board. You are amazing, Arlo!

## Years 5 and 6 Netball Team

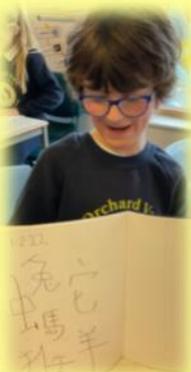
On the Thursday, Mrs May took 8 children to Park Community School to play in a netball tournament. Thank you to Mrs May who stepped in for Mr Ovey. The team played an amazing set of matches and we are all so proud of them coming 6th place out of seven teams.

Well done Years 5 and 6 netball team (Heidi, Florence, Gracie, Kelsey, Joseph, Jorja, Kaito and Harrison)!



## Years 3 and 4—Chinese New Year

Linking to our topic of 'Ancient China', Years 3 and 4 have celebrated Chinese New Year and the turn of the tiger. To celebrate this festival, the children rotated around a range of activities. These included understanding the origin of the dragon and making a hanging craft, researching their own zodiac sign and painting the animals name in Chinese, constructing the Great Wall of China out of Lego and finally learning the skill of ribbon dancing and performance. The children enjoyed the immersive experience and gained an insight into Chinese culture and traditions.



## A celebration of homework



Lexi-Mae's acrostic poem about Barnstaple.



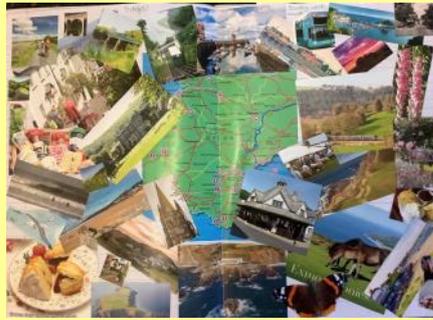
From Key Stage One's

Rainforest topic last term.

Henry, Tahlia, Ronnie.



Sophie's delicious Devon scones.



Lauren's amazing poster about all the exciting things there are to do in our local area.

## Mrs Grimwood's class forest school

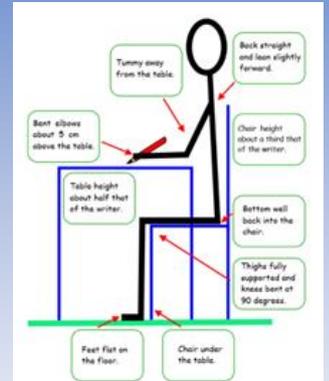


The children in Mrs Grimwood's class loved this little wheelbarrow they found in Forest School. Ben collected wood and the boys collected rubbish!

# Spotlight on Phonics

I hope that many of you have been able to watch some of the videos posted regarding the Read, Write Inc. phonics scheme we have been using. Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in hearing your child read at home.

This week, I am concentrating on how we use our sounds to begin to learn to spell and write. In their groups, the children are encouraged to find a good sitting position (bottoms back in chairs, holding pencil correctly and feet on the floor). Once children are confident with their letter shapes, we look at using our sounds to write words and then simple sentences.



It is always worth checking how your child is holding their pencil – and correct this every time! If your child is struggling to form their letters, please do speak to your child's teacher for some advice – or of course, feel free to approach me directly.

When we begin to spelling a simple word, we start by using our "Fred Talk". Using their own fingers, the child counts how many sounds they hear in the word and raise a finger for each sound. Then, as they say the sounds again, they pinch each finger for every sound that they hear. Only then, they attempt to write each sound in order – checking the pinched finger every time.

## Fred Talk



One common issue is going in the wrong direction. To support your child, check the direction they are counting on their hand. Then, show your child where to start on the page (the left hand side) and show them how to write the sounds in order.

Finally, I cannot stress enough the importance of asking your child to read back their own writing. They need to check it themselves in order to build the link between their reading and writing. This will help your child to learn to focus on their writing and also to give them the ownership of their own writing.

Please enjoy this video which will support your understanding of learning to write.

Good luck!

