

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Thursday, 21st October 2021

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope the children are looking forward to the half term break - don't forget that tomorrow, Friday, 22nd October, is a non-pupil day.

The children have done so well reaching the end of this half term. They have settled beautifully into the school routines and remembering expectations while trying to stay safe with the increased hygiene. There is still some work to do in terms of catching up with gaps in learning but all children are showing great attitudes to their learning and their work and this will go a long way to filling these gaps as quickly as we can. We are all so proud of all their achievements so far and I know we have a brilliant school year ahead of us if we are able to sustain this.

Thank you all for your help in keeping Covid-19 cases at OV down to a minimum. Please could we ask you to continue calling 119 for advice should your child exhibit any Covid symptoms. They will advise you if you need to book a PCR test. We will continue to encourage the children to practice good hygiene whilst in school.

Upon our return, on 1st November, please could we ask for your help in keeping our children safe when they have been handed over to you at the end of school. Please could you encourage the children to leave the school site promptly and sensibly, watching out for cars when crossing the road, not climbing on the tree in the turning circle and not playing on anything that isn't designated play equipment.

Orchard Vale Community Group

We are pleased to say that the new PTA has now been set up under the name of Orchard Vale Community Group. The monthly Tuck Shops will be starting again on Wednesday, 3rd November. During morning break children will be able to buy a treat in the Food Technology Room. If you would be interested in helping run any fundraising events please email orchardvalecommunitygroup@ventrus.org.uk.

Parent Consultations

During the week commencing 8th November we will be holding our Parent Consultations which will aim to let you know how your child has settled in to the Autumn term. For children in Years 1 to 6 these will take place via your child's Teams account and will last for 5 minutes. If you would like to discuss things in more detail your class teacher will be able to arrange another appointment with you.

Nursery and Reception meetings will be in the outside play areas.

Please could you log into your Parent Portal account, on Arbor, and book your timeslot.

School Council

We had a fantastic response from children across the school to become School Council members. Out of the 60 applicants we have now selected our 12 School Council Members. Well done everyone.

Early Bird Breakfast Club and OV Explorers after school provision

We have had a wonderful response to our breakfast club and after school provisions and will be extending them until Christmas. If you would like to apply for a place for your child, please contact the school office who will provide you with a link to a form in order to register your requirements.

Fiona Pearce
Headteacher



Parent Consultations

You will shortly be receiving an email inviting you to log onto the Parent Portal to book a Parent Consultation with your child's class teacher during the week commencing 8th November.



Years 1 to 6—these consultations will be held online via your child's Teams account.

They are scheduled for 5 minutes and will purely talk with your about how your child has settled in this term.

Nursery and Reception—these consultations will be in person and will be held in the garden area outside the classroom.



If you have anything to discuss with your teacher which is likely to take longer than the time slot allocated please mention this to them during the consultation and they will arrange a date when you could have a more in-depth discussion.

If you are having difficulty with the Parent Portal please contact the school office by email on orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk

School Diary Dates

Mon, 25th-Fri, 29th Oct

HALF TERM WEEK

(back at school Mon, 1st Nov)

Wed, 3rd Nov

Tuck Shop 9.30am to 10.30am

Thurs, 4th Nov

Year 6 Swimming Lessons

Mon, 8th Nov

Years 5 and 6 Queen's Theatre Tour

Wed, 10th Nov

Bratton Fleming Cross Country—KS2 Team

Thurs, 11th Nov

Year 6 Swimming Lessons

Thurs, 11th Nov

Armistice Day - Minute silence in school

Fri, 12th Nov

Children's Remembrance Parade

Thurs, 18th Nov

Year 6 Swimming Lessons

Fri, 19th Nov

Year 5 and 6 Into Film Festival

Tue, 23rd Nov

Year 6—Rising Stars—Gymnastics Day

Thurs, 25th Nov

Year 6 Swimming Lessons

Wed, 1st Dec

Tuck Shop - 9.30am to 10.30am

Thurs, 2nd Dec

Year 6 Swimming Lessons

Fri, 3rd Dec

Virgin Health Care - Flu Vaccinations

(Reception to Year 6)

