

The Orchard Newsletter

Friday 14th October 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you have all had a good week. It has been very busy here at The Orchard and I have enjoyed seeing the children doing their fabulous learning. Reception are coming along so well with learning their letters and sounds and Elm class really impressed me with it this morning when I was able to spend some time with them. They were on fire! Year One have done some amazing autumn artwork which is now decorating our corridors and I really did have a 'stop-and-stare' moment when I was walking past it this afternoon. Year 2 have been seeing the effects of different liquids on eggs shells which, like teeth, contain lots of calcium. They have also written some amazing Storm Whale stories.

It was lovely to meet with our brand-new school council today. They are very enthusiastic and I am sure they will represent their classes really well. We discussed a range of charities that we could support as a school and they will be checking with their classes for their ideas. If you have a connection or special interest in a particular charity please let your child know so that they can feed back to their school councillor and let me know.

Voluntary School Contributions

As well as all the great learning that goes on inside the classroom, learning outside the classroom is widely recognised as a valuable and effective means of extending pupil knowledge, enriching pupil understanding and promoting personal and social development. Consequently, we promote and encourage the organisation of educational visits for all our pupils and hope that parents will recognise the value and importance of these visits and give their full support. The school believes wholeheartedly in the value of these experiences and tries to ensure that these opportunities are accessible and affordable to all. However, the school does not have the financial resources to pay the full costs and, consequently, a voluntary contribution has to be requested from parents/carers to make up the shortfall. This contribution is genuinely voluntary and neither you nor your child will be excluded if you choose not to contribute. However, please note that without all such voluntary contributions, trips and activities may have to be cancelled, due to a lack of funds.

Some parents have already approached me to check where these payments can be made. We discovered that Parentmail had dropped this function in its payments section, which is why some of you may have been finding it difficult to do. This has now been rectified.

Log in to Parentmail /Iris
Use the menu in top left-hand corner
Payments
Shop
Annual Voluntary Contribution £60

Previous activities that these contributions have been able to be used for are: dance residentials, dinosaur day, bringing chicks in to the school etc. These money goes directly to benefit and enrich the children's learning and can really make a difference to the life of the school.

Many thanks in advance for your support.

Mrs Cary



Dates for the Diary

18th and 20th October



New Parent Tours – those who are applying for a Reception place in September 2023

Tuesday 18th October
Hallowe'en Disco



Friday 21st October
Harvest Celebration
Donations gratefully received



PTA: Pizza Kits

Monday 21st – Friday 28th October
Half term

Monday 31st October
INSET DAY



Tuesday 1st November
Children return

Tuesday 8th & Thursday 10th November
Parent Evenings
(more details to come out next week)

Artist of the Week

Our artist of the week is Australian rock band AC/DC. They have sold over 200 million albums worldwide. A research team at the University of South Australia found that playing loud rock music during some treatments has been effective at improving the efficiency of the medication. The song that they've been using is AC/DC's "Thunderstruck." Who knew?



Kindness Awards

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Ash	Tori	Maple	Molly	Beech	Finn
Elm	Charlotte	Rowan	Immy	Oak	Henry
Holly	Riley	Willow	Rhiannon	Sycamore	Saige
		Pine	Odin		

Well done everyone 😊.



Harvest Donations

This year we will again be collecting food for the **East Elbridge Food Bank**. Our local food bank works with referral agencies to issue food vouchers to those in need of emergency food in times of crisis.

We would very much appreciate your donations of:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🍷 Long life Fruit juice and squash 🍷 Tinned Potatoes 🍷 Tinned Vegetables 🍷 Tinned Hot dogs 🍷 Biscuits & crackers 🍷 Crisps | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🍷 Chocolate and sweets 🍷 Spreads and Preserves (but not strawberry jam please!) 🍷 Instant packets such as pot noodles and cup a soup 🍷 Sugar (ideally small packs, 500g) 🍷 Pulses (kidney beans, chickpeas) 🍷 Small packs of tea bags (40/80 per pack) |
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In order to safely deliver them to the foodbank, please bring your donations to school in a plastic bag to the school entrance foyer. Please send in your donation on **Friday 21st October 2022**