

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 4th July 2025

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@thsp.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Guardians

We have had another busy week in school; on Monday, we had children taking part in junior lifeguard/surfing lessons, our PE Leaders visited Somerset Cricket Grounds in Taunton to watch Somerset -v- Hampshire and today a group of children attended Wimbledon.

We have been trying to keep cool in this hot weather and children have been sensible in wearing hats and applying suncream, when needed. Thank you for encouraging your children to take on additional fluids. They are always welcome to refill their water bottles at school, and we keep a small supply of squash if anyone needs it.

Next Monday, to support data protection, we are using Arbor for the first time to send your child's school report to you. As this is all new to us, please excuse any hiccups or delays in sending. We are looking forward to welcoming you all to parents' evenings next week where we will be discussing your child's progress over the year and which classes they will be going into in September. If you haven't already booked a meeting with your class teacher you can do so using your Arbor parent login.

We have a few staff changes this term; we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Ledger who is moving to another Trust school. Mrs Johnson will be moving to years 5 and 6 with Mr Whapham, joining Miss Williams. Mrs Scott will be moving to Years 3 and 4 and will be joined by Mrs Grimwood and Mr Bayliss. Miss Tillman and Miss Huxtable will be remaining in Years 1 and 2. Mrs Oldfield will continue to teach a Reception/Year 1 class while the Reception class and Nursery will remain the same. After your child has found out which teacher they will be having, we have planned some transitions sessions for them before the end of term.

Finally, the School Council have organised a non-uniform day for Friday 11th July. Children are encouraged to wear beach/summer (t-shirts, short, dresses) to reflect our Summer Vibes theme. The School Council will talk to the children about this on Monday.



Have an amazing weekend, let's hope the rain moves over Devon quickly.

Fiona Pearce,
Headteacher

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.

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.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mrs Youll's class

Maisie for using her imagination whilst taking part in craft and role play activities and initiating some super games with her peers.

Mrs Oldfield's class

My star of the week is Nora. Over the past week many different adults have been to see me to tell me how amazing Nora is. Mrs Owen is blown away by her determination and effort in phonics. Mrs Quilter was amazed with the confidence and skills she showed in maths this week, when working on division and the ways we can solve questions using representation. I am impressed with how much more confidence she is showing in writing, recognising set three sounds and writing more than one sentence to describe her drawing. On top of all of this I continue to hear about how helpful, kind and wonderful she is to teach from the rest of the KS1 team. Well done, Nora, I know you are super proud to be star of the week this week, and so you should be. This is much deserved. Mrs Oldfield x

Miss Cawthorne/Mrs De-Ritis' class

Our star of the week is Harry. Everyone who works with Harry has noticed how hard he is working lately. Harry's attitude towards his learning has been fantastic. Harry has transformed his listening on the carpet and it is great to have him contributing to whole class discussion. Harry has also done some fantastic independent writing this week. Great work Harry, keep it up for Year One.

Mr Quilter's class

This week, we are thrilled to celebrate **Leighton** as our Star of the Week! He has been working incredibly hard on his handwriting, carefully forming each letter with precision and pride. His writing is becoming neater and more consistent every day — a true reflection of his effort and determination. What's even more impressive is how he's been holding a full sentence in his head before writing it down. He is ensuring to say his sentence aloud and use his sound mats to help him with his spelling. Leighton is slowly gaining confidence in himself and in his abilities, which has been wonderful to see. We also want to celebrate how kind and caring Leighton is to everyone within his class. He is always trying to help others, boost them up when they are feeling down and overall likes to ensure everyone is happy. We are so proud of you, Leighton! Keep up the amazing work. - Miss Tillman x

Miss Huxtable's class

My star of the week is Alex. Alex has a real bounce in his step this week and has come in everyday eager to learn. Alex has a real determination to improve and loves to succeed. Alex has been working hard to respond to instructions in the right way and he has been helpful and listens well. In English this week, Alex wowed me with his writing. The beginning of his story really set the scene. He used amazing description and the progress he has made this year is really evident. It was lovely to see him so proud of himself! Alex's handwriting is also fantastic and he is shaping up to be a fantastic little writer. Alex, keep up the good work! Miss H x

Mrs Grimwood's class

My star of the week is Aria. I am so impressed with the way Aria has grown in confidence. She has done particularly well this week in her phonics and is reading our book with lovely fluency and flow. Aria is really progressing in her writing and her maths as well. Aria was a very quiet member of our class and it has been wonderful to see her finding her voice more and seeming really excited about new things and everything that is going on around her. She was a complete star in our sports practice to boot! Aria, it is brilliant to see you at this fabulous point in your learning! You are a star!