Fri, 3rd Dec

Choir Carol Singing at Residential Homes

Tue, 7th Dec

Whole School Christmas Dinner

Thur, 9th Dec

Year 6 Swimming Lessons

Fri, 10th Dec

Xmas Jumper Day - donations in aid of Edukid

Wed, 15th Dec

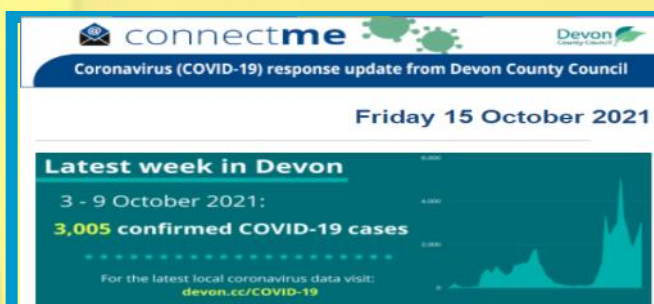
Cinderella Panto at Queen's Theatre

Mon, 20th Dec to Mon,
3rd Jan

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Tues, 4th Jan

First Day of Spring Term.



Devon County Council Connect Me

[Click link to read update dated 15th October 2021](#)

WANTED



It's that time of year when we are thinking of planting bulbs. We would like to brighten up the school grounds and outdoor areas of Key Stage 1.

Asda have kindly donated a small number of bulbs. However, it would be lovely if we could get lots more. If you would like to donate any type of flower bulbs, please place these in the box outside the school office for the attention of Mrs Manley.

*We need your
help!*

*Have you got any
unwanted gifts
which we could
recycle?*

*If so, could you
please pop them
into the box near
the school office.*

Can you help?

We are in the process of planning to re-develop the outside play areas of both the Nursery and Reception classes.

We are looking for the following:

Saucepans, cake trays, colanders, metal and wooden spoons/spatulas.

Bottle tops.

Corks.

Buttons.

Old tyres.

Lengths of copper pipe.

Feather edging fencing.



Here are just a few of our ideas!!

If you can help us in any way please contact Sue Manley via the school office. Thank you.

TARKA

TENNIS CENTRE

SCHOOLS COACHING FREE LESSON

Thank you taking part in our free session at School!
We'd like to offer you another free lesson at Tarka

Red Tennis 4-8 years
Mondays 16:00-17:00
Tuesdays 16:00-17:00
Saturdays 10:00-11:00
Saturdays 11:00-12:00

Orange Tennis 8-9 years
Monday 16:00-17:00
Tuesdays 17:00-18:00
Saturday 10:00-11:00
Saturday 11:00-12:00

Contact us
01271 377701

LeisureCentre.com

Barnstaple Amateur Boxing Club Presents

BARNSTAPLE BOXING



Saturday 6th November 2021
Doors open 7pm - Boxing Starts 7.30pm

Venue: Barnstaple Rugby Club

Pottington Road, Barnstaple, Devon. EX31 1JH Tel: 01271 345627

Ticket price £10.00 per ticket

Under 16's £5.00 per ticket

Tickets can be picked up from:
The Barnstaple Amateur Boxing Club
The Corner House • Big Baps at Pottington

Design & Print by: nwcs
or: robwey@nwcs.co.uk
w: nwcs.co.uk





Looking for activities
to do with your kids
over half term?

Create some Fabulous Family Memories with our Family Cookery Challenge...

Time to Cook are running their third Family Challenge. We've had such good feedback from the first two we thought that it was about time to run another!

The challenge is completely free and is designed to keep your kids busy and to help them to make memories in the kitchen.

**It starts on Monday
25th October**



sign up here

Once you've signed up, let us know on the comments on our [facebook page here...](#)
we cannot wait to get started!!

