

The Orchard Newsletter

Friday 20th October 2023



Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for a wonderful first half term here at The Orchard. It has been jam-packed full of brilliant learning and wonderful activities. We have had a great week and thoroughly enjoyed our African drumming workshops that the PTA organised for us. The children were so engaged and I have to say that the lead drummer was excellent and pitched it so perfectly for each age group. The children really enjoyed taking part and created some fantastic music together.

We also enjoyed our Hallowe'en disco on Monday evening as well. The children looked fab in their colourful costumes and were great little movers. They especially enjoyed the games and the foam spray!

Thank you to our PTA for making it a memorable week.

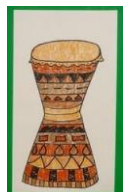
The children have learnt a lot this week too:

Year 1 have been learning about key figures in history such as the astronaut Neil Armstrong and the fossil hunter Mary Anning. They also learnt about the story of the Good Samaritan in their RE lesson and were able to share what the message of the story was all about. I am impressed by their beautiful autumn art work which you can see displayed in the corridor and in their classrooms.



It has been all about the hedgehog this week in Reception. The children have been reading the story **Don't Hog the Hedge** and have learnt all about hibernation. They have been describing hedgehogs and creating hedgehog collages. I have enjoyed seeing the Autumn crowns that they have made in Yellow bay. They have been comparing different amounts in the maths learning and using the phrases *fewer than* and *more than*.

In Year 2, the children have continued to develop their skipping skills in PE and they learnt how to do French skipping. They have been writing more formal pieces of writing in English such as book reviews and explanation texts about what they would do if they ever found a baby whale on a beach. The story of the **The Storm Whale** has inspired some wonderful writing over the last few weeks. They were so inspired by the African drumming workshop that they created the some beautiful art work based on it as well.



Today in our Year 1 and 2 assembly we celebrated the harvest and enjoyed singing harvest songs and learning about all the amazing things that corn is used for. Please ask the children if they remember. I am sure it will surprise you too! Thank you for all your donations!



Our new books arrived this week. Yippee!!! Thank you again to our PTA. We are very happy and are looking forward to sharing those with you over the coming weeks.

Next week is our half term break and we have an INSET day on Monday 30th October.

We look forward to seeing the children back in school on Tuesday 31st October.

Please note that our Parents Evenings are coming up soon. The details of how to book an appointment via Parentmail are further down in this newsletter.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and half term week.

Mrs Cary

Parents Evening

Our Parents Evenings will take place on Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th November.
They will be face to face meetings, so please come to the school at the time of your appointment.

You will be able to book a **ten minute** appointment by logging on to **Parentmail** on your computer or by using the **Parentmail App**.

You can only book when the status for it is 'Accepting Bookings'.

The system will go live on **Monday 23rd October at 7pm**.

1. Go to **Parents Evenings**, then for the event you want to book appointments for select the invite.
2. Choose a session, then to view available appointments, select **BOOK NOW**.
3. For the appointment time you want, select **BOOK**.

FAQ:

How many appointments can I book?

You can book one appointment. If an appointment is greyed out, you cannot book it.

How do I book a longer appointment?

You cannot, but if further discussions are needed you can arrange that with the class teacher.

Why are some appointment times greyed out?

Greyed out appointments are unavailable because they have already been booked.

Parent Governor

We are still accepting nominations for Parent Governor.

Please see my previous communication regarding this.

The closing date for nominations is **12 noon on Tuesday 31st October**.

Thank you for the Harvest Donations

Wowzer! It was wonderful to see so many donations this morning. The foodbank were amazed when I took them over there earlier today.

Thank you so much for **caring and sharing**.



Value Awards

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

Well done to all our values award winners. We are very proud of you.



Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Ash	Marley	Maple	Hektor	Beech	Benji
Elm	Poppy	Rowan	Valerie	Oak	Elliot
Holly	Jaco	Willow	Freya	Sycamore	Bertie
		Pine	Henry		

"The heart of a lion does not bow down to doubt; it rises above and conquers all challenges."

The festive fun is getting closer.....

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&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

Dates for the Diary

Half term

23rd – 27th October



Parent Tour Mornings for Sept 2024 intake

9 – 9:30am



Tuesday 31st 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. The system goes live on
Monday 23rd October at 7pm.



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)



Wednesday 15th November

Photo Day



Wednesday 29th November

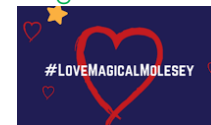
Wreath Workshop

7:30pm @ The Orchard



Thursday 30th November

Magical Molesey



Voluntary Contributions – School Fund

Thank you very much to all those who have been able to contribute to our school fund and have either made a one-off payment or set up a standing order. We are very grateful and are already looking at ways that we can continue to enrich the children's learning experiences here at school.

Payments can be made using the bank details below: -

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

Artist of the Week: The Eagles



Did you know.....?

They have sold more than 200 million records.
Gen Frey's mum told him to never join a rock band because she thought he would get in to trouble. He listened to her. He didn't join one. He **started** one!

You can hear some of their greatest hits here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YR5vhMVUAOw>