STARS OF THE TERM

Mr Bayliss' class

Ellie-Mai has had a lovely week and is a polite and respectful member of our class. She always listens carefully, follows our classroom expectations, and sets a brilliant example for others. Ellie-Mai is thoughtful and kind to both her classmates and adults, and her positive attitude really helps make our classroom a great place to be. Well done, Ellie-Mai, keep being your wonderful self!

Mrs Johnson's class

Matilda has really impressed me this week with her positive attitude and choices. She is learning how to manage her playtimes successfully and has had a lovely week! In class she has also been showing me how much she can focus by writing a lovely piece and including some interesting word choices. I can see that you are getting ready for the move up to Year 5 Matilda and I am so proud of how far you've come. Keep up the good work!

Mr Whapham's class

My star of the week is Heidi. Heidi is a great all-rounder, who tries her best in all aspects of school. She tries hard in her learning and always aims to produce great examples of work. She has impressed me this week with her writing, carefully editing her work to improve it independently. She has shown great maturity in understanding the importance of learning. Heidi has also worked hard on keeping her friendships positive this week and has been enjoying her playtimes! Well done.

Mrs Ledger's class

My star of the week is Theo C. I have really noticed this week that Theo is ready to listen at the right times, and is able to get on with his work independently, without fuss. He is a good influence on the people around him, and has been great at managing his distractions and focussing when it is needed; he demonstrates a great attitude, ready for Year 6. Well done Theo, keep it up!

Miss Williams' class

This week, our Star of the Week is George, who has completely impressed me with his confidence, effort, and attitude. George has been working hard on his swimming all year, but over the past few weeks — and especially this week — he's shown incredible determination. He's listened carefully to feedback, taken it on board, and pushed himself to improve. The moment that made me the proudest was when George jumped into the deep end and swam a full 25 metres *completely unaided!* That's something that didn't feel possible not so long ago, and it's a real testament to how far he's come. On top of that, George was amazing at surfing this week. He threw himself into it, had so much fun, and really made the most of every moment. It's been fantastic to see George enjoying school, growing in confidence, and showing what he's capable of. Well done, George — you are a true star!

Mrs Scott's class

Sofia is my star this week, in recognition of her continued effort throughout this year, as well as her just being a fantastic human! I have greatly enjoyed teaching Sofia this year - watching her grow and progress - and she is just a star. Well done, Sofia; keep it up!

PE Leaders—Somerset –v– Hampshire Cricket

On Monday, our 13 PE Leaders from year 6 were fortunate enough to visit Taunton to watch day 2 of the County Championship Cricket game, Somerset vs Nottinghamshire.

The children watched some amazing top level cricket, as well as being able to take part in different activities running around the stadium.

They were lucky enough to meet some players. Emmie and Ala were very lucky to have some match worn cricket gloves given to them by batsmen Tom Banton.

A great day all round.



Junior Lifeguards/Surfing

On Monday a group of Years 5 and 6 children travelled to Putsborough Beach to enjoy a day of surfing and lifeguarding activities.

It was a lovely sunny day, the children were all keen to get in the water!

They played lots of team games, learnt about water safety and how to control the surfboard, then had lots of fun "rescuing" each other from the sea!

After lunch and drying off, everyone enjoyed some races on the beach, before heading back to school.

A fantastic fun-packed day!



School Diary Dates

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 (bookable by parents on Arbor)
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 (bookable by parents on Arbor)
Thur, 10th July	Y6 Park Induction Day
Thur, 10th July	Y6 Park school Parent induction evening
Fri, 11th July	Y6 Park Induction Day
Fri, 11th July	Non Uniform Day— wear beach/summer (t-shirts, short, dresses)
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 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, 7th July

Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options



LUNCH MENU – WEEK 2

28th April – 19th May – 16th June – 7th July – 1st & 22nd Sept. – 13th Oct

Available Every Week - Wholemeal Bread, Salad Bar, Fruit, Low Fat Yoghurts, Milk and Water available daily. All Special Diets catered for.