First Prize!
3 month subscription
to the Time to Cook
Busy Box*

with loads of other amazing
prizes to announce too!

INFANTS | JUNIORS | ADVANCED

Find out more about our clubs >

*Usual price for the first three months is £50.00

FREE Halloween trail and craft activities.



Visit during October half term to join in the fun.

The School Reading List

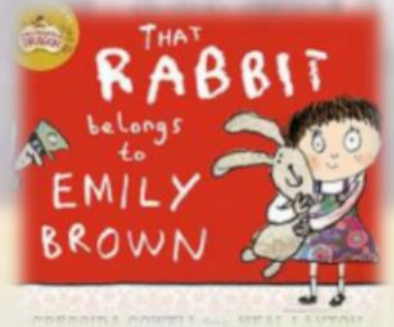
We recommend children's books and YA books to teachers, UK curriculum primary and secondary schools, parents, home-educators and tutors of children aged 3-18.



Click below for recommended books for

Early Years Foundation Stage

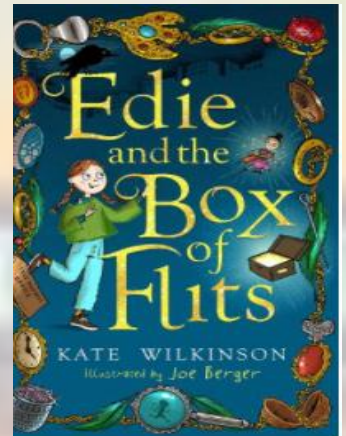
Reception



Year 1

Year 2

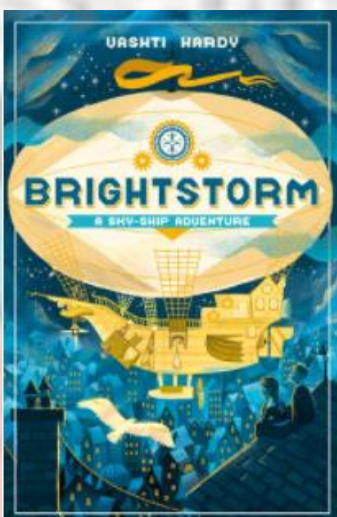
Year 3



Year 4

Year 5

Magazines for children and teenagers



Northam Burrow Rangers have been busy putting the finishing touches to some exciting and free Half-Term activities at Northam Burrows suitable for young and old alike.

Running from dawn to dusk from Saturday 23rd to Sunday 31st October there will be a Spooky Half Term Halloween Adventure Trail. The trail is self-guided discovery from a map below or collected from the visitor's centre - then simply head outdoors to the Burrows to find creepy creatures and strange sculptures marked on the map. Solve the clues to reveal the secret words. (poster attached)

Halloween themed craft activities will also be available in the visitor centre every day from 10am to 5pm.

We have also (mostly) been fortunate with the weather for recent school groups who have visited the Burrows for field trips including autumn rock pooling, coastal explorer trails and outdoor art. We are still happy to lead school trip over the winter months but can only take a maximum of 30 children (rather than our maximum of 60 children in summer time) on each trip.

Kind regards,
Rose
Deputy Ranger
Northam Burrows Country Park

**FREE Halloween trail and
craft activities.**



**Visit during October half
term to join in the fun.**



1 _ 2 _ 3 _ 4 _ 5 _ 6 _ 7 _ 8 _ 9 _

Halloween junior parkrun



Calling all children 4 to 14 years.

Why not join the Junior Park Run.

This is a 2K event for juniors only.

Held every Sunday at 9am.

At Rock Park, New Road, Barnstaple,

North Devon EX32 9AQ.

These events are free but you do need to register ([click to register](#)) before your first visit.

Only register with parkrun once.

Don't forget to bring a printed copy of your barcode.

Get registered in time for the Halloween event on

Sunday, 31st October.

Children can run in fancy dress.



**Well done to Mila-Rose
who took part in the Great South Run!**