Mrs Lowrey

[Click link to Read Write Inc—Parent Video—Spelling](#)

Click this link for [Free training for parents / carers who have a child with SEND.](#)

## Extra Non Pupil Day for the Queen's Jubilee

We are pleased to say that we have been allowed an extra non pupil day to be added on to the summer half term.

**Friday, 27 May 2022 will now be a non pupil day.**

## School Diary Dates

Mon, 7th to Fri, 11th Feb

Children's Mental Health Week

Mon, 7th Feb

**Years 5/6**—Girls Football @ Park School

Thurs, 10th Feb

**Year 6**—Rising Stars—Basketball

Mon, 14th Feb

Raise your heart Beat—Wear something red—Defibrillator fundraiser

Wed, 16th Feb

Years 5/6—Science workshop at Park School

Thurs, 17th Feb

**Year 5**—Swimming lessons

Thurs, 17th Feb

School Disco—see poster—KS1, Years 3/4 and Years 5/6

Mon, 21st to Fri, 25th Feb

### HALF TERM WEEK

Thurs, 3rd Mar

World Book Day—Non-Uniform fancy dress  
(Please don't feel you have to go out and buy an outfit.  
What have you got at home already that the children can wear?)

Wed, 9th Mar

Year 4—Tennis Festival—Tarka Tennis

Wed, 9th Mar

KS1—Class 1—visit to Guildhall and tour of Barnstaple

Thurs, 10th Mar

KS1—Class 2—visit to Guildhall and tour of Barnstaple

Wed, 16th Mar

KS1—Class 3—visit to Guildhall and tour of Barnstaple

## Week commencing Monday, 7th February 2022

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
M	Cheese & Ham Pasta Bake	Butchers Sausage, Mash & Gravy	Roast Chicken & Stuffing	Fish Fingers	Beef Bolognaise
V	Quorn Hotdog & Sweet Potato Wedges	Sweet and Sour Quorn Pieces with Rice	Broccoli & Cauliflower Bake	Quorn Nuggets	Roasted Veg. Bolognaise
Sides	Sweetcorn & Fresh Broccoli	Peas & Green Beans	Roast Potatoes, Fresh Sliced Carrots, Cabbage & Gravy	Chips, Tomato Sauce, Peas & Beans	Pasta & Sweetcorn
JP	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna
SPL	Egg Mayo Bap	Cheese Bap	Chicken Bap	Chicken Salad	Sausage Roll
D	Fresh Fruit	Chocolate Cake	Fruit Smoothie	Cookie	Banana Cake

Yoghurts, Fresh Fruit & Bread will be available daily

Gluten free menu available on request



# Orchard Vale

## Raise A Heartbeat Appeal 2022

We are liaising with South West Ambulance Services (SWAS) to purchase a community defibrillator.

Every minute someone is in cardiac arrest, without CPR and access to a defibrillator, their chances of survival drops by up to 10%. Having a public access defibrillator (PAD) available in an emergency can play an important part in saving more lives.

Throughout 2022 we are going to be holding lots of fundraising events to raise the funds for this vital piece of equipment for the community.

### Launch Day!!

### Monday 14 February 2022

**Wear something red to school - 50p** clothing/headwear/hairband/footwear.

**Handmade bracelet £1** - with small heart pendant for your child to purchase (these will be sold during the school day).

**Hanging heart decoration 50p** - Bring your heart decoration in (that will be going home next Wednesday). Parents/carers, please write your child's name on the rear and a heartfelt message on the front. These will be going on display in the school.

**We hope to kick start this appeal by spreading some OV love!**

**A big THANK YOU** to Nina Clark who has made the first donation towards our defibrillator, here is a message from her:

*My family comes with many heart conditions and we have lost several family members over the years due to cardiac arrest. It's an important part of machinery to have"*

Thank you Nina!

**Donations either private or business would be very welcome, please email [orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk).**

# Would you like to learn a new skill?

We are thinking of setting up a small creative group.

