

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Thursday, 1st April 2021

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message



Dear Parents/Carers

Happy Easter!

We've made it to the end of a very unusual term and I think we are all ready for a well-earned rest. It is just over a year since we went into the first lockdown and little did we know that we'd still be in restrictions now.

I wanted to start by saying a huge thank you to the staff who have all been amazing and have worked so hard to welcome the children back safely since the full return on the 8th March. A big thank you also to all our parents who have been so kind and patient with us, especially through all the changes that have had to be made. Your words of encouragement and support have been really appreciated. The biggest thank you, as always, goes to the children who have returned to school so ready to learn and who are an absolute pleasure and delight. They are what makes our school so wonderful.

We are delighted to have everyone back together again and to start to recover some of the opportunities that the children lost during lockdown. We are working hard to assess where the children are with their learning in order to move them forward and fill the gaps which have grown due to the disruption over the last year. Please don't worry too much about what has been missed, if you can support us by encouraging your child to read regularly at home this will make a huge difference.

Yesterday we had a day filled with Easter fun and a visit from the Easter Bunny! The Easter bonnets were amazing. It was lovely to see the school filled with such colour and fun. It was a hopeful sign that things are starting to return to some kind of normal particularly as we missed Easter in school last year.



Finally, I just want to say have a lovely Easter break and enjoy some well-earned rest with your families.

I look forward to seeing you all again on the Monday, 19th April when school opens again.



Wishing you all a safe and restful Easter break.

Fiona Pearce
Head teacher

Tempest Class Photos



Tempest photography will be visiting us to take class photographs on Thursday, 22nd April. Please could the children come to school in their full Orchard Vale uniform. You might like to put a comb in their bag for them to spruce themselves up before the photo.

Free School Meals Vouchers over Easter



Devon County Council is supporting families of children who currently receive free school meals during term time with supermarket vouchers to help buy food during the holidays.

Parents of eligible children should have received an email from the Orchard Vale email account this week with a code for you to redeem.

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO PARENTS

Confirmed Case of Coronavirus during Easter holidays

Here are the steps you need to take if one of the children in your family, who attends our school, has a confirmed positive test for COVID-19 during the Easter holidays.

- **If your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (that is up to the end of the day on Saturday, 3rd April) the school should be contacted.**

Please email orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk as soon as you possibly can marking the subject as "Confirmed Covid-19 Case", in the body of the email please include the following information:

School Name:

Child Name:

Date of confirmed positive test:

Date child became symptomatic:

Please ensure that you send this email without delay, as it will be crucially important for contact tracing to begin immediately enabling those who have been in close contact with a positive case to take appropriate self-isolation measures. We only need to be emailed if a positive test is received, we don't need to be notified if a child is isolating due to having one or more symptoms associated with Covid-19, it is only if a positive test is received that we need to be contacted.

- **If your child develops symptoms and test positive after 48 hours, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.**

Please ensure that you send this email without delay, as it will be crucially important for contact tracing to begin immediately enabling those who have been in close contact

We remain committed to supporting the national effort to beat this virus and we are ever grateful for your continued support.

Fiona Pearce

Headteacher

KEY STAGE 2—FOOTBALL CLUBS

Mr Ovey's football clubs will be starting **after Easter**.

If you have applied for a space for your child using the online form Mr Ovey has emailed you to confirm your child has a place.

Year 3 ONLY—Monday, 19th April until 24th, May – 315pm-415pm for year 3 ONLY.

Year 4 ONLY—Tuesday, 20th April until 25th May – 315pm-415pm for year 4 ONLY.

Year 5 ONLY—Wednesday, 21st April until 26th May – 315pm-415pm for year 5 ONLY.

Year 6 ONLY—Thursday, 22nd April until 27th May – 315pm-415pm for year 6 ONLY.

If you are collecting your child at the end of the session please arrive by 4.15pm.

Easter Bonnet Competition

Well done to all of you that took part in this year's competition. It really was wonderful to see so many fantastic creations.

It was a very difficult decision but the winners were:

ere are a few of the masterpieces.

Nursery

Freddy

Reception

Hugo

Years 1 and 2

Luna Magda Ella-Rose

Years 3 and 4

Leah Daniel Mar-

Years 5 and 6

Kaito Milius Kai

Happy
Easter

Happy
Easter



Thank you to Grosvenor and Trinity Churches for providing each child with a lovely booklet 'All About Easter'.

Year 3 and 4—Proud Cloud (High Flyer Readers)

We are proud to share the children's success for consistently reading 25 times a week at home. The following children have reached their first step on the Proud Cloud. When children reach 50 they will receive their first certificate. Well done to:



Miss Gulliford's class 150—Ruby 25—Jack

Year 6 Transition to Secondary School

Park Community School

More information will be sent out in May/June. Information on the Park website is waiting to be updated and is not current for this year's pupils.

