



Friday 10th November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you so much for joining us this week for our Parents Evenings. It was lovely meet with you and to share your child's progress with you. Working together is the most effective way we can support your child during their time here at the Orchard.

We started this week reflecting on the 'oohs' and 'aahs' of Bonfire night celebrations and then learnt in our Key Stage one assembly on Monday about Diwali – the Hindu festival of lights – that is also celebrated with fireworks. Our assembly focus will be **light** this half term and how that is used in celebrations and how we can be a light to others through our words and actions.

We ended the week thinking about our service men and women past and present and the children were very respectful in our assembly today when we had our minute silence. Thank you for all the **poppy donations**. We will be sending them on to the Royal British Legion.

Reception children this week went on a **bear hunt** through long grass, mud, snow storms and forests. They were so confident sharing the story retold by Michael Rosen and also creating their own versions. They made the most amazing art work representing the journey that the family went on.

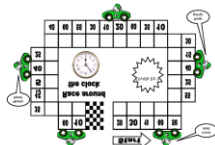


Year 1 have been thinking about their families in RE. They will connect this thinking later to the Christian story of Jesus' birth which is their focus in RE this half term. In Music they have been learning about the musical dimension of **pitch** and thinking about high and low sounds. They have also been writing letters to 'Squirrel' and have given the very confused little animal some sound advice about the very worrying 'leaf problem'.



Year 2 are continuing to learn about **healthy food choices** and will be using that information to help them create a tasty treat later on in the term. They have been expressing themselves creatively through dance based on a 'Secret Garden' and we are looking forward to seeing how these dances develop over the half term. I have been told on good authority that the Year 2 children have started their '**maths race**' challenge. They compete against their own previous scores and will really be able to see how much they are progressing. Each child has been given targets that they are working towards and these can be found in their reading diaries.

You've got this Year 2!



Our new books are going down a treat. Please could I ask that you use the **new plastic zippy wallets** in the book bags to store the books as they travel to and from school.

This will just give them an added layer of protection.

Our **PTA Annual General Meeting** is on **Thursday 16th November** here at the school at **8pm**. Please join us if you are able.



Happy Diwali to our Orchard families celebrating this weekend.

See you on Monday in your **ODD SOCKS!**

Mrs Cary



amazon Wish Lists

Now we are all settled into Autumn 2 we have updated our Amazon wish lists. Please find the links below to help by donating an item to our specific year groups.

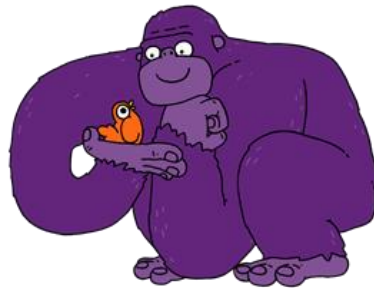
Please click:



New Childline Website

Under 12s

<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/u12-landing/>



They have a range of fantastic resources including: a mental health first aid kit, a mood journal, a calm zone and a coping kit.

Difficulties Sleeping?

This week Surrey's Children and Family Health Services launched some new resources to support children and young people's sleep.

A series of four videos for parents and carers, jointly funded by Surrey County Council, aims to support toddlers, children and teenagers including those with additional needs and learning disabilities.

Featuring their nurses and sleep experts, the videos provide advice, information and tips for families and can be viewed on the [Children and Family Health Surrey website](#).



Click on the picture.

Parent Governor Ballot

Our parent governor ballot is open until **Monday 20th November @ 9am**.

Please drop your ballot paper with your casting votes into the box in the school office area.

Our 3 nominees are:

- **Ben Blake**
- **Emma Mehigan Smith**
- **Katherine Wells**

You can vote for **up to 2 people** as there are two parent governor vacancies available. Any ballot papers that have more than two votes will not be included in the final count.

Please be considerate when parking.

Sadly, we have had more communication from our neighbours about the misuse of the private car park on Hansler Grove.

I would rather stand and greet you all at the gate with a smile on my face every morning than stand at the entrance to the private car park and move people on.

Please don't make me do it! 😞

Anti-bullying Week

13-17th November



Monday 13th - Odd Socks Day

Children can wear odd/fun/funky but not smelly socks to school 😊. If they usually wear tights they may want to wear short odd socks over their tights.

Friday 17th - Children in Need Mufti

Wear spots or stripes to school and bring in a donation to support the Children in Need fundraiser.

Artist of the Week: Marcia Griffiths



Click on the picture to listen to her smooth voice.

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/4qn8CXHJy02fGf6YUnWRi?si=35a99d756cdd472c>

Jamaican born, Marcia started singing when she was 15.

Her voice is described to be as smooth as mousse (the dessert).

She was heard singing in her neighbourhood one day and she was offered two different music contracts the very next day because she was so impressive.

She used to be one of the backing singers for Bob Marley and the Whailers.

Two films have been made about her as she is considered to be one of the most influential artists ever to come out of Jamaica.

Value Awards

Courage, Determination, Respect and Kindness

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Ash	Wilf	Maple	Miles	Beech	Millie
Elm	Elijah	Rowan	Joanna	Oak	Danni
Holly	Lottie	Willow	Rosalie	Sycamore	Maddie

“Respect and compassion aren't about how you feel for someone; they are more about how you make others feel.”

Dates for the Diary

w/c Monday 13th November

Anti-bullying week



(Monday – **Odd Socks Day** – wear odd socks

Friday - **Children in Need Day** – wear spots or stripes and bring in a donation for Children in Need)



Tuesday 14th November

Messy Church @ St Paul's



Wednesday 15th November

Photo Day



Thursday 16th November

PTA AGM 8pm @ School



W/C Monday 20th November

Road Safety Week



Wednesday 29th November

Wreath Workshop

7:30pm @ The Orchard



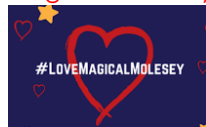
Monday 25th November

PTA: Orchard School Christmas Party
For the Grown Ups!



Thursday 30th November

Magical Molesey



Friday 1st December

Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Storytelling Experience

Dip & Dab's Christmas Show



Friday 1st December

Christmas Fayre 10am – 1pm



Wednesday 6th December

Bridge Road Winter Wander



Christmas Assemblies

Monday 11th December

Year 1 @ 9:30am

Year 2 @ 2pm

Tuesday 12th December

Reception @ 9:30am

Year 1 @ 2pm

Wednesday 13th December

Year 2 @ 9:30am

Reception @ 2pm



We will send details out about how to book a seat soon.

Wednesday 12th December

Messy Church Christingle



Thursday 14th December

Reception Christmas Storytelling Experience

The Littlest Christmas Elf



Are you coming.....? We hope so 😊

For the Grown Ups!

**Let's kick start the Christmas Season
in style!**

ORCHARD SCHOOL CHRISTMAS
PARTY 2023

You can get your tickets here:

[https://www.pta-
events.com/orchardpta/index.cfm?event=event&event
id=66460](https://www.pta-events.com/orchardpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventid=66460)

For the children!

Christmas Fayre



Saturday 2nd December
at the Orchard
10am – 1pm