Would you be interested in learning a new skill over a cuppa and a natter, please email with your name and mobile number to

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

for the attention of Sue Manley with a heading of "learn new skills".

If we have enough people interested we can take things forward.

You could bring a neighbour, parent or friend.



Orchard Vale's Disco is BACK!!!



Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February

# DISCO

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**School hall**

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Children will need to go home at the end of school and return for the disco.

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Entrance via the Community Room.

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**YEARS 1 and 2      3.30pm – 4.30pm**

**YEARS 3 and 4      4.45pm – 5.45pm**

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**YEARS 5 and 6      6.15pm – 7.15pm**

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**COST £2.50**

per child (includes a drink and sweets)

Payment to be made via Parent Pay

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Please note that a responsible adult **MUST** meet your child after the disco.

Please could you click on the link below to advise who will collect your child.

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

**Parentkind**  
Member Association

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

## **February half-term 2022**

### **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 February half-term.

You should receive £15 per child for the February break. These vouchers can be used at the following stores: Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrison's, Asda, Aldi, M&S Food and Waitrose to purchase food over the half term holidays to replace the meals your child would have received at school during the day. Please note that Tesco/Morrisons/ALDI vouchers can only be used in-store.

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.

Please note that these codes expire on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Once this date has passed, the scheme will expire, and we will not be backdating any payments.

### **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 lots of experience 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.

### **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 break and haven't used it to get your supermarket vouchers via Black Hawk's 'Select' website yet, please do so by Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Once this date has passed, the scheme will expire, and we will not be backdating any payments.**

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 [devon.cc/holidayvouchers](http://devon.cc/holidayvouchers) or [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 [devon.cc/support](http://devon.cc/support) or [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.

# Updated guidance from the government

## Self-isolation, PCR and LFD testing

### Child exhibits Covid-19 symptoms

If your child has any of the Covid-19 symptoms, even if they are mild, they should stay at home and self-isolate straight away. They should book a PCR test (a test that is sent to a lab), to check if they have COVID-19 as soon as possible. They should stay at home to self-isolate and not have visitors until you get their test result.

### Awaiting a PCR test result

If you have been advised to book a PCR Test for your child but they are not exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms, they can attend school whilst you await the PCR test results.

If your child has any COVID-19 symptoms they should self-isolate until results are known and then follow Track and Trace Advice.

### Close contacts

All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating.

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 will help protect education settings by reducing transmission and will also help keep pupils in face-to-face education.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all pupils should:

- Take a LFD every day for 7 days.
- Report the results through the Online Reporting System at [www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result)
- Report to the school via the form below. **Please report one child per Form.**

[CLICK HERE to complete to report your child's LFD results to school](#)

In certain circumstances Track and Trace may advise you to book a PCR test.

### If your child tests positive with a PCR test

If your child tests positive for Covid-19 with a PCR or LFD test they will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on 2 consecutive days as follows:

Please advise the school office of the results, when your child's self-isolation started and is due to finish.

- On Day 5 they should take a LFD test.  
(Do not take a LFD before Day 5. The second test must be the following day).
- On Day 6 they should take a LFD test.
- If **both** LFD are negative and they do not have a temperature your child may end their self-isolation, after the second negative LFD test result returning to school on Day 6.

All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#)

If the results of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

If your child is under 5 years old and they are unable to take a LFD test they will need to isolate for 10 days.

If your child is unable to take a LFD test, for whatever reason, or continues to have a temperature they will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.



### **Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 8th February 2022:**

This week, the digital leaders, along with Mr Boulton, introduced Safer Internet Day 2022 in the KS2 assembly. We talked about the correct ages for different apps and what is appropriate for us to say or do online. We are now looking forward to even more E-Safety learning on Safer Internet Day in school on Tuesday 8th February.

We have also attached a new monthly newsletter, based on keeping children safe on the Internet. This will hopefully give you top tips and information on what apps are current and trending, as well as what you can do to support at home. Hopefully this will be really useful, especially after new devices over Christmas!



