

Orchard's C of E Academy

Weekly Parent Bulletin

9th November 2018

Head Teacher: Mrs C Claxton
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Our Christian Value for this Half Term is **Thoughtfulness**

Dates for the Diary

13th November Child Flu Immunisations Yr – Y5

15th November Reception Maths Café for Parents – 2:30pm

16th November Children in Need Day

21st – 23rd November Year 4, 5 and 6 Residential Visit to Norfolk Lakes

22nd November SEND Coffee Morning – 8:45am

13th December Church Services for Years 2-6

13th December Reception Nativity performance – 2:00pm

14th December Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

19th December End of Term

Year 6 Booster Classes

All of our Year 6 children will be sitting their SATs tests next May. In order to prepare them as best we can, certain children – identified by their class teachers – will be invited to an after school booster club. This will be for half an hour, straight after school and taught by either Mrs Claxton, Mr Davis or Mr Steeden. The first booster classes will be for maths, but reading and writing boosters will follow.

Expect invitations to these clubs to start going out next week.

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 – Flynn in Apple; Arina in Cherry.

Key Stage 1 – Lukas in Willow; Eleonora in Walnut; Leah in Beech; Austeja in Hazel; Kevinas in Maple.

Key Stage 2 – Jakub in Hawthorn; Miguel in Laburnum; Gabrielius in Holly; Vilte in Rowan; Dautartas in Cedar; Freja in Chestnut; Klaudija in Elm; Kamile K in Oak.

New Marking, Assessment and Feedback Policy

We have introduced a new Marking, Assessment and Feedback Policy since Half Term. This will mean that things will look somewhat different inside the children's books.

Gone are the days when teachers should have to take piles of children's books home with them at night to write lengthy comments under children's work. Evidence suggests that a far more powerful form of marking – which has much greater impact on children's progress – is marking that happens during lesson time alongside the children. This marking might take the form of verbal feedback or 'moving on' comments that the teachers will write in red pen when they are talking to the child. All books will be read by the teachers after the lesson, but rather than writing in the children's books, the teachers will make notes on a 'distance feedback sheet' which will inform planning for the next lesson.

The children's work will be stamped everyday. If the stamp is red, it means that the child has not achieved the expected outcome in the lesson, and there will be a note about that child on the distance feedback sheet. Any other colour of stamp means that the child has achieved the expected outcome in the lesson.

If you have any questions, please make an appointment to come and see Mr Steeden.

A copy of the new Policy will appear on the school website.

Science in Year 4

Year 4's Science learning has been about sound and vibrations. They have been making string telephones which everyone enjoyed immensely and testing if they can hear themselves through it because their voices will vibrate through the string to their partner. Some children even began to ask questions such as; will a shorter piece of string make the voice easier to hear because the vibrations will have less far to travel?



Reception Maths Café

The Maths Cafe (15th November, 2:30pm) is a session aimed at parents and carers of children in the Reception classes. This informal sessions will provide an opportunity for parents and carers to get together over a cuppa and a cake, exploring ways of supporting their child with maths in the home. Miss Harrison and Mrs Stratton are passionate about maths in the Early Years Foundation Stage and will be on hand to answer any questions or concerns that parents and carers may have as well as providing handy tips and strategies about ways to support with maths in the home learning environment.

Children in Need



We will mark Children in Need on Friday 16th November by allowing children to come into school for the day wearing 'something 'spotty or 'something yellow'. Please don't feel the need to go out and buy something special for the occasion, we know how expensive this can be.

To honour Pudsey, we are also asking for children to bring in a teddy bear for the day. We will be having a reading buddy session during the afternoon, in which older children in the school will get to share a story with the younger children. We thought that the

teddies might like to hear the stories too. Probably best not to send in that irreplaceable, favourite cuddly toy though. Just in case.

SEND Coffee Morning

The next SEND coffee morning is on Thursday 22nd November 8:45-9:45. You are invited to join us for coffee and cake whilst you 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).

And Finally...

We had some really creative artwork completed by Kamile from Year 6 this week, which we wished to share with you. Guy Fawkes Night often takes a back seat to 'trick or treat' these days, but it's nice that we still celebrate the date in schools.



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

