

Orchard's C of E Academy

Weekly Parent Bulletin

1st March 2019

Head Teacher: Mrs C Claxton
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Our Christian Value for next Half Term is **Cooperation**

Dates for the Diary

5th March Beech, Hazel and Maple Reading Cafes
5th March humanutopia for Y6
6th, 13th, 20th March Working Together Wednesday
6th March Rowan Class Reading Café
7th March World Book Day
8th March Holly Reading Café
11th – 15th March Science Week
12th March Cedar and Oak Class Reading Cafes
15th March Red Nose Day
29th March Holly and Rowan's African Drama
3rd April Working Together Wednesday
3rd and 4th April Parent Consultation Evenings
5th April Shaking Up Shakespeare
5th April Last day of Spring Term
23rd April Children back to school
6th May Bank Holiday (May Day)
13th – 16th May Year 6 SATs Week

Working Together Wednesday

Many thanks to all of you that were able to come along on Wednesday morning for our first Working Together Wednesday – it was wonderful to see so many of you in class, and involved in your children's learning. Parent interaction in Mrs Ketley's phonic session was particularly impressive – well done!

This is something that we will do every Wednesday (unless otherwise stated – not during Assessment Week, for example), so please mention to any other parent who you think would find it useful to come along as well, if they are able.

We would ask you all to come in the front door, after dropping your children at their classroom, and our office staff will have a couple of sheets available for you to sign in on nice and quickly – this will help us to ensure your safety in the event of a fire.

A bell will sound at 9:15am to signal the end of the session, after which, Coffee Morning will be available in the CDT Room should you wish to join us.

Science Week

It is National Science Week from 11th to 15th March 2019. Children will be taking part in various, exciting science activities throughout the week. Each class will be learning about a scientist, learning new skills and have already invited you into their classrooms to share the learning from the week; this will be on Friday 15th March at 14:30. Year 5 will be taking part in a drama based workshop called 'Rainy Rainforest' on Tuesday the 12th March. There will also be a gadget shop on Friday after school selling various science related items. These will cost about £2 each, alongside a cake sale. It would be lovely to see parents at the event supporting the children and celebrating their learning. We look forward to seeing you there!

Miss Smith
(Science lead)

Comic Relief

Red Nose Day 2019 is on Friday March 15th. Whilst we wanted to mark the occasion, and the children are more than welcome to wear their Red Noses to school, we also wanted to use it to support the families in our local community, rather than making a monetary donation to the national charity.

The children therefore, are invited to 'Wear Something Red' to school on that day, and to bring in a donation of food for the local food bank. We thought it might be a nice idea if the food donation was also red (tins of tomato soup, for example), but I'm sure that any tins or packets of food you could bring in would be greatly appreciated.

Have you thought about becoming a Governor?

Would you like to contribute to the development of your child's school? Do you have ideas about the way Orchards is run? Why not become a school governor!

We are currently seeking two parents who would be willing to become our parent governors.

Being a governor is an important and very interesting role. The main job is to make sure that the school is being run properly and governors do that by receiving reports from the Head Teacher, asking questions about the school's performance, agreeing policies (what should and shouldn't take place in the school) and visiting the school to see the education in action.

Governors are asked to attend one meeting each half-term, which is held on a Wednesday from 6 p.m. until about 8 p.m. If they are able to, they are also asked to visit the school during school time, to see what is going on, for example perhaps to accompany a member of the senior leadership group on visits to classrooms to see children learning. Governors are also very welcome at school events. Induction and training in the role is provided free of charge.

If you are interested and would like to learn more, why not contact Betty Hasler, who is the Chair of Governors. She will be able to explain in more detail and answer your questions. You can email her on BHasler@orchards.cambs.sch.uk or telephone her on 01945781387.

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 – Dominks in Apple; Amelia in Cherry.

Key Stage 1 – Ellie in Willow; Jamie in Walnut; Ksenija in Beech; Kerry in Hazel; Glenn-Carlos in Maple.

Key Stage 2 – Nicolau in Hawthorn; Kevinas in Laburnum; Justina in Holly; Leona in Rowan; Dominks in Chestnut; Emilija in Cypress; ... in Elm; Nikalas in Cedar; ... in Oak.

Attendance

Attendance across the school since Monday 25th February was as follows. We understand that children are occasionally ill and sometimes it is inappropriate for them to be in school, but we are working towards the Government target of 96% attendance over the course of the year. As you can see, we are well below that at that figure during this time.

Whole School – 96.1%

Early Years – 94.2% in Apple; 96.7% in Cherry.

Key Stage 1 – 96.1% in Willow; 98% in Walnut; 96.1% in Beech; 95.7% in Hazel; 97% in Maple.

Key Stage 2 – 97.1% in Hawthorn; 96.9% in Laburnum; 95.4% in Holly; 94.2% in Rowan; 94.5% in Chestnut; 92.1% in Cypress; 97.5% in Elm; 98.2% in Cedar; 99.6% in Oak.

Congratulations to Oak class for having the best attendance in the school during this time.

Early Intervention Family Worker



Are you looking for some peace & harmony in your home? Would you like a chat and some information?

Jurate, an Early Intervention Family Worker can give you advise on bedtime routines, finance, diet, behaviour management, effective discipline, housing, sibling rivalry, anxiety in adults, anxiety in children, bereavement support, family relationships, school refusal, attendance, support at school meetings, workshops for parents and parenting courses. Call on 07557078720 - Jurate Trumpickiene, Early Intervention Family Worker.

Jurate is also in school every Thursday morning to meet with parents.

And Finally...

Don't forget, next Thursday is World Book Day. The children are all welcome to come into school dressed as a character from their favourite story. We look forward to seeing them.

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





FREE

FITNESS 4 PARENTS/CARERS

Create some 'ME TIME' - Create some 'HEAD SPACE'

One whole hour of fitness to music just before
you pick up the kids!

Thursday, 2pm - 3pm
Starts 7th March 2019

Orchard School Sports Hall, Wisbech, PE13 3NP

For more information please contact:

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07729 638832

