

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 28th February 2025

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Guardians

What a wonderful week back after half term. We hope you are well rested and enjoyed some precious time with family and friends.

It has been delightful seeing the sun starting to shine and the daffodils on the turning circle appearing - the first and most welcome signs of spring!

The children have come back full of enthusiasm and into the full swing of learning. We have another busy half term so please do keep an eye on the newsletter for key dates and check for updates on Teams and Tapestry accounts.

Next week, we are excited to be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 6th March. There are no expectations to go out and buy outfits for this event. As taken from the World Book Day website:

'We champion the fun of reading, because it seriously improves lives. Reading for fun is the single biggest indicator that a child will grow up to enjoy a happier and more successful life – more than their family circumstances, their parents' educational backgrounds or their income. But here's the challenge, it's at an all-time low, with only 1 in 3 children now saying they enjoy reading. We believe children are more likely to read if they enjoy it, so we're on a mission to encourage them to see reading as an entertaining, social and fun thing to do. We want more children to grow up with a life-long, life-changing habit of reading for fun, and all the benefits this brings.'

To join in with World Book Day, you can choose to dress up (completely optional), bring and share your favourite book, make a model scene of your favourite part of a book or draw your favourite character.

In addition to this, the Extreme Reading Challenge is now open! Please submit your entries of reading in a safe yet exciting/unusual place via teams or email the school office. Pictures will be shared in assembly and prizes will be awarded. We cannot wait to see the variety of exciting places you may read!

Have a lovely weekend and see you on Monday.



Fiona Pearce
Headteacher

World Book Day 2025 Thursday, 6th March

We celebrate World Book Day in school supporting the charity's mission to change lives through a love of books and reading.

This year's theme is 'Read Your Way'.

Children can choose to do 1 or all of these activities if they wish.

- Dress up as your favourite character.
- Draw your favourite character and share this on World Book Day.
- Make your favourite scene from a book and share this on World Book Day (this can be junk modelled or crafted in anyway.)

In the afternoon classes will be paired with a different class to read and share stories.

Extreme Reading Challenge

We will be running the 'Extreme Reading Challenge'.

Children can have photos taken of them reading a book somewhere unusual, bizarre or extreme.

Post these photos on Teams or email them to orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk

Prizes will be handed out in a celebratory assembly.

Closing date is Thursday, 6th March.

Access to books

Getting a free £1 book for your child is easy.

Take your £1 book token to your nearest bookseller

and swap it for World Book Day £1 book

OR

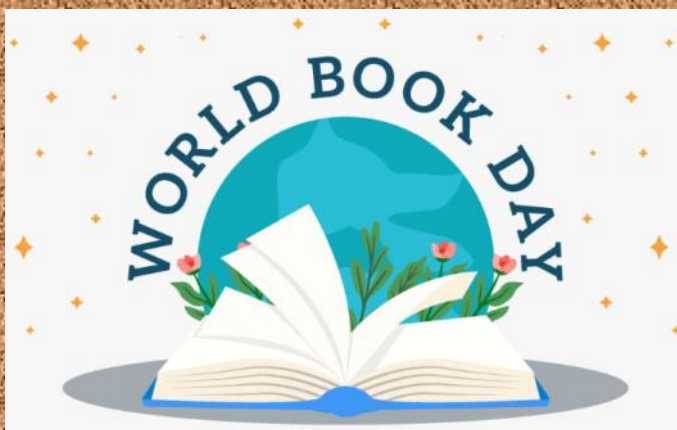
Use it to get £1 off ANY book/audiobook costing £2.99 or more.

You can find your nearest bookseller at:

[Participating retailers - World Book Day](#)

Check out [World Book Day—For Families](#) for more things to do at home.

We're very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day,



Change to online payment method

From the end of April this year we will be moving our online payment system for meals, trips, breakfast and afterschool provision etc. over to the Arbor App.



