

Orchard's C of E Academy

Weekly Parent Newsletter

9th October 2020

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

Dates for the Diary

22nd October Last school day before Half Term

23rd October INSET

2nd November Children back to school

3rd-5th, 10th-12th November Parent Consultation Evenings

18th December Last school day before Christmas

4th January INSET

5th January Children back to school

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.

Parent Consultation Evenings

You will all have received information about Parent Consultation Evenings – as you will now know, they are going to look different this year.

You will need to be at school five minutes before your allotted appointment time, and you will be escorted to your child's class, where you will find your child's books to look through. Your appointment with the class teacher will take place in the classroom.

It will be necessary for you to be wearing facemasks, and you will sit at a social distance from the teacher during the appointment. Chairs in the classroom will be sanitised between appointments.

In order to reduce the number of people in school at any one time, you will not be permitted to bring any children with you during your appointment and only two adults will be allowed for each child. This will be a pain for some of you I know, which is why you also have the option of an online or telephone appointment with your child's class teacher.

School Dog



Thank you to those of you who have returned the signed slip about Rio the School Dog. If you haven't done so, please return the form as soon as possible.

He will be back in school next week to support our children who may need a little help with their feelings. Though you may bump into him on the school gate in the mornings, he will be spending most of his time in the Wellbeing Room. Children who stroke him will be asked to sanitise their hands afterwards, and Rio will be sprayed with special sanitiser for dogs to ensure he is COVID secure (he is not looking forward to that).

Gate 3

Please can I remind parents of children outside of Gate 3 that they should be lining up in the pavement, rather than the road. I know the pavements are quite narrow, and there are quite a number of you, we do have delivery lorries and waste collection and come through there in the morning, and we need to make sure we are all staying safe.

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 – Harley in ACrowley; Hanna in KCrowley; Phoebe in LCodd; Ksavi in Peach.

Key Stage 1 – Logan in CStratton; Lukas in HFletcher; Darenas in DRedmile; Julia in AWojcik; Arturs in ZLester.

Key Stage 2 – Maciej in VVaitekunaite; Nikole in RRouse; ... in EBurrows; Skaiste in RHall; Alexi in ESmith; Arthur in MCarter; Kathleen in TJacobs; Natalia in SAckah; Alyssa in AHall; Wiktorina in KEyers; Austeja in ERedmile.

Attendance

Below is the attendance for each class since last week:

Early Years – KCrowley – 93.1%; LCodd – 93.8%; Peach – 96.4%.

Key Stage 1 – CStratton – 91.8%; HFletcher – 90%; DRedmile – 99%; AWojcik – 100%; ZLester – 89.5%.

Key Stage 2 – VVaitekunaite – 89.4%; RRouse – 96.4%; EBurrows – 80%; RHall – 94.3%; ESmith – 96.3%; MCarter – 82.8%; TJacobs – 91.5%; SAckah – 96.8%; AHall – 88.9%; KEyers – 94.9%; ERedmile – 97%.

Well done to Mrs Wojcik's class for having the best attendance during this time – you can't get better than 100%!

Attendance for the whole school since last Friday: 93.2%

Attendance for the whole school since the beginning of Term: 95%

Outdoor Learning



Well, the weather was much kinder for Outdoor Learning last Friday! Mrs. Redmile's class started the day with a scavenger hunt and then investigated the different kinds of leaf that can be found on the field. They also did some great rubbings.

Mr Rouse's class learned how to light a fire using a fire striker, cooked marshmallows over a fire to make S'mores and built dens in small socially-distanced teams. They had a great time!

In the afternoon, Miss Vaitekunaite's class played a game to practice direction and also built dens. As the weather was a little damper by then, they were very useful!

Good news! We applied to the Woodland Trust for tree saplings to plant around our school field in the spring and this week we have heard that our application has been successful. This will, in the future, provide shelter for animals and encourage a wider variety of animals and plants on our site.



Harvest

Harvest Festival is going to look a bit different this year – sadly, there will be no opportunity for us to be together as a school community to give thanks for the farmers and workers in the fields bringing in the crops. We would still like to collect food for the local food bank, but must be sure that we are COVID safe as we do it. So, if you would like to make a contribution, please bring in either tins of food or dried food (pasta for example) during week commencing 20th October. We will store the food in a safe place over Half Term, then Mrs Squires-Dutton has been kind enough to volunteer to take it to the food bank after that. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

Worship Focus of the Week

We thank Reverend Claire for producing a Harvest assembly for the children (online). The assembly looked at where food comes from, how we need to look for that which is hidden - flour inside wheat kernels, potatoes underground, just as we need to look for and find the gifts God gives us. The theme for prayer was that of thankfulness, especially with a focus on food, food production and food for all.

And Finally...

Have a good weekend. Only two weeks until Half Term – don't forget that the final Friday of this half term (23rd October) is a teacher training day.

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





Mum's the Word



WEEKLY FAITH GROUP



**EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER IN A
'GENTLE WALK WITH GOD'**

WITH BIBLE READINGS, PRAYER, CHAT AND DVD COURSES

IF YOU'RE NEW TO FAITH AND WANT TO DISCOVER MORE OR YOU WANT TO SHARE YOUR FAITH



COME AND JOIN US IN ORCHARDS ELDER ROOM



(MUM'S THE WORD WELCOMES DADS TOO)

For more details contact Sue Squires-Dutton on 07754 207643

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