A guiding light for education

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Mac Cheese with Garlic Bread	Chicken, Ham & Leek Pie	Roast Chicken & Stuffing	Salmon Nuggets	Beef Lasagne with Crusty Bread 
		Cheese Pizza Baguettes	Lentil Loaf	Vegetable Nuggets	Cheese & Red Onion Wheel with Tomato Pasta
	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings		Jacket Potato with Various Fillings	
	Egg & Cress Sandwich (Wholemeal Bread)	Ham Sandwich (Wholemeal Bread)	Tuna Bap	Cheese Sandwich (Wholemeal Bread)	Sausage Roll 
	Peas or Salad	Homemade Wedges, Mixed Vegetables or Salad	Roast or Mash Potato, Fresh Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy	Chips or Pasta, Corn on Cob or Salad & Tomato Ketchup	Sweetcorn or Salad
	Fruit Smoothie	Fresh Fruit Platter	Pineapple Cake	Cookie & Juice	Chocolate & Blueberry Cake 

Reading Road Champions
Years 1 and 2
Congratulations
to:

Reuben P
For completing 75 reads

Jesse Louie
For completing 100reads

Eliza
For completing 200reads

Cleaning positing at Orchard Vale

Orchard Vale Community School is looking to recruit a cleaner to start as soon as all recruitment checks are complete. The successful candidate must have cleaning experience, and we are seeking someone who is hardworking and reliable.

This is a part time permanent position working 12 hours per week Monday to Friday, between 3.36pm to 6pm. It is a 41-week contract, which includes a 1-week clean in the Easter holidays and a 2-week clean in the summer holidays.

[Click here to apply online](#)



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.](#)



Our outcomes framework for Sea Cadets:

We developed a framework to help us map our impact for young people. It means we can explain more clearly why we do what we do and how we achieve positive outcomes for young people.

Experience	Intermediate outcomes	Long-term benefits
What is offered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adventure & challenge Progressive training Personal development Competitions & events 	Life skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motivation Self confidence Leadership Teamwork Communication Citizenship Innovation 	Attendance & engagement in school
What makes it special <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nautical focus Customs & traditions of the Royal Navy Breadth of activities & experiences with opportunities to specialise 	Values <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect Loyalty Self discipline Commitment Honesty & integrity 	Improved post 16 destinations/ labour market participation
What is the cadet experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive relationships Sense of belonging & identity Inspirational 	Qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internally accredited Externally accredited (BTEC, DofE & national governing body) 	Long-term wellbeing
		Reduced risky/ problem behaviours
		Increased participation in communities

NORTH DEVON




JAN FLEMING'S CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG JR.

Monday 4th to Friday 8th August
Ages 9 to 13 years | 9am to 5pm each day
Performances: 8th August @ 5pm/7:30pm

To book, contact:
tolley.angell@yahoo.co.uk



SEA CADETS BARNSTAPLE

JOIN SEA CADETS!

For Adventure, new skills and lifelong friends

Barnstaple Sea Cadets has spaces for new young people with a sense of adventure to join us!

What could you get up to?

- Leadership & team-building
- Outdoor adventures & camps
- Learn first aid & life skills
- Rowing, powerboating & sailing
- And so much more!

If you're aged 10+ and want to try something new, Sea Cadets offers a fun, confidence-building environment where young people thrive!

To find out more and get your free taster night, contact us via email or visit our website to see more about what you will do in Sea Cadets!

E: seacadetsbarnstaple@gmail.com

f /barnstaplescc
sea-cadets.org/barnstaple



FERDINAND COLLECTIVE HUBS RECORD

FC DEVON

FOOTBALL HOLIDAY CLUB

Join us this summer for fun filled days of football games, competitions & prizes
Girls & Boys / All abilities
Ages 5 - 15 years

Every Tuesday ,Wednesday & Thursday
Starting on 29/7 until 28/8 | 9am - 4pm
TARKA LEISURE CENTRE, BARNSTAPLE

Use discount code RYB357

Weds 30 July, 6, 13, 20 & 27 August | 9am - 4pm
KINGSLEY SCHOOL, BIDEFORD

10% OFF

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

2025
SUMMER HOLIDAYS
10am - 2pm

Cook stars
for 5-11 year olds plus

DEVON H A F
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FUN

5 - 11 YEARS

LOTS OF FUN!!
SUMMER CLUB

DEVON SCIENCE

LET'S GO

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

Ferdinand Collective

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
- **Wizfloor 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 870092. To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk

Libraries Unlimited

THE SUMMER BOOK QUEST

Dive into a **Deep Sea Adventure** with Pip, Zena and Libo 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