The advertisement for the Arbor App & Portal features a smartphone displaying the app's interface. The phone screen shows a 'Meals Balance' of -£4.00, a 'Summer Term Total Payments' of £18.00, and a 'Week beginning 13 May 2019' of £9.00. To the right of the phone, the text 'Arbor App & Portal' is displayed next to a logo consisting of three overlapping circles in orange, green, and yellow. Below the phone, there are icons for Google Pay and Apple Pay, and a speech bubble that says 'No more forms!'. A list of features is provided to the right of the phone.

Make payments on the go

Arbor App & Portal

- View your child's Timetable, Clubs and Attendance
- Pay for School Meals
- Update your details
- Receive instant messages
- Sign up to trips and after-school clubs

No more forms!

Google Pay Card payments
Apple Pay

Parent Pay will not be accessible to you after 30th April.

Please ensure you have activated your Arbor App so that you are ready to go when the payment option goes live.

Please could we ask you to bring all outstanding balances for meals, childcare provision, Little Seeds and Nursery fees up-to-date on Parent Pay before this change over.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mrs Youll's class

Daisy for using her iPad and for beginning to engage in Mr Ovey's PE lesson.

Mrs Oldfield's class

Lillie has really impressed us this week with her extra effort and confidence in English and phonics. Lillie is joining all the dots together and has been writing some fantastic sentences using adjectives. Lillie is showing such confidence, that she is even helping others on her table to use phonics sounds they are unfamiliar with, such kindness is a wonderful thing to see. Well done for all your hard work Lillie, keep it up. You are a super star!
Mrs Oldfield

Miss Cawthorne/Mrs De-Ritis' class

Spencer is our star of the week. Spencer has been working really hard at listening and joining his friends on the carpet. Spencer is showing lots of enthusiasm with his phonics and is making great progress. Spencer has also been being a kind friend. Well done Spencer, you are a superstar.

Mr Quilter's class

My star of the week is Charles. AGAIN!!! Charles certainly deserves to be star of the week for a second time. He works incredibly hard in school and because of this he is making such amazing progress with his learning. He is smashing his timetables test each week and is now on the mixed 2s, 5s and 10s. I fully anticipate him passing this quickly and moving on to more challenging timetables. The main reason I have chosen Charles this week is because he has shown me that he is a writer. His writing 'stamina' has been excellent this week, where he is now writing more. Whilst writing more he hasn't forgotten the basics, and his work has remained accurate. Super job Charles! Mr Q x

Miss Huxtable's class

My star of the week is Mason. Mason is a gentle and kind presence in our classroom, always doing the right thing at the right time. Outside during break times is where he really comes to life, where he is the king of the basketball court! Mason likes to feel in control and know where he stands during the school day, but he has been working hard to build his resilience, and we have really seen his confidence growing this term. In his learning, Mason is an excellent mathematician and enjoys working with numbers. Mason has been flying with his writing this term too, where he has worked hard to put more pressure on the page. Mason's imagination is flourishing, and he is becoming more confident thinking outside the box. Best of all, he is finding real enjoyment in writing - especially when he gets to write about basketball! You are brilliant, Mason! Well done.

Mrs Grimwood's class

My star of the week is Aria. Aria is a wonderful member of our class, and she works hard every day. She is diligently producing brilliant learning, and she is consistent and resilient in her efforts. Aria has been doing fabulously with her phonics and her reading is going from strength to strength. I have also been so impressed with Aria's maths this week. She is making connections, and her mental maths is very quick and accurate. Also Aria has had some strong ideas for her story and she is producing lovely writing. Aria is a super learner, and I am thrilled to see how her learning is driving forward. We are so proud of you, Aria. Keep doing this cracking learning!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mr Bayliss' class

Dexter has been more independent this week, taking initiative in his learning and working well in a group. He has put lots of effort into his English project, showing a strong commitment to creating high-quality work. Despite finding some of the tasks challenging this week, Dexter has worked hard to stay calm and persevere, demonstrating great resilience and determination. Well done, Dexter! Keep up the fantastic work!