Wednesday, 23rd June—Year 6 parent evening at Park.
Thursday, 15th July and Friday, 16th July—Year 6 Induction Days.

Pilton Community College

The link below is for the Pilton's website and dedicated Year 6 transition section.

[Pilton Community College | Barnstaple \(piltoncollege.org.uk\)](http://Pilton Community College | Barnstaple (piltoncollege.org.uk))
[Year 6 Transition | Pilton School \(piltoncollege.org.uk\)](http://Year 6 Transition | Pilton School (piltoncollege.org.uk))

Children should have all received a welcome pack by now with lots of information which tells you more about the school. More information will be sent after Easter.

Tuesday, 20th April—Virtual Year 6 Evening 4pm to 5pm
Tuesday, 25th May— Virtual Information evening
Possible Induction days (to be confirmed) - Tuesday, 6th, Wednesday, 7th or Thursday, 8th July

Bideford College

Thursday, 22nd April—Bideford college—Virtual Student Meeting

Braunton Academy

Wednesday, 5th May—6.30pm—Year 6 Parent Welcome Evening—Isaac Hall
Tuesday, 6th July—Year 6 Transition Day.
Wednesday, 7th July— 6.30pm—Year 6 Parents Transition Evening— Isaac Hall

Menu for week commencing 19th April 2021

Week 1 19th April 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
JP- Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	M – Brunch grill, sausage bacon, beans and sauté potatoes	M – Roast chicken potatoes and 2 fresh vegetables with gravy	M – Pasta Bolognese and sweetcorn	M – Chicken Nugget with French fries and peas
SPL- Sausage roll	JP – Jacket potato Tuna/cheese/tuna	SPL - Sausage roll or Cheese & Onion pasty	JP – Jacket potato Cheese/beans/ tuna	V – Quorn nuggets with French fries and peas
D – fresh fruit	SPL - Cheese sandwich	D – Fruit smoothie	SPL – Cheese roll	SPL - Ham Sandwich
	D – Chocolate sponge		D – St Clements cake	D – Cookie

Yoghurts and fresh fruit will be available daily

Gluten free menu available on request

A letter to young people from Gavin Williamson MP, Secretary of State for Education



I wanted to let you all know how grateful I am for the way you have responded to the huge challenges you have all faced throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

Whether this is your first year at school or your final year of college, I know the disruption you have all faced to your education since the pandemic began has been incredibly challenging and has meant completely changing the way you learn - either learning remotely at home or continuing at school or college with fewer of your friends around you and lots of safety measures in place.

Whether you were at home or at school, the disruption last term and throughout last year asked a lot of you and your families. I am filled with admiration for the incredible way you all responded and the resilience you have shown. Not being in school or college with your teachers and friends was a huge sacrifice. Everything you did, with the help of your families and your schools and colleges, and everything you missed out on - time in school, taking exams, seeing friends, playing sport and much more - made such a huge difference to helping us stop the spread of the virus. I want to say a huge thank you to all of you.

Getting all young people back into school and college safely has been my priority throughout the pandemic. I know how vital it is not just for your education but also to spend time with your friends and to feel happy and secure. All our lives have changed a lot in the past year but the challenges that young people have faced have been some of the hardest. I will continue doing everything in my power to make sure that all of you are supported to boost any areas of work you've had less time at school to study, get the qualifications you deserve and have the opportunities you need to succeed.

Continuing to follow all the safety measures your schools and colleges have worked hard to put in place, as well as taking a test twice a week, is so important and helps us to stop the virus spreading. The testing that thousands of you have been taking part in at school and college is a vital part of this. I am so grateful to you and all the staff who have supported you to do this. I know your schools and colleges have worked incredibly hard to prepare you to test yourself at home.

As most of you at secondary school and college move to testing yourself regularly at home, it's vital that you continue to test and report online twice a week through the Easter holidays and after you return to school. Home testing twice a week for you and everyone you live with makes a huge difference and means you are playing a really important role in helping us move back to a more normal way of life. Your school or college will continue to support you and make sure you have tests. You and your family can also find out more about home testing [here](#).

I was delighted to see the enthusiasm with which so many of you returned to school at the beginning of March and I am sure you have had a wonderful few weeks catching up with your friends and teachers. It was fantastic to meet pupils delighted to return to school on my visits to schools like Arden Academy and Bedford Free School and to see so many more of your reunions on social media. I hope that the new term will be just as enjoyable and successful for all of you.

Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP
Secretary of State for Education

Road Map out of Lockdown

STEP 1 8 March

29 March

EDUCATION

- 8 MARCH**
- Schools and colleges open for all students
 - Practical Higher Education courses

SOCIAL CONTACT

- 8 MARCH**
- Exercise and recreation outdoors with household or one other person
 - Household only indoors
- 29 MARCH**
- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors
 - Household only indoors

BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

- 8 MARCH**
- Wraparound care, including sport, for all children
 - Organised outdoor sport (children and adults)
 - Outdoor sport and leisure facilities
 - All outdoor children's activities
 - Outdoor parent & child group (max 15 people, excluding under 5s)

TRAVEL

- 8 MARCH**
- Stay at home
 - No holidays
- 29 MARCH**
- Minimise travel
 - No holidays

EVENTS

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings and wakes (6)

STEP 2 No earlier than 12 April

At least 5 weeks after Step 1

EDUCATION

- As previous step

SOCIAL CONTACT

- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors
- Household only indoors

BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

- All retail
- Personal care
- Libraries & community centres
- Most outdoor attractions
- Indoor leisure inc. gyms (individual use only)
- Self-contained accommodation
- All children's activities
- Outdoor hospitality
- Indoor parent & child groups (max 15 people, excluding under 5s)

TRAVEL

- Domestic overnight stays (household only)
- No international holidays

EVENTS

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings, wakes, receptions (15)
- Event pilots

STEP 3 No earlier than 17 May

At least 5 weeks after Step 2

EDUCATION

- As previous step

SOCIAL CONTACT

- Maximum 30 people outdoors
- Rule of 6 or two households indoors (subject to review)

BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

- Indoor hospitality
- Indoor entertainment and attractions
- Organised indoor sport (adult)
- Remaining accommodation
- Remaining outdoor entertainment (including performances)

TRAVEL

- Domestic overnight stays
- International travel (subject to review)

EVENTS

- Most significant life events (30)
- Indoor events: 1,000 or 50% (plus pilots)
- Outdoor seated events: 10,000 or 25% (plus pilots)
- Outdoor other events: 4,000 or 50% (plus pilots)

STEP 4 No earlier than 21 June

At least 5 weeks after Step 3

All subject to review

EDUCATION

- As previous step

SOCIAL CONTACT

- No legal limit

BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

- Remaining businesses, including nightclubs

TRAVEL

- Domestic overnight stays
- International travel

EVENTS

- No legal limit on life events
- Larger events



THE KIDS ADVENTURE
COMPANY

Kids Easter Holiday club

10.00-15.00pm £45 per day

£5 discount for climbing club members

Wistlandpound Forest Adventure (provisional)

Tues 6th April, age 7 upwards

Fun packed day exploring the woods: orienteering, treasure trails, shelter building, firefighting, smores, games, whittling, bow & arrows, slack line.

*New for
2021*

Gorge Adventure

Sat 10th April, secondary school upwards

Scrambling down the steep banks to the remote beach at Glenthorpe, toasting marshmallows on an open fire on the beach, very wet and challenging gorge scramble, climbing back up in the stream! Drop off at County Gate, Exmoor and enjoy a day to yourselves exploring the area!

Coastal Adventure

Full Tues 13th April, age 7 upwards

New date added Wed 14th April, age 7 upwards

Exciting adventure day exploring the cliffs & caves of Baggy Point: climbing, a big abseil, firefighting, rock pooling, scrambling, smores. May get wet feet!

All activities will be run within Government COVID-19 guidelines
See our website for details www.thekidsadventurecompany.co.uk

Booking essential

 thekidsadventurecompany@gmail.com



07837 649839



THE KIDS ADVENTURE
COMPANY

Kids Easter Activity Programme

New session date

Wed 7th April

Climb Baggy

session 1 09.00 - 10.30

session 2 10.45 - 12.15

session 3 13.00 - 16.00

Young climbers 6-8+

Age 8+

Advanced climbing £35

Sun 11th April FULL session 1 09.00 - 10.30

Climb Baggy FULL session 2 10.45 - 12.15

session 3 12.30 - 14.00

Young climbers 6-8+

Age 8+

Age 8+

Mon 12th April

Abseil into cave

& climb, Baggy

session 1 11.15 - 12.45

session 2 13.00 - 14.30

Age 8+

Age 8+

Sun 18th April FULL session 1 10.00 - 11.30

Climb, session 2 11.45 - 13.15

Valley of the Rocks session 3 13.30 - 15.00

Age 6+

Age 6+

Age 5+

£25 a session

all abilities welcome

£5 discount for climbing club members

All activities will be run within Government COVID-19 guidelines
See our website for details www.thekidsadventurecompany.co.uk

Booking essential



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EASTER

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FOR ALL CHILDREN AGED

2 - 14 YEARS

FROM £4.00

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Self-Care Bingo

Put on some nice clothes	 Talked to a friend	Said three things I am grateful for	Did a good deed	Had a good laugh
Brushed my teeth every day	 Drank water everyday	Took a break	 Asked for help	Did some breathing exercises
 Ate a healthy snack	Was helpful to someone	 Had a wash	 Ate a piece of fruit	 Did a hobby
 Went outside	Tried something new	Was kind to someone	Played a game	Did something fun
Had fun doing some exercise	 Ate healthy food	Thought about how my body feels	Thought about how I feel	Gave myself a pat on the back