

The Orchard Newsletter

Friday 15th September 2023 Dear Parents/Carers,







It was wonderful on Monday and Tuesday to welcome our last few Reception children to our school. We are now complete!

This week we have been speaking to the children about values - how much each member of our school community is valued and the values that we think are really important in our school. Traditionally we have always had three values: **Courage, Determination and Respect**. However, when discussing with the children at the end of last year, if you had asked any of them what our most important value is they would have said '**Kindness**'. We really do believe here that kindness is the icing on the cake and so we have decided to incorporate Kindness as one of our core values. We believe that kindness should be at the heart of everything we do.

Every Friday, we will continue to celebrate our **values** and teachers will be looking for children that demonstrate these **4 values** whilst they are at school.

We would like to be able to display the core values across the school and were wondering if any of our parents had skills in graphic design and could help us come up with some clear and memorable images that could represent these values. Here are the results of my quick internet search. However, it would be wonderful to have something designed by someone in our own school community.

Colour could also be incorporated into the design.

Courage	Determination	Respect	Kindness
			

We have already seen such wonderful displays of courage, determination, respect and kindness demonstrated in our children this week. Well done to all those children who earned our Values Award this week. Please return it on Monday so that we can then pass it on to our next worthy recipient.



Year 2 have done lots of fantastic learning this week. They have been exploring the character of the Lonely Beast in a book by Chris Judd. They have also been labelling maps of the United Kingdom with their capital cities and learnt some facts about them. We have enjoyed their 'cat conversations' in music! 😊



In English, Year 1 have made 'Lost' posters for Blue Kangaroo who was misplaced by his owner Lily. They described what they toy is like carefully so that can be easily identified. They have also designed some rather interesting plates and cups that could be used at a tea party in their design and technology lessons. Some designed them with a robot theme, others with a tiger theme. I wonder who will be coming to tea?



Reception children have made a great start and we are all very proud of them. Sometimes it takes real courage to do new things and they are showing great determination. They were introduced to the Rainbow Challenge this week, which encourages them to try lots of different activities across the week from writing, to crafts, to playing outside or building something in the construction area. Please ask your children about it.



You will find the yearly planner attached the email as well today. It is, of course, subject to change but I will always try to give you as much notice as possible and include events in the newsletter as well.

Hot off the press.....literally a few minutes ago..... we were messaged the wonderful news that Mrs Seabrook has given birth to a baby boy. We are so happy for the Seabrook family! Congratulations and welcome to work Baby Seabrook.

See you Monday!
Sally Cary

DBS Checks

Register online using the following link:

www.orchard.surrey.sch.uk/documents/policies/DBS%20Applicant%20Guidance.pdf

The cost of this is £10 and can be paid through our Parentmail Shop



Tissues



Getting back together after the long summer break means that we have the inevitable need of tissues to combat the runny noses and occasional sad or happy tears.

Please send your child in with a **box of tissues** so we can help the children, particular with their good hygiene. Thank you

Key Chains



We recognise that key chains on book bags help your child to easily identify their book bag. However, please only attach **one, small** key chain.

Some bags have so many that they are getting tangled up in book bag boxes, causing others to break. Your child will be asked to remove some if they continue to have more than one.



Ofsted and the **Care Quality Commission (CQC)** are visiting our area to inspect the local arrangements for children and young people with special education needs and disabilities (SEND).

The inspectors want to know about the help and support that children and young people with SEND get. You can tell us by filling in a survey below. Your answers are confidential.

The surveys will close at 9am on 19 September 2023.

We strongly urge you to respond to this survey and share your thoughts about Surrey SEND.

<https://ofsted.smartsurvey.co.uk/p/AreaSend/10284395>

PTA

Please come along to the **Poyntz Arms at 8pm on Thursday 21st September** for our first PTA welcome get together of the year. We really value all the support our PTA give us and the children have directly benefitted from so many things that the PTA have raised funds for.

