

Orchard's C of E Academy

Weekly Parent Newsletter

13th November 2020

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Our Christian Value for this Half Term is **Trust**

Dates for the Diary

11th December Christmas Jumper Day

18th December Last school day before Christmas

4th January INSET

5th January Children back to school

15th January Individual School Photos

COVID Symptoms

If your child develops any of the symptoms related to COVID 19 – that is, one or more of:

- a high temperature – this means your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back;
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means your child cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

you must keep them off school for **10 days** from the start of the symptoms. The rest of your household must isolate for **14 days** from the start of the symptoms.

If your child has any other symptoms making them feel unwell, treat these as you would have done normally – if you feel they are fit for school, and please send them in.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Social Distancing

It is critical that everybody observes the following key behaviours:

- **HANDS** - Wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds.
- **FACE** - Wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.
- **SPACE** - Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors).

Social distancing

- To reduce the risk of catching or spreading coronavirus, try to keep at least 2 metres away from people you do not live with. Social distancing is essential to stop the spread of the virus, as it is more likely to spread when people are close together. An infected person can pass on the virus even if they do not have any symptoms, through talking, breathing, coughing or sneezing.

When with people you do not live with, you should also avoid: physical contact; being close and face-to-face; and shouting or singing close to them. You should also avoid crowded areas with lots of people; and touching things that other people have touched.

Where you cannot stay 2 metres apart you should stay more than 1 metre apart, as well as taking extra steps to stay safe. For example:

- wear a face covering: on public transport and in many indoor spaces, you must wear a face covering by law, unless you are exempt;
- move outdoors, where it is safer and there is more space;
- if indoors, make sure rooms are well ventilated by keeping windows and doors open.

You do not need to socially distance from anyone in your household, meaning the people you live with. You also do not need to socially distance from anyone in your legally-permitted support bubble if you are in one, or someone you're in an established relationship with. If in the early stages of a relationship, you should take particular care to follow the guidance on social distancing.

When providing care to a young child, or person with a disability or health condition who is not in your household or support bubble, it may not always be possible or practicable to maintain social distancing. You should still limit close contact as much as possible when providing these types of care, and take other precautions such as washing hands and opening windows for ventilation.

Classes Next Term

The likelihood is that children will – for the most part – be put back into single year group classes next term. Please keep an eye of your email over the next few weeks for information about your child’s class teacher, start time, finish time and gate for next term. Given that COVID 19 will still be with us in January, we will still be staggering the beginning and ending of the school day.

The majority of children will remain with their current class teacher, but even in these cases, that start and end times to the day may change.

Stars of the Week

Well done to all the children for their hard work this week. The following children were particularly celebrated for their effort, behaviour and achievement in class.

Early Years – Jelena in Acorns; Emilija in KCrawley; Chloe in LCodd; Karolis in Peach.

Key Stage 1 – Kai in CStratton; Rose in HFletcher; Rose in DRedmile; Chantelle in AWojcik; Folu in ZLester.

Key Stage 2 – Aleksandra in VVaitekunaite; Eimantas in RRouse; Gabija in EBurrows; Gabi in RHall; Isabelle in ESmith; Deimantas in MCarter; Cody in TJacobs; Jacob in SAckah; Gabija in AHall; Anastasija in KEyers; Danas in ERedmile.

Attendance

Below is the attendance for each class since last week’s Newsletter:

Early Years – KCrawley – 99.2%; LCodd – 98.1%; Peach – 93.3%.

Key Stage 1 – CStratton – 93.6%; HFletcher – 95%; DRedmile – 97.2%; AWojcik – 98.9%; ZLester – 97.7%.

Key Stage 2 – VVaitekunaite – 95.2%; RRouse – 86.7%; EBurrows – 86.7%; RHall – 97.5%; ESmith – 95%; MCarter – 96.3%; TJacobs – 93.6%; SAckah – 98.9%; AHall – 94.6%; KEyers – 95.6%; ERedmile – 93.7%.

Well done to Mrs Wojcik’s class for having the best attendance in school during this time.

Whole school attendance this week is: 95.3%.

Whole school attendance since the beginning of term is 95.6%.

Outdoor Learning

Everyone had a lovely time outside for Outdoor Classroom Day last week and, as promised, here are photos of some of the activities from across the school.



Miss Hall’s Class had a fabulous session on Friday last week, using their Maths and Science skills in the outdoors. They used the properties of materials to find things for a scavenger hunt, measured the perimeter of the school field and made magic number squares using natural materials.

Mrs. Fletcher’s class made pictures using natural materials such as leaves, using branches and sticks as



picture frames. They worked in teams and produced some great work, as well as some very large structures!



Unauthorised Absences

Although it is very important for your children to be in school, we understand that sometimes they are unwell and cannot attend. Please be reminded that you must notify the school via telephone (01945) 583799 or email office@orchards.cambs.sch.uk on the first day of your child's absence giving the reason and an estimation of how long they will be off for. If a child is absent for more than 2 days with an illness then you must provide medical proof from a GP or consultant so that we can authorise the absence. Without medical proof the absence will remain unauthorised and you may receive a penalty notice from Cambridgeshire County Council. If you have any questions regarding attendance please ask to speak to Marija in the school office, who will be happy to help.

Christmas Activities



Keep an eye on the Newsletter for Christmas dates and events. We hope that we will be able to mark this important time of the year, which is something the children look forward to so much, but we know that things aren't going to be the same as normal this year. There will be no nativity, no singing, no church service and no big gatherings, as those are just things which we are not permitted to do. We will be taking part in Christmas Jumper Day on 11th December to support Save the Children. More information can be found at <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day>

There will be a Christmas Storytime Advent Calendar, and I have also been tasked – this was absolutely not my idea – of coming up with a joke a day throughout December. So look out for Mr Steeden's Christmas Crackers.

Worship Focus of the Week

As we know, Wednesday was Remembrance Day, so our worship focus this week was remembering. Alongside Reverend Claire, we looked at different ways of remembering as well as hearing from Frank (the oldest member of St Peter's congregation), who at 95 shared with us his memories of school and shopping in the 1930s. This was linked to exploring Holy Communion and Jesus' sharing the last supper with his disciples, telling them to break bread and drink wine in remembrance of him - which Christians still do today.

And Finally...

Have a good weekend.

Thank you for all the support you provide for the children and our academy!

