

The Orchard Newsletter

Friday 17th November 2023



Dear Parents/Carers It's a bit of a long one...@

I am having trouble seeing my computer screen as I type this from all the spots and stripes I have seen today. Thank you for raising money for Children in Need and taking part in our mufti fundraiser today.

We raised **£355.83**!

Our key focus this week was on Anti-Bullying and how important it is not to stay silent but to make sure we make a noise about it. It was fun to see everyone in their odd socks on Monday reminding us that we are all different and that our differences make the world a wonderful place. We talked about the difference between 'banter' (fun teasing between friends which should never hurt or upset anyone) and 'bullying' (several times, on purpose, hurtful, power imbalance).

This week, our **Reception** children have been filling each other's buckets. They thought about kind things that they can say or do to help someone feel special and cared about. I was delighted to receive very kind letters from each class that put a huge smile on my face and filled my bucket. I





hope they liked the letters that were sent in return.

Year 1 have been learning about the artist Frida Kahlo. They will be creating their own self portrait influenced by her unique style using colour, plants and animals. In Computing, they have continued to get arty by using a paint app on the iPads to do some digital art.

Year 2 have been making comparisons between Molesey and London in Geography and learning about how in Christianity 'giving' is important and then reflecting on the Bible story of the Widow's Mite. They have enjoyed researching whales and creating factsheets about them as well.



Well done for all the great learning that has been happening this week.

Please be aware that if you child is **sick/unwell** (and quite possibly distressed) while at school you may receive a phone call to have them collected. The expectation is that if the school calls you to collect your child that they are collected within 15 minutes. We understand that you may not be able to collect your child immediately due to work or other commitments or circumstances which is why it is essential that we have an emergency contact who can collect your child on your behalf. This should be someone who is local to the school. It is very rare that we may have to ask you to collect your child but when we do it is important that your child is not left in the school office when they are unwell and/or distressed for longer than is absolutely necessary. Please make sure that the school office has the contact details of an emergency contact for you if it was ever needed.

Lastly – please find raffle tickets in your child's book bag in preparation for our Christmas Fayre. There are some wonderful raffle prizes up for grabs. **You've got to be in it to win it!**

> See you on Monday. Mrs Cary

Reading at the Orchard

I would like to clarify how we structure the teaching of reading at The Orchard.

Across the school, alongside our daily phonics lessons, each child will take part in reading practice sessions. For those still developing their phonic knowledge we have fully decodable books for the children which are entirely matched to the phonics scheme and their progress. Children will be reading in small groups and will read the same book three times with adults in school before bringing it home to read with you. Each read in school will have a different focus:

- Decoding
- Prosody- reading with rhythm, stress and intonation
- Comprehension

When the children read the book with you at home it will be to 'show off' the skills they have learnt so you can see the wonderful progress they are making.

Those children working beyond our phonics programme will bring home a book to read that is at their level of ability. They will be challenged to start reading some classic smaller chapter books as well as books of their own choosing.

Supporting your child with reading

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

ALL children will be bringing home two different books each week:

A reading practice book: This will be at the correct phonic/ability stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently (with at least 95% accuracy). This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together. There are usually some good recommendations inside the front cover: questions to ask or things to focus on.

I have also included some ideas with this newsletter.