**CAROL ANNE  
NETBALL CLUB**

## Half Term Netball Camp

A fun filled session led by qualified Netball Coaches.

**Wednesday 23rd February 2022**  
**10-12pm for U9s in Year 3/4**

Suitable for new and experienced players



Closing date: 16th Feb

Scan the QR code or use the link below to book and for further details!

**SCAN ME!**

<https://forms.gle/KmGxUvdmYsQkjQ6u5>

Price as follows:

£6.50 for non CA Netball Club members

£4 for current CA Club members



**Email:** [carolannejuniors@gmail.com](mailto:carolannejuniors@gmail.com)

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



# JUNIOR BAKE OFF

...IS LOOKING FOR THE UK'S  
BEST YOUNG BAKERS

AGED 9 - 12



**WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK**

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE**  
**SUNDAY 13TH MARCH 2022**

**Enquiries:**

[applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk](mailto:applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk)

**COOL TO BE ACTIVE...  
FUN TO BE FIT**



## **PILTON INFANTS PRIMARY SCHOOL ACTIVITY DAYS – FEBRUARY HALF TERM**

Mr Sutton, Mr Poole & Mr Allan from Primary Sports and Education will be running holiday camps in February half term at Pilton Infants school for 4-11-year olds between 8.30am and 3.30pm. The dates are as follows:

### **DATES:**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022**

Children will have the opportunity to take part in independent activities throughout the day including Sports, Dance, Music, Arts and Crafts and plenty more. There will be individual games at the end of each activity. Primary Sports have ensured that social distancing measures are in place which work alongside the requirements from the Department for Education.

**8.30am to 3.30pm - £16 per child**

To make a booking please follow the instructions below:

- 1 – Enter our website – [www.primary-sports.co.uk](http://www.primary-sports.co.uk)
- 2 – Click on the "Booking now tab"
- 3 – Click on the "PILTON INFANTS FEBRUARY HOLIDAY CAMPS" tab
- 4 – Complete the online booking form

[Facebook.com/primarysports](https://www.facebook.com/primarysports)  
[Twitter.com/primarysportsgb](https://twitter.com/primarysportsgb)



All bookings are NON-refundable unless the camp is cancelled due to circumstances out of Primary Sports control.

### **PRIMARY SCHOOL – FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CAMPS**

All coaches present will have a clean DBS through Primary Sports. We ask to make sure that children's belongings are in a labelled bag and that they bring their own pencil case.

All equipment will be provided; children are expected to wear suitable PE Clothing and daps/trainers and provide their own packed lunch with a drink. Warm/wet weather gear and a towel are also advised. It is the responsibility of parents to make sure that inhalers are brought with the child and that the coaches are informed of medical conditions.

All the sporting activities that are listed below could result in children being injured. Primary Sports and Education will accept no liability. Children must bring SHIN PADS if they would like to take part in Football

For queries, please contact Jamie Sutton on: 07597127982

E-mail: [jamie@primary-sports.co.uk](mailto:jamie@primary-sports.co.uk)

Tel: 07597127982

[www.primary-sports.co.uk](http://www.primary-sports.co.uk)

T: 0757 697 9202

E: [marcus@primary-sports.co.uk](mailto:marcus@primary-sports.co.uk)

Reg. Co. Name: Primary Sports and Education (Somerset) Ltd

Reg. Address: 21 Town Close, Stogursey TAS TRN

Company No: 7143002

# **LIMITLESS T-SHIRTS**



## **CUSTOM PRINTED T-SHIRTS**

One of these heavy blend cotton custom print t-shirts could be yours for as little as £15.

I will also be donating £5 from every sale to Orchard Vale Community School to fund new Gym/School equipment!

**TO PRE ORDER PLEASE GO TO  
LIMITLESS.SUMUP.LINK**

*Upon ordering please add name you wish to be printed into the FIRST NAME section box along with your name. Thank you everyone for the continued support and I personally hope your children are enjoying the Parkour afterschool club.*