

Orchard's C of E Academy

Weekly Parent Bulletin

28th September 2018

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Our Christian Value for the Half Term is **Tolerance**

Dates for the Diary

3rd October MacMillan Coffee Morning in aid of cancer support – 8:30am

3rd October Harvest Assembly (various times)

4th October Year 5/6 Educational Visit to Ely Cathedral

11th October New Behaviour Policy meeting – 8:45am

17th and 18th October Parent Consultation Evenings

18th October Last school day before Half Term

19th October Teacher Training Day – no school

29th October Back to school

8th November New Feedback and Marking Policy meeting – 8:45am

13th December Reception Nativity performance – 2:00pm

19th December End of Term

Teacher Training Day - Friday 19th October

The school has recently invested in an exciting new maths scheme, recommended by the Department for Education as a way of raising attainment and improving progress across the school. We believe that it will be of great benefit to our children.

However, as with all these things, teacher training is needed in order to get the best out of the new materials and to ensure that the new materials have maximum impact on the children. The earliest we have been able to organise a training day is Friday 19th October, meaning that this will now become one of the five training days that all schools are allocated across the year.

We apologise for the short notice, but are sure that you will agree that it is the learning of the children that matters most, and that we should take every opportunity to look for ways to improve our practice in school.

A further result of this is that Tuesday 23rd April, originally earmarked to be a training day, will now be a normal school day.

New Behaviour Policy (new date)

Mr Davis has been working extremely hard since the start of term to simplify and slim down our school Behaviour Policy, making it easier to understand for teachers, parents and (most importantly) the children. He will be holding a meeting at 8:45am on Thursday 11th October to explain the new policy to you and ask for your comments. It will not be rolled out to the children until parents, teachers and governors have read, understood, and had a chance to comment on it.

If you cannot make the meeting, and we know that meetings in school time are not always possible for you to get to, we will be sending out the Policy for you to read. If you have any comments you wish to make, do not hesitate to contact us.

Apologies – this date has changed from that published last week – Mr Davis is out on an Ely Cathedral Day with his class this Thursday.

Orchard Academy PTA

I am pleased to announce that Orchards PTA (parent, teacher association) is now up and running. On Wednesday's AGM we voted on the Office Bearers of the association, which consists of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. A constitution has been drafted and agreed on. On the agenda was:

- Voting for the roles
- Agreeing on a name
- The constitution
- First fundraising ideas

- Any other business

Orchards PTA consists of parent and staff members and anyone is welcome to join our meetings. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 7th November at 3.30 in the CDT room.

School Captains

Last week during Friday's Assembly, 16 children from Year 6 presented themselves to the school and set out the reasons why they would make a good School Captain. Each class then held a ballot, with every child voting for who they believed would make the best Captain. When the votes were tallied the results were very close, showing just how persuasive each candidate had been. However, marginally ahead of the other candidates were Mantas (Cedar Class) and Akvile (Oak Class). Supporting our new School Captains will be Kody and Klaudija who are the Vice Captains.

Many congratulations to our Captains and Vice Captains. Commiserations to the other candidates – they can all be very proud of the way that they managed to give their speeches in front of the whole school.

Stars of the Week

Well done to all the children for their hard working start to the Term. The following children were celebrated this week for their behaviour and achievement in class.

Early Years – Ema in Apple; Alex in Cherry.

Key Stage 1 – Shanice in Willow; Eleonora in Walnut; Kevin in Beech; Kristers in Hazel; Glenn-Carlos in Maple.

Key Stage 2 – Amelia in Hawthorn; ... in Laburnum; McKenzie in Holly; Alfie in Rowan; Rebeka in Cedar; Tiago in Chestnut; ... in Elm; Emilija in Oak.

Harvest Festival

Please join us to celebrate our Harvest Festival on this Wednesday (3rd October) in the Lime Hall. The times are:

- Reception and Year 1 – 8.40am – 9.15 am
- Year 2 and 3: 1:10-2:00pm
- Year 4, 5 and 6: 2:10-3:00pm

We will be collecting tinned and packet food for the local community. We look forward to seeing you there.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

We will be running a MacMillan Coffee Morning in aid of cancer support on Wednesday 3rd October. It will be held in the CDT Room from 8:30am – 11:00am. If you are able to donate any cakes – either homemade or shop bought are great – it would be much appreciated. If you would just like to come along to buy a cake and have a coffee (maybe after coming to Harvest Festival first?), then we look forward to seeing you there.

Tapestry Café for Reception Parents

Many thanks to all of you who came along to the Tapestry Café on Thursday – it was great to see so many of you there. The children are already benefitting from the observations made for their Tapestry journals, and it's wonderful that you will be able to play such an active part in their learning from home.

If you are still unsure how to use the system, are having problems with your login or have yet to provide us with your details, Miss Harrison will be delighted to help you.

Parent Consultation Evenings

You will receive letters this Friday (check your child's bags!) about Parent Consultation Evenings on 17th and 18th of October. You will receive a report of their progress since the beginning of term, along with targets detailing the next steps in your child's learning. Parent / teacher communication is so important, we hope as many of you as possible will be able to come along to these meetings.

There will be special sessions arranged on both evenings by Mrs Claxton and Mr Steeden for Year 6 parents. We will speak about the significance of Year 6 as a milestone in the pupils' education, and give more information about arrangements for the statutory tests which they will sit later in the year.

Weekly Bulletin

This Bulletin will be published each week on the school's Facebook page, and paper copies are available from the school office. We hope to be able to email it out to you all eventually, but don't have the ability to do that at the moment. This will be the main forum where information about upcoming events are shared so, if you know of any fellow parents who have not seen it, please feel free to share it with them!

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





The Wisbech High Street Project and The Wisbech & Fenland Museum presents...

A SPOOKY NIGHT AT THE WISBECH AND FENLAND MUSEUM

Join us "after hours" at the museum for an evening of FREE spooky activities and crafts



Hear ghostly tales, learn about witches bottles and make your very own potion to take home. Make your own mask and come and meet our special guest owl in the museum garden. Plus lots more...

Drop off your carved pumpkin anytime before the night for judging - the best one will win a £20 Argos voucher

For more information contact info@wisbechmuseum.org.uk

Thursday 25 October 2018

5pm-8pm FREE ENTRY

MUSEUMS
AT
NIGHT

