

Orchard's C of E Academy

Weekly Parent Bulletin

11th and 18th January 2019

Head Teacher: Mrs C Claxton
Deputy Head Teacher: Mr J Davis and Mr J Steeden

Email: office@orchards.cambs.sch.uk

Phone: 01945 583799

Website: <http://www.orchards.cambs.sch.uk>

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

Dates for the Diary

17th January SEND Coffee Morning
17th January Year 6 SATs Information Meetings for parents (see separate letter)
21st January New Homework Policy Meeting for Parents
23rd January Reception Bedtime Story Night
24th January Reception Phonics Cafe
25th January Spelling Bee – Round 1
7th February Reception Reading Cafe
14th February Spelling Bee – Round 2
15th February Last school day before Half Term
25th February Children back to school
3rd and 4th April Parent Consultation Evenings
5th April Last day of Spring Term

Welcome Back

A very Happy New Year to you all – we hope that you had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break. It was great to see the children back on Monday looking so enthusiastic about the new term and all the learning ahead!

School Website

Our New Year's Resolution as a staff is to keep the year group pages of the school website much more up to date. Each year group page already contains the Curriculum Map with lots of information about what your children will be learning this half term, as well as the Homework grid for the next six weeks. Please make sure that you read them.

New Homework Policy Meeting

We have introduced a new Homework Policy this term – I'm sure the children have already spoken to you about it. If you would like to hear more about the policy, there will be a meeting for parents at 8:30am in the CDT Room on Monday 21st January. The new Policy will be on the website for all to see shortly after the meeting.

Term Dates for 2019 – 2020 School Year

The Term dates for the School Year 2019-2020 – in line with other Cambridgeshire schools - will be as follows:

Autumn 1 - **Wednesday 4th September 2019 to Thursday 17th October 2019**
Autumn half term - Friday 18th October 2019 to Sunday 27th October 2019
Autumn 2 - **Monday 28th October 2019 to Wednesday 18th December 2019**
Christmas holiday - Thursday 19th December 2019 to Sunday 5th January 2020
Spring 1 - **Monday 6th January 2020 to Friday 14th February 2020**
Spring half term - Saturday 15th February 2020 to Sunday 23rd February 2020
Spring 2 - **Monday 24th February 2020 to Thursday 2nd April 2020**
Easter holiday Friday 3rd April 2020 to Sunday 19th April 2020
Summer 1 - **Monday 20th April 2020 to Friday 22nd May 2020**
Summer half term - Saturday 23rd May 2020 to Sunday 31st May 2020

Summer 2 - **Monday 1st June 2020 to Tuesday 21st July 2020.**

Bank Holiday Dates:

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th December 2019

Boxing Day - Thursday 26th December 2019

New Year's Day - Wednesday 1st January 2020

Good Friday - Friday 10th April 2020

Easter Monday - Monday 13th April 2020

May Day bank holiday - Monday 4th May 2020

Whitsun bank holiday - Monday 25th May 2020

Teacher Training Dates (School Closed):

Monday 2nd September 2019

Tuesday 3rd September 2019

Friday 18th October 2019

Thursday 19th December 2019

Friday 3rd April 2020

SEND Coffee Morning

You are invited to a coffee morning on Thursday 17th October 8:45-9:45 where you can meet with some members of staff who can support you with your child/children's learning and/or concerns. Have a coffee and a friendly chat with Mrs Horlock (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator), Mrs Carlile (Family Support Worker) and Debbie Graveling (Wellbeing Team).

During this coffee morning the NHS 5-19 team are going to attend and discuss transition to secondary school and the support they can provide for health related concerns.

RSPB Little Schools' Birdwatch



The Reception classes have been busy preparing for the RSPB Little Schools' Birdwatch by making some fat balls to feed our feathered friends. The children enjoyed rolling their sleeves up and getting messy and the looks on our faces were a picture! We have also been exploring the effects of global warming on the ice in our polar themed small world tray in the outdoor classroom.



Reception Class Bedtime Story Night

On Wednesday 23rd January we will be holding a bedtime story night for children in Apple and Cherry class from 3.30pm until 4.30pm. The children can come in pyjamas with a teddy and listen to stories, as well as have some cocoa and snacks. Places will be limited so look out for a flyer coming home shortly...

Reception Parents' Phonics Café

Miss Harrison will be hosting a phonics café for Reception parents on Thursday 24th January at 9.00am. Come along and find out about how we teach phonics and how you can support your child at home. There will be a door prize during the session. After the café you will have the chance to come and take part in a fun phonics session alongside your child in class.

Reception Parents' Reading Café

Miss Harrison will be hosting a reading café on Thursday 7th February at 1.30pm. Making every child in Early years a confident fluent reader is one of our priorities this year, so please come along and find out how we teach reading and how best you can support your child with reading at home. After the session you are invited to come into class and read with your child. There will be a reading themed gift for each family that attends. We look forward to seeing you there!

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 – Chanelle in Apple; Alex in Cherry.

Key Stage 1 – Dilanas in Willow; Lexie in Walnut; Vinny in Beech; Evalynn in Hazel; Caitlin in Maple.

Key Stage 2 – ... in Hawthorn; Angela in Laburnum; Adrijana in Holly; ... in Rowan; Donatas in Cedar; Pawel in Chestnut; Artjoms in Elm; Adrien in Oak.

Attendance

Attendance across the school since Monday 7th January 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.

Whole School – **95.2%**

Early Years – 95% in Apple; 97.9% in Cherry.

Key Stage 1 – 87.1% in Willow; 92.2% in Walnut; 96.7% in Beech; **98.4%** in Hazel; 97.7% in Maple.

Key Stage 2 – 96.1% in Hawthorn; 96% in Laburnum; 92.8% in Holly; 93.1% in Rowan; 96.4% in Cedar; 97% in Chestnut; 94.6% in Elm; 97.7% in Oak.

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

And Finally...

As Mr Steeden is out on training for three days next week, the next Newsletter will not be published until Friday January 25th.

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