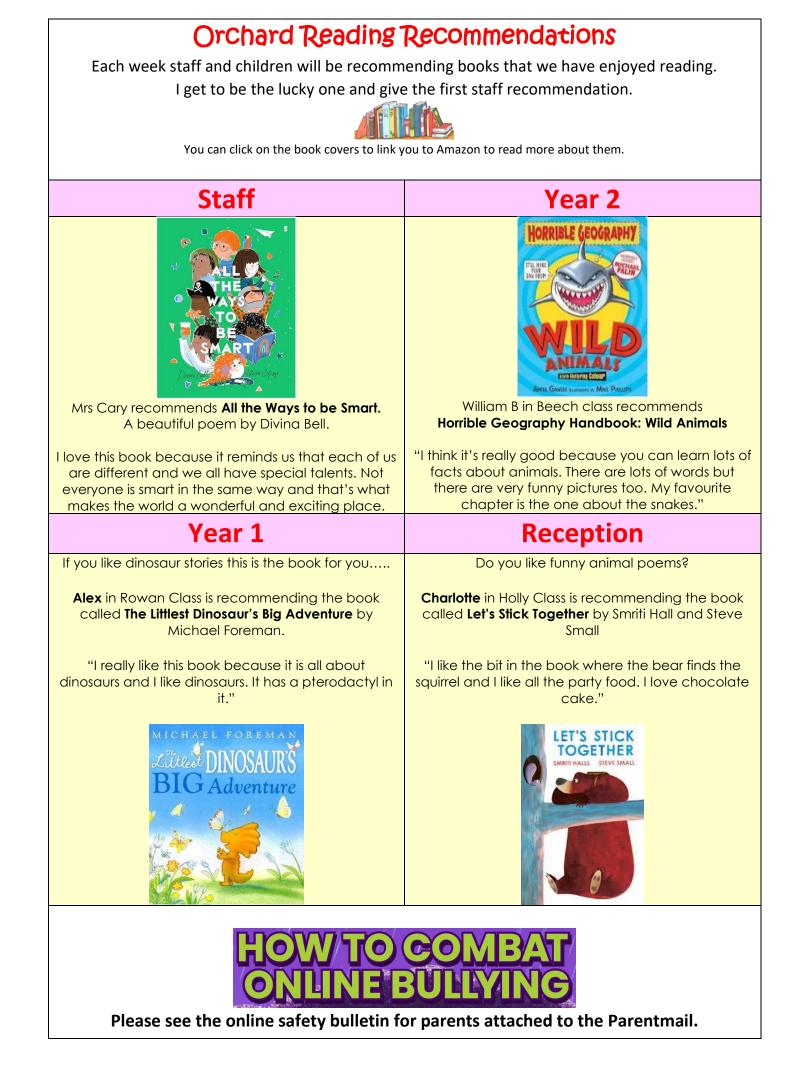
A sharing book: In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen from either their class or school library for you to enjoy together. Please remember that you shouldn't always expect your child to read this alone. It may be beyond their reading ability but they have chosen it because it has piqued their interest. Read it to or with them, discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters; explore the facts in a nonfiction book. The main thing is that you have

fun! REMEMBER children are never too old to be read to!

There are some additional ideas attached to the newsletter email.

To support you to develop your child's own home library of books or to help children select book from the class reading library or even Molesey library we are offering our **Orchard Reading Recommendations** to you which you will find below.

Unfortunately, we have already had some children not bringing our new reading books back in to school. It is absolutely essential that **books are returned** in good condition so that they can then be used with other children and so that your child can then be given access to another book. We cannot afford to have books go missing, so please be extra careful with them and ensure they are put back in bookbags and returned to school.



Year 2 Parents....message from the Year 2 teachers

Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of our work in Design and Technology, we have been thinking about ingredients that make a healthy sandwich. The children have designed their healthy sandwich and written a shopping list and will make their sandwiches week beginning 27/11/23. Please let us know if your child has any **food allergies** that we are not aware of.

It would be great if we could have a couple of **parent helpers** for each class. Please speak to the relevant class teacher and let them know if there is a particular day you can help support us. This will help us determine what day/time we do the activity.

Kind regards,

Year Two team



Reminder: No French Club 20" and 27" November 2023 amazon Wish Lists Thank you for your donations so far. We are really grateful 🐵 Reception Parent Governor Ballot Our parent governor ballot is open until Monday 20th November. 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. lue Awards Our values are: Courage, Determination, Respect and Kindness Well done to all these children for being so brilliant and demonstrating our values. Reception Year 1 Year 2 Ash Sam T Maple lvy Beech Amelie Elm Elissa Ben Freva Rowan Oak Niamh Holly Phoebe Luke Willow Sycamore Pine Odin B

"If you think someone could use a friend, be one."

Dates for the Diary

W/C Monday 20th November

Road Safety Week



Saturday 25th November Grown Ups Christmas Party @ Imber Court



Wednesday 29th November

Wreath Workshop 7:30pm @ The Orchard



https://www.ptaevents.com/orchardpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=69965 There is still time to book on.

Thursday 30th November

Magical Molesey

Choir singing at 5:20pm - Come and join us

Friday 1st December

Mufti Day Chocolates/Sweets and Bottles of plonk for our Christmas Fayre Tombola



Friday 1st December Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Storytelling Experience Dip & Dab's Christmas Show



Saturday 2nd December School Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 6th December Bridge Road Winter Wander Choir singing at 5:30pm - Come and join us



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.

Thursday 14th December

Special visitor



Thursday 14th December Reception Christmas Storytelling Experience The Littlest Christmas Elf



Friday 15th December School Finished at 1:45pm

Christmas Fayre



Saturday 2nd December at The Orchard @ 10am – 1pm The school choir have been invited to sing at 11am.

Artist of the Week: Diana Ross





https://open.spotify.com/playlist/7wJxJz1IOW4W9iPHZOdB2y?si=7e60a62a28474b0f

She is the only female artist to have had **number-one singles** on the *Billboard* Hot 100 as a **solo** artist, as the other half of a **duet**, as a member of a **trio**, and as an **ensemble** member.

At almost 80 she is still performing all over the world and recently performed at the Royal Albert Hall in London. She has sold more than 100 million records worldwide and has had a top ten hit in every one of the last 5 decades.