We look forward to meeting together and sharing ideas.



Coffee Mornings

We would like to invite you in to school for a **Coffee Morning** with the class teachers in your child's year group. This will take place from **9:00am - 9:30am** on the following days:

- **Year 2 – Wednesday 20th September**
- **Year 1 – Thursday 21st September**
- **Reception – Friday 22nd September**



This will be an opportunity for you to hear more specifically about your child's year group and some of the exciting learning that will be taking place over the course of this year.

Some parents may not be able to attend due to work commitments, but I will send out the PowerPoint slides after each meeting for you to read and refer to later should you wish.

Value Awards

At the end of the week the teachers send a message nominating the children who deserve our values award and they give their reasons for the choice.

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

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Ash	Sammy	Maple	Tori	Beech	Noah
Elm	Rhome	Rowan	Millie	Oak	Lenny
Holly	Marlo	Willow	Willow	Sycamore	William
		Pine	Chloe		

The major value in life is not what you get. It's what you become.

Blue Peter Book Badge for 5 – 15 year olds



Introducing the exciting new Blue Peter Book badge, designed by one of the UK's best known illustrators, Sir Quentin Blake; who you might know from bringing to life characters such as Roald Dahl's BFG and Matilda!

To earn your book badge click on the link below and follow the instructions

<https://shorturl.at/sxIZ3>

Teams

Lots of the communication from class teachers to parents is done via Microsoft Teams. All our Year 1 and 2 class log ins have been rolled up to their new year groups. Reception parents – your child has their Teams log in stuck in their communication books. Reception Class teachers will be sending their first message to you next Wednesday (20th) so please look out for it.



Save the Dates

For the Grown Ups!

Let's kick start the Christmas Season in style!

The Orchard School PTA invite you to join us for a Christmas Party!

When: Saturday 25th November 2023

Where: Imber Court, Ember Lane, Molesey KT8 0BT

Time: 7.30pm - midnight

Dress code: Dress to impress

Tickets: £30 per person to include drinks reception, food and entertainment.

Please purchase your tickets by adding the number of tickets you are purchasing, to your basket.

We hope everyone can join us for a night of festive celebrations! X

ORCHARD SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023

<https://www.pta->

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

For the children!

Christmas Fayre



Saturday 2nd December

at the Orchard

More details to follow



Attendance Expectations

What YOU must do:

- Children should arrive **on time** to school each day. Doors to classrooms close at **8:55am**. Persistent late arrivals will be monitored.
- Try to telephone the school from 8:30am each day of your child's absence.
- Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments you may be asked to provide appointment cards/letters etc.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival (unless they have experienced vomiting or diarrhoea, in which case, please keep them off school for 48 hours).
- Prolonged illness/absence (e.g. 5 days or more) will require evidence from a doctor.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

- Check your child's attendance every day.
- Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare



Penalty Notices

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), they will be liable to receive a penalty notice.

Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices.

Dates for the Diary

Year Group Coffee Mornings

9 – 9:30am



Wednesday 20th September

Year 2 Parents

Thursday 21st September

Year 1 Parents

Friday 23rd September

Reception Parents



Thursday 21st September

PTA Welcome

Poyntz Arms 8pm

All Welcome



Tuesday 19th September

Parent Safeguarding Talk 9:00am

Friday 22nd September

Parent Safeguarding Talk 2:30pm

Monday 25th September

Parent Safeguarding Talk Online 6pm



Monday 25th September

Year 2 Bake Sale



Thursday 21st September

New Parenting Puzzle Course starts



Parent Tour Mornings for Sept 2024 intake

9 – 9:30am



Wednesday 4th, Thursday 5th October

Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th October

Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th October

Tuesday 10th October

Messy Church @ St Paul's



Monday 16th October

Halloween Disco and Pumpkin Competition



Thursday 19th October (change of date)

Donut Sale after school



Please see the attached planner for future dates

