

Dear Parents / Carers

It has been an interesting and somewhat challenging week this week. We still have no internet but we are hoping to have that resolved early next week. Thank you for your patience with phone call and email response times. Many of these things can't be dealt with until after staff have gone home and been able to connect to their own wi-fi.

The staff and children have been troopers and have continued with their learning as brilliantly as always.

The contractors have also been working tirelessly to get the balance right on the heating (once they sorted one area it had a knock-on effect to another) but they have been working their way through all the kinks. We have been checking classrooms regularly so please be assured that levels are comfortable in the classrooms.

### Our learning this week.....

Reception children have continued with their learning about dinosaurs. They have been describing dinosaurs and writing about their long tails and sharp teeth and claws. It is great to see them put all that phonic knowledge they are learning into their writing. They have made salt dough fossils, as well as learning how to problem solve and think creatively about the wonderful world that we live in.

Year 1 children have been writing non-chronological reports about meerkats. They included all the correct features such as a heading and subheadings and have written about appearance, diet, habitat and predators as well as including a fun fact. I have seen some beautiful handwriting from some of our Year 1 children this week too and have been very impressed. In Geography they have been learning about countries near the equator and thinking about that it must be like to live there.

Ironic given the weather we are experiencing here at the moment!

Year 2 children have been writing diary entries about the Great Fire of London as if they were one of the eyewitnesses. They were able to include lots of important details from their history study as well as add in thoughts and emotions to make it seem like they were really there. In music they have been learning about pitch and creating their own pitch notations to show when the sounds go high or low.

We look forward to seeing what next week will bring 😊.

See you on Monday.

Mrs Cary



## Value Awards



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

It's been great to see these children in action this week.

Thank you for being such valuable members of our school community.

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Ash	Arthur	Maple	Leo D	Beech	Theo
Elm	Lukas B	Rowan	Lexi	Oak	Chloe
Holly	Sadie	Willow	Leo	Sycamore	Theo
		Pine	Emma		

*Demonstrating respect is always a good choice.*

# Dates for the Diary

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January**  
Second hand uniform sale



**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January**  
PTA Meeting @ The Poyntz  
(please note change of venue)



**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**  
Year 1 Bake Sale



**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February**  
Children's Mental Health Week



**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February**  
Safer Internet Day



**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**  
PTA: Chinese New Year lantern sale



**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**  
Half term



**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February**  
Parents Evenings  
(more details to follow later next term)



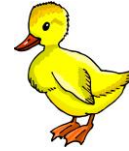
**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March**  
PTA: Leap-a-thon



**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**  
PTA: Mothers' Day  
'Golden Ticket' Chocolate Bar Sale  
Shhhh! It's a surprise!



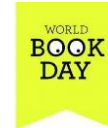
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**  
Reception: Ducklings are coming!



**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**  
Whole School - Drama Workshops



**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**  
World Book Day



**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**  
Year 2 Wisley Trip



**w/c Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March**  
Book Fair



**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**  
PTA: Quiz Night  
See details below



**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
PTA: Easter Disco &  
Easter Colouring Competition



## DATES FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

I am sure that some of you have already started making plans for holiday time for this summer and next year etc. Please be advised of the dates for the 2024/25 start and end of each term, the half term holidays and also our planned INSET days. These can also be found at the Surrey weblink here:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/term-dates>

### Autumn Term 2024

Start of Term	Half Term	End of Term
2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2024 (Children start on 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024)	28 <sup>th</sup> October to 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2024 (Children back on 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2024)	20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024

### Spring Term 2025

Start of Term	Half Term	End of Term
6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025 (Children start on 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2025)	17 <sup>th</sup> February to 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025 (Children back on 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025)	4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Summer Term 2024

Start of Term	Half Term	End of Term
22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025 (Children start on 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025)	26 <sup>th</sup> May to 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 (Children back on 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2025)	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025

### ORCHARD INSET DAYS:



Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025



## Save the Date

# The Orchard



**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**

THE HUB, RAY ROAD, WEST MOLESEY - KT8 2LG

Cost: £17.50 pp for the quiz and a sharing meat and cheese board served to your table.

Vegetarian platters provided and other dietary requirements catered for.

**Teams: Minimum 6 - Maximum 8**



**Click here to book your ticket!**

<https://www.pta->

[events.co.uk/orchardpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=74207](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/orchardpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=74207)

# Artist of the week: Massive Attack



This 'Trip Hop' group started as a group of friends nicknamed *The Wild Bunch* that would hang out together in Bristol.

They are founders of the trip hop sound (hip hop with electronica).

The pace of the music is slower than other dance music

Robert Del Naja was also a graffiti artist and Banksy says is one his early inspirations. Is Banksy really Robert in disguise?

They are working on a research project with the University of Manchester to explore the music industries climate impact.

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/2rjYFgOJRHOV3Hj3SdvuOA?si=e3c448abd84e44fe>

## Orchard Reading Recommendations



You can click on the book covers to link you to Amazon to read more about each book.

### Reception

**Meesha Makes Friends** by Tom Percival is a book recommended by Arthur in Ash Class.

Arthur likes this book because it shows how a little girl started off finding it hard to make friends and so she made her own friends out of paper and card. Arthur says he likes this book because in the end Meesha has lots of friends.

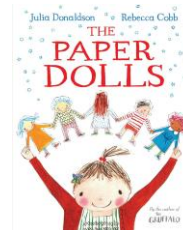


A lovely book all about navigating social situations and accepting and including others.

### Year 1

Charlotte in Willow Class recommends the book **The Paper Dolls** by Julia Donaldson

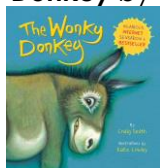
"I like it because the girl talks about things she likes and I really like the paper dolls that she made. I have made paper dolls at home with my friend. The little paper dolls go on lots of adventures and meet dinosaurs and crocodiles and visit desert islands."



What a wonderful story!

### Staff

Mrs Long has chosen **The Wonky Donkey** by Craig Smith



"First and most importantly my favourite animal is a donkey," says Mrs Long.

"The repetitiveness and hilarious rhyme soon has everyone joining in and laughing along. Give it a go and see if this spunky, hanky-panky, cranky, stinky,-dinky, lanky, honky-tonky, winky-wonky donkey doesn't bring a smile to your face too."

### Year 2

Immy in Sycamore class recommends the book **Everything You Know About Sharks Is Wrong**

Written by zoologist Dr Nick Crumpton

It is a fact book all about different sharks. Lots of people think they know about sharks but this book shows us that we might not always be right. Some things are very unexpected.



I think that children who are 6 or 7 years old will like this book – especially if they like animals," says Immy.