

Friday 21st April 2023

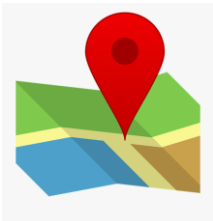
Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to the summer term everyone! I say that tongue in cheek because we have seen very little sun and a lot of rain this week. Things can only get better, right?

We were pleased to welcome all the children and staff back on Monday and are looking forward to this term together and all that it brings. I have to say that so many of the children seem to have shot up in the last two weeks. The Reception children are not looking so little any more and I did comment to a Year 2 child today that he was almost catching me up! (story of my life!) The hall was packed with children for our whole school assembly today as we all tried to squeeze in.

Talking of assemblies - our assembly theme this half term is British Values. Over the next few weeks we will discuss 5 values that help to make our country a great place to live: rule of law, democracy, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This is all done in an age appropriate way and are key values that we hope to emulate in our school community as well. The children in Year 1 and 2 also had a Spanish assembly this week. Please see the information attached to this email about a new Spanish club that we are hoping to have at the Orchard.

Other learning that we did this week are as follows:



Year 1 have been learning about their local area and looking at maps and symbols in Geography. They have been using fantastic adjectives in their writing to describe the adventures of the 'Everywhere Bear'. I read some great poems today that helped me really picture the dramatic events of the story. In RE they were introduced to the Jewish religion which they will be learning about this term. They are having a visitor from the synagogue come and see them on Monday and we are hoping to learn more about this faith from them.

Year Two have been learning about fractions in their maths lessons and their descriptive writing has been based on a great story called Croc and Bird by Alexis Deacon. It is a wonderful story all about difference and acceptance. The children have also learnt this week about why Muslim families celebrate Eid. To all our Muslim families, we hope you have had a lovely celebration today.



Our Reception children have been learning about 'healthy' and 'unhealthy' food choices. I was reassured by one of the children in Holly class today that I am still allowed to eat chocolate - 'but only a little bit'. I also was able to spend a joyous time in Elm class this morning as the Reception children shared their 'special' things with each other. They listened so respectfully and it was lovely to hear them articulate so well why these objects are so special to them.

As I have already explained in my letter yesterday, there will be days next week and the week after when some classes are affected by the strike action. I just wanted to say thank you for the support and understanding we have felt from parents over this issue. We recognise that this means that many of our families will have to change plans for those two days. I just wanted to reaffirm that this is not just an issue about teacher pay, but about the significant reduction in financial support from the government that ultimately affects the children we are teaching. Please know that none of our teachers have made the decision to strike lightly. I will update you if there is any further news regarding this.

Lastly, I just wanted to say congratulations to Mrs Seabrook. She and her husband are expecting a baby in September. We are very happy for them both 😊.



I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Take care
Mrs Cary



Thank you for all your support at the book fair last month. The books that you bought meant that we raised almost £400 for the school which will be used to spend on other books for our book corners.



It may well be the summer term
But we still have some issues
There are lots of stuffy noses and sniffles
Meaning we need lots of tissues!
So, to help us fight against the sneezes
And to help us not pass on diseases
Please have a heart and increase our stocks
By sending in a tissue box.
Thank you!



You and your child are invited to attend 'Messy Church'

**St Paul's C of E Church
Church Road, East Molesey
Ages 4 -11 years and parents**



Tuesday 9th May
Tuesday 13th June
Tuesday 11th July

Activities, craft, singing and games followed by a hot meal

If you would like to attend please contact: stpaulmolesey@gmail.com / 020 8941 2071

New Spanish Club



Next term we are hoping to start a new club here at The Orchard.

Every THURSDAY 3.00 - 4.00pm

Cost: £11 per class, payable termly in advance

Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter. This will be dependent on numbers so please register your interest as soon as possible so that the club leader can.

Email: deborah.rivera@kidslingo.co.uk



Kindness Awards

Thank you for the kindness and care you show those around you!



Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Ash	Wilfred	Maple	Alessa	Beech	Tom
Elm	Odin	Rowan	Barnaby	Oak	Julie
Holly	Arlen	Willow	Rita	Sycamore	Matas
		Pine	Maddie		

You can always give something, even if it is only kindness – Anne Frank

Dates for the Diary

Saturday 22nd April 2023

We Are The Voice
Fundraiser Concert



Saturday 22nd April 2023

Year 1: Judaism - Visitor & Talk



Wednesday 26th April 2023

Coffee Morning with our Family Support Worker,
Teresa Doe



Thursday 27th April

Strike Day



Monday 1st May

May Day Bank Holiday



Tuesday 2nd May

Strike Day



Friday 5th May

The Orchard Coronation Celebrations
More information to follow next week



Monday 8th May

Coronation Bank Holiday



Tuesday 9th May

Reception: Space VR



Tuesday 9th May

Messy Church @ St Paul's Church



Tuesday 10th May

Year 2: Materials Workshop

(Please note that this is a change to the original date)



Friday 19th May

PTA: Quiz Night



Coffee Morning

You are invited to attend a Coffee Morning here at The Orchard with our
Family Support Worker, Teresa Doe.

Wednesday 26th April

9am

This will be a great opportunity for parents to connect, share experiences and get to know each other, as well as meet Teresa who does so many great things to support families across our school.



All Welcome!

PTA Social

<https://www.pta-events.com/orchardpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=58681&preSaleId=7134189B-9858-4716-8347C248E5AEE4B2#.ZAr0ZOSnwWM>

When: Friday, 19th May 2023
Time: Drinks from 7pm, quiz starts at 7.30pm. Finish at 11pm
Where: The Hub, Ray Road, West Molesey, Surrey, KT8 2LG
Cost: £7.50 pp - Teams of 8!



Artist of the Week: The Specials



The Specials is a ska band and are known for songs that have a distinctive political theme. Ska music originated in Jamaica combining calypso with jazz and rhythm & blues. The Specials has had 40 different band members over the years and reincarnated itself several times. They have released 9 albums since the late 70s with their latest album being released in 2021. The band are also known for their distinctive fashion style wearing pork pie hats and mohair suits.

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/6wruEsCVZhvZwXeSbdglr?si=35fd792128c24bf4>



is performing their first ever full length show

'I Am The Earth'

Vera Fletcher Hall

Saturday 22nd April @ 7:30pm

(featuring some of our very own Orchard and past Orchard children)

In their original songs, they sing for the trees, oceans and climate, and for the children's future. The choir sang at COP26 in Glasgow, and have sung at Mayoral Events and many Environmental and community events.

They are a charity, and this is our big fundraiser concert.

Suitable for families, adults and children.

There are some tickets remaining, so please buy yours now at the link below.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-vera-fletcher-hall-association/t-zzovxxd>

'Winning Hearts And Minds - Inspiring Positive Change One Song At A Time'

Amazon Wish Lists:



'Love Reading 4 Kids'

If you buy books from www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk you are able to nominate us as your chosen school and we get 25% of the book cover price to spend on books for school.

Thank you for any support you can give us with this.

