



The Orchard Newsletter

Friday 13th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a busy week here at The Orchard and I can't quite believe that we are heading in to our last week of the half term already. We thought our mental health this week and did some activities about how to look after ourselves and our emotions and thinking. For free resources to help you continue to support your child's mental health please go to: <https://www.explorelarning.co.uk/free-resources/the-best-mental-health-activities-for-kids/>

Year 2 have been writing the most brilliant stories about the Storm Whale this week. They have been thinking about how to make their writing interesting by using adjectives and how they can move the story onward by using different time starters. They have also been learning about keeping teeth healthy and have made predictions about the effect of different liquids on eggshell. They will be using eggshell in their investigation as, like teeth, it contains a high percentage of calcium. However, there are rather a lot of wobbly teeth in Year 2 at the moment so I bet we could have enough teeth by next week to do the experiment with real teeth! I wonder what effect the coca cola will have?



Reception children have been using the hall today to move around like mythical creatures such as dragons, unicorn and fairies. They used the space really creatively and thought about their speed and direction. They have also been learning about the seasons and what each one is like and how it effects humans when we experience the different seasons.



Year 1 have also been thinking about the seasons and have been getting very autumnal with their crafts. They have been writing facts about famous people and have learnt about Marcus Rashford, Ellie Simmonds and Tim Peake. In maths they have been exploring the idea of 'wholes' and 'parts' and they have also been creating adverts to show off the wonderful crockery that they made out of clay.



In other news....work still continues with our decarbonisation project and there will much going in half term to make sure we are all ready for the wintry weather. Fingers crossed that the cold weather doesn't arrive too quickly though. Our new reading books have all been ordered and we are really hoping that they arrive next week. We will keep you posted.

Don't forget that we are seeking parent governors and nominations need to be in by Tuesday 31st October. If you have any questions about the role, please come and speak to me.



Please bring any carved pumpkins in on Monday morning ready for our pumpkin carving competition and Hallowe'en disco. We also have our African Drumming workshops so we are all looking forward to a busy and exciting week ahead.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Cary

Voluntary Contributions – School Fund

With very squeezed budgets and running costs remaining high, we are very appreciative of any donations you can make through school fund. This money goes directly to enhance the children's experiences that go beyond the core curriculum.

We would love to continue to develop our provision and facilities for your children and would ask you to consider making a monthly contribution of £10 per child per month, if you have the financial capacity to do so. Some parents are willing and able to contribute more but we welcome any donation, large or small.

Payments can be made via Standing Order using the bank details below: -

Bank: HSBC UK Account
Name: The Orchard School Fund
Account Number: 30632317
Sort Code: 40-20-26

Goodbye to Mrs Koplick

Today we were very sad to say goodbye to Mrs Koplick who has supported children and class teachers here at The Orchard for many years. We wish her well in her new job working with children who are performing in stage productions in London. We will miss you!

Here are some things that the children have said about Mrs Koplick:

If we were hurt,
Mrs Koplick would
always look after
us. - Bastie

Mrs Koplick was in
our class last year
and she helped us
a lot. - Paige

She makes sure
we are okay when
we are sad.

- Poppy F

Mrs Koplick
played fun games
with us. - Elijah

We will miss you!

She is very kind to
us.

- Molly

She helped me
learn how to skip.
She is a good
skipper and so am I.

- Bella

Lost



One of our parents has lost a gold chain bracelet with an 's' clasp and believes that it went missing on the school run and may possibly have been dropped in The Orchard grounds or somewhere close by. If you (or even possibly your child) have found it, please could you let someone in the school office know. This has extreme sentimental value and the owner will be absolutely over the moon if they can be reunited.



Last chance.....Hallowe'en Disco

Book by 9pm tonight

Monday 16th October 2023

£5

Reception - 3-4pm

Year 1 - 4-5pm

Year 2 - 5-6pm



Dress up – no masks

Snack

Dancing

Games

Quiet area



Make your booking here:

<https://www.pta-events.com/orchahancerdpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=67061>

We have asked for no masks so we can see the children's faces clearly but we are more than happy for you to add a little bit of face paint and sparkle to the costumes/outfits.

Online Safety

We have recently purchased, through the generous fund raising of our PTA, some new iPads for our Reception classes. All year groups now have iPads and we teach both computing and online safety as discreet subjects. In this progressively digital world it is so important for us to help children navigate their way safely and healthily. As part of our efforts to support both children and parents in this ever-changing world, I will periodically send out information from a platform called **National Online Safety** that we get through our subscription to the National College. There are a number of helpful guides to support parents with regards to all things online and digital. Some will be relevant to pupils that we have here at the Orchard and some will be about apps, devices etc. that will be for older pupils. However, we know that many of you will have older children, close family and friends etc. that this information may be useful for. Each time we send one out we will add it to our website for you to be able to access it whenever needed.



The first guide is about **looking after your wellbeing online**. Please see the attached document alongside this newsletter.

Little accidents.....

Last week, I shared with you the PANTS rule. This week I am asking for 'pants' donations. If you have any **spare children's pants** that you can donate we would be very grateful.

Please drop any donations off at the school office.



Harvest Donations

This year we will again be collecting food for the **East Elmbridge 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. The school councillors have made some wonderful posters which you will see around the school reminding you of our collection.

We would very much appreciate your donations of:

- ✚ Long life Fruit juice and squash
- ✚ Tinned Potatoes
- ✚ Tinned Vegetables
- ✚ Tinned Hot dogs
- ✚ Biscuits & crackers
- ✚ Crisps



- ✚ 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)

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 20th October 2023**

Value Awards

Our values are: **Courage**, **Determination**, **Respect** and **Kindness**.

Wow – what lovely observations were shared about these children today! Well done!

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Ash	Charlie	Maple	Poppy G	Beech	Mila
Elm	Innes	Rowan	Beatrice	Oak	Rhiannon
Holly	Victor	Willow	Cecily	Sycamore	Sam C
		Pine	Max		



Kindness is a gift everyone can afford to give.



Don't forget to add these to your calendar!

For the Grown Ups!

Let's kick start the Christmas Season in style!

ORCHARD SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023

When: Saturday 25th November 2023

You can get your tickets here:

<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

Dates for the Diary

Parent Tour Mornings for Sept 2024 intake

9 – 9:30am



Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th October

Tuesday 31st October

Tuesday 10th October

World Mental Health Day



Monday 16th October

Halloween Disco and Pumpkin Competition



Monday 16th October (R & Y1)

Tuesday 17th October (Y2)

African Drumming Workshops



Thursday 19th October

Donut Sale after school



Friday 20th October

Harvest Celebration and
Collection for Elmbridge Food Bank



Half term

23rd – 27th October



Monday 30th October

INSET DAY (Staff in school only)



Tuesday 31st October

Children back at school



Wednesday 1st November

Flu Vaccinations



Tuesday 7th November and Thursday 9th November

Parents Evening

Please book via Parentmail. We will be sending home information on how to do this next week.



w/c Monday 13th November

Anti-bullying week



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

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



Wednesday 15th November

Photo Day



Wednesday 29th November

Wreath Workshop

7:30pm @ The Orchard



Thursday 30th November

Magical Molesey



Artist of the Week: Iron Maiden

We are going heavy metal next week!

Be prepared for some serious head banging with this band from the UK!



Did you know.....?

Iron Maiden have some Royal Mail stamps honouring them.

Their songs cover topics such as history, mythology, literature and religion.

Bruce Dickson, the lead vocalist, is also a qualified pilot and flies the plane when the band goes on tour.

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/6CkMMS5f1Cek9Os7z5ij9W?si=10766656382e4a10>