Mrs Johnson's class

My Star of the Week is Luke. Luke has been an absolute star this week, coming back from the half term break ready to learn. He hasn't found it easy recently to come in in the mornings but has been brave, summoned a smile, and entered the classroom with a positive attitude each day. Luke has been working really hard this year as a year 4; he has improved his concentration and tries hard in all of his lessons, producing some lovely writing in particular. This week he has been writing a fact file about a country of his choice, writing two paragraphs! Luke, you are such a funny, kind boy and I love how enthusiastic you are. keep up the hard work - you are doing so well and we are all proud of you!

Mr Whapham's class

My star of the week is Scarlett! Scarlett has had a really great week, showing the adults within class how hard she can work. She has been focused, working-hard and really trying her best in all areas. She has been noticed by multiple adults, and this shows what Scarlett can achieve if she puts her mind to it. Well done, Scarlett—keep it up!

Mrs Ledger's class

My star of the week is Summer. She is a kind and thoughtful member of the class, who is also a valued playleader. She tries hard in lessons, and this week showed some great teamwork skills and resilience in our robotics workshop. Summer has been smiling and positive all this week, and it has been a pleasure to have her in the class.

Miss Williams' class

My Star of the Week is the wonderful Ciaran! I feel incredibly privileged to have had Ciaran in my class for the past three years. He is the sweetest, most caring boy, and it has been an absolute joy to watch him grow. Over the course of Year 6, his confidence has blossomed, and this week, he has truly wowed me with his independence and determination towards his learning. Learning can sometimes be a challenge for Ciaran, and he often likes the reassurance of an adult checking in with him. However, this week, he has thrived entirely on his own—approaching tasks with a fantastic 'give it a go' attitude and completing them independently with accuracy. His pride in his own achievements has been wonderful to see, as he excitedly shared his hard work with several adults. Ciaran, I am so proud of you! Your perseverance and enthusiasm are inspiring, and I love having you in my class. Keep up the fantastic work—you are an absolute star!

Mrs Scott's class

I have chosen Lola as my star for this week, as I have seen much-increased maturity in her recently. Previously, Lola might have been distracted by things that happened on the playground, or if she had fallen out with siblings on the way to school, but I have increasingly seen that she now has renewed focus in the classroom, and will now compartmentalise her attention, alongside using the adults around her constructively to support her. She is also using this mature attitude to help others, whereby she has helped to look after her peers who she can see are struggling. Well done, Lola, and keep it up!

School Diary Dates

Wed, 5th Mar	OV KS2 cross country races
Wed, 5th Mar	Group of Y5—Park School Mid-Eighties Night's Dreams
Thur, 6th Mar	World Book Day
Fri, 7th Mar	Y3/4 Girls Football Tournament
Wed, 12th Mar	Park Dance Festival
Fri, 14th Mar	Y6 Rising Stars—Basketball at Pilton Community College
Wed, 19th Mar	Y3/4 U9's Girls Football Tournament
Wed, 26th Mar	Y5/6 U11 Girls Football Tournament
Fri, 28th Mar	Ready Steady Rock Bank Practice
Tues, 1st Apr	Y3/4 Watermouth Castle Trip (details to come)
Wed, 2nd Apr	Y5/6 Boys Football Tournament
Fri, 4th Apr	Ready Steady Rock End of Term Concert
Mon, 7th to Mon, 21s Apr	Easter Holidays (Last day of school Fri, 4th April)
Tue, 22nd Apr	Back to school
Wed, 23 Apr	Y2 Tennis Festival—Tarka Leisure Centre
Mon, 5th May	Bank Holiday (back to school on Tue, 6th May)
Tue, 6th May	Y2—Northam Burrows trip
Wed, 7th May	Y1 Multi-skills Festival—Park School
Thur, 8th May	Y1—Northam Burrows trip

Week commencing—Monday, 3rd March

Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options



LUNCH MENU – WEEK 3

9th Dec 2024 – 13th Jan – 3rd Feb – 3rd & 24th Mar 2025



Wholemeal Bread, Salad Bowls, Low Fat Yoghurts, Fruit, Milk and Water available daily. All Special Diets catered for.

