



Dear Parents / Carers,

Well, it has certainly been a week of opposites. The cold chill in the air has been bracing – especially during those early ‘good mornings’ at the gate each day. To counteract that has been the warmth of everyone’s smiles and the Christmas buzz that has been around the school this week. The children and teachers have been busy preparing the Christmas performances for next week. The children and teachers were lucky enough to have a sneak preview of them today and watch performances in other year groups.

I can reliably inform you that you are in for a treat.

As well as preparing for next week, children have been engaged in their learning.

Reception children have been inventing their own amazing machines – one of them even makes the Christmas dinner and pudding. I want that in my house!

They have also been learning about repeated patterns.



Year One children have been learning all about weather patterns and in maths have been developing their understanding of that very important number 10. I have been impressed with the range of different ways they can represent this number.



Year Two have been learning about the meaning behind the Christmas symbols such as the Christmas tree and the holly wreath, as well as writing their own stories based on the character ‘Dark’.



Please note that the Parenting Puzzle will be starting up again in the new year. It is a nurturing programme for parents and carers and supports you to get the best out of family life. Please see the leaflet attached with the newsletter email.

I was especially proud of our school choir this week. They sang at the St Peter’s Church Christmas Fair last weekend and at Winter Wander last night on Bridge Road and they performed beautifully. They brought a real sparkle to both events. Well done to all of them.

Wishing you all a warm and cosy weekend.

Mrs Cary



If your child is in **Year 2** then please be aware that you must submit an application **by 15th January 2023** for a **junior (Year 3)** transfer.

Online applications are encouraged via <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app> however parents can also request a paper application form or seek impartial help in completing an application via the Surrey Schools & Childcare Service (0300 200 1004, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm). Full information is available on Surrey’s website at www.surreycc.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

Applications received after the closing date without good reason will be treated as late and will not be considered until all on time applications have been processed. This may jeopardise the chance of a parent being offered one of their preferred schools for their child.

Kindness Awards

Well done to all our kindness stars this week.

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Ash	Lily	Maple	Alfie	Beech	Erin
Elm	Annalie	Rowan	Orla	Oak	Sebastian
Holly	Millie	Willow	Zeyah	Sycamore	Rafa
		Pine	Maddie		

How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it! – George Elliston

Admissions Policy Consultations

As you are aware, we are currently consulting on our Admissions policy for 2024/25.

Please go to our website if you would like further details about this.

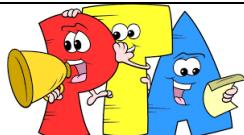
<http://www.orchard.surrey.sch.uk/admissions-consultation.html>



A number of schools in the local area have been in touch regarding their admission policies as well - both primary and secondary schools. I have attached an additional document to my email which contains information from these individual schools including contact details and the website where the consultation documents can be found.

If you have and feedback on their proposed changes, please contact the schools directly.

Thames Ditton Junior
Hinchley Wood Primary
Salesians School, Chertsey



If you have a special talent/skill, or have a particular interest with or connection to a culture or background, please make your class rep or a member of the PTA committee aware. We are looking to promote diversity through our PTA activities and where was can, expose the children to and develop their understanding of a range of backgrounds, traditions and cultures. We recognise that there is a wide variety of expertise amongst us and would be grateful if you could share that. Many thanks in advance.

*I have only recently been made aware of this but if you are on first name terms with your Amazon delivery driver las I am, or even if he just delivers once in a while, please consider using Amazon Smile to make any purchases and putting **The Orchard PTA** down as your linked charity. I have just done it myself.*

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support a charity of your choice every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.co.uk on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping App for iOS and Android phones. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as amazon.co.uk, with the added bonus that AmazonSmile will donate a portion of the purchase price to your selected charity.

How do I shop with AmazonSmile?

To use AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.co.uk on your web browser or activate AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping app on your iOS or Android phone within the Settings or Programmes & Features menu. On your web browser, you can add a bookmark to smile.amazon.co.uk to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at with AmazonSmile.

See the attached guide with the newsletter email.



Artist(s) of the Week: Christmas Music

This week, we will be enjoying a collection of classic Christmas songs. The children and staff will be singing along to Wham, Wizzard, Slade, Nat King Cole and many others.

Enjoy the music along with us by clicking on this link:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/46bERR3J5uTzi64c79Ynqh?si=2a275af29d8442aa>

If you do not have a Spotify account, you can sign up for a free one.



Dates for the Diary

Christmas Assemblies



Monday 12th December

Reception @ 9:30am

Year 2 @ 2pm

Tuesday 13th December

Year 1 @ 9:30am

Reception @ 2pm

Wednesday 14th December

Year 2 @ 9:30am

Year 1 @ 2pm



Thursday 15th December

Year group Christmas Parties

(and there just might be a special someone visiting
The Orchard!)



Friday 16th December

Autumn Term Finishes @ 1:45pm



happy new year
2023

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

INSET day

Wednesday 4th January 2023

Children return to school

Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5th January 2023

Year 2 Fire Safety Talks with
Surrey Fire & Rescue Service



Christmas cards can still be delivered to friends across the school via out post box outside the school office.



Envelopes must clearly state the child's
first name, last name and class
as we have lots of children with the same first name and
we want to make sure it gets to the right person.

Last post: Wednesday 14th Dec