	Meat Free Monday	Tasty Tuesday	Roast it up Wednesday	Treat Yourself Thursday	Finish it off Friday
	Mac Cheese & Spring Onion Bake	Chicken Goujons	Toad in the Hole (Sausage & Yorkshire Pudding)	Breaded Fish Fillet	Perk Meatballs in Rustic Tomato Sauce with Pasta 
		Plant Based Meatball Sub with Tomato Sauce	Quorn Fillet	Vegan Nuggets	Veggie Lasagne
	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans or Tuna		Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans or Tuna	
	Crusty Bread, Carrots & Green Beans	Potato Wedges, Corn on the Cob & Peas	Roast or Mash Potato, Fresh Broccoli, Carrots & Gravy	Chips, Pasta, Mixed Veg, Beans & Tomato Sauce	Malted Baguette, Carrots & Cauliflower
	Cheese Bap	Ham Bap	Cheese Bap	Ham Bap	Sausage Roll 
	Fruit Smoothie	Raspberry & Apple Cake	Custard Biscuit with Fruit Juice	Chocolate Shortbread	Ice Cream 

Reading Road Champions

Years 1 and 2

Congratulations

to:

Jesse

For completing 75 reads

Eliza

For completing 100 reads

Tidiest

Cloakroom

This week was

Mrs Grimwood's

class

The 100 Club

Well done

to the following children in our
times tables challenge

Teagan

Platinum Award

Layla Cheryl

Silver Award

Alla Rory W

Bronze Award

Tri-Reading Tournament Champ

Years 5 and 6

Congratulations to:

Charley-May

For reaching 25 reads

Hollie G

For reaching 100 reads

Luna

For reaching 200 reads

A colorful poster for an Eco Easter Bonnet Competition. At the top, there are several Easter eggs with various patterns like polka dots and stripes. The title 'ECO EASTER BONNET COMPETITION' is written in large, bold, purple letters. Below the title, there are three lines of text in purple: 'Create an environmentally Friendly Easter Bonnet!', 'Drop your entries to the school hall on the morning of Friday 4th April 2025.', and 'Prizes will be awarded in celebration assembly.' At the bottom, there are three white rabbits on a grassy hill with colorful hills in the background.

ECO EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

Create an environmentally
Friendly Easter Bonnet!

Drop your entries to the
school hall on the morning
of
Friday 4th April 2025.

Prizes will be awarded in
celebration assembly.

Sensory Garden Plants required Could you help us?

**We are looking for the following plants to
put into our new Sensory Garden.**

Globe thistle, Teasel,
Stachys byzantine Rabbits Ears
Silver sage,
Nodding/quaking grass
Mint types of, Chives, Pansy,
Current red/black, Lavender types of
Rosemary, Rose, Cotton lavender
Lemon verbena

Now is the time to split shrubs.

**If you could offer us any of the above
please contact Mrs Manley via the school
office.**



JUNIOR BAKE OFF

JOIN THE CLASS OF 2025!

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

... IS LOOKING FOR BRILLIANT BAKERS, AGES 9-15 FOR THE NEXT NEW AND EXCITING SERIES!

APPLICATIONS CLOSE SUNDAY 23RD MARCH

APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK

EXPLORE THE WORLD Through Parkour

BIDEFORD PARKOUR ACADEMY

Come on down and try a free trail session. Ages 4+

Benefits:

- Improved Fitness
- Overcoming Mental Barriers
- Gain more confidence
- Make new Friend

CONTACT US Bideford Parkour 07863114085

PERFORMANCES MARCH 2025
 THURSDAY 6TH
 FRIDAY 7TH
 SATURDAY 8TH
 7 P M

SPARKS
 YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY

Sparks Youth Theatre Company and The Park Community School presents

A MID-EIGHTIES NIGHT'S DREAM

TICKETS
 ADULTS £6
 UNDER 18'S £4

Tickets available from the school office, via MCAS or using the QR code.

An original musical created by the staff and students of Park School with a bit of help from William Shakespeare.