

Orchard Junior School Newsletter

Headteacher: Mrs Carol Taylor

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Chris Parker

Email: adminoffice@orchard-jun.hants.sch.uk

Water Lane, Dibden Purlieu, SO45 4SB

Tel: (023)8084 3162



3rd March 2021

Office reminders

This will be the first of two newsletters this week outlining the plans for the return of all pupils on Monday 8th March. This newsletter will contain the more practical information with a further update on Friday outlining the plans for looking after the children's wellbeing and learning.

School dinners

Please remember to order your child's dinner in advance using the Scopay app. All dinners must be paid for in advance using the Scopay app. You will also need to make the menu choice with your child before the meal date. Some parents, find it easier to do the whole week on the Sunday before school. The Scopay app will not accept menu choices on the day itself as the kitchen staff need to know numbers in order to prepare the food.

School uniform

All children returning to school should be in full school uniform.

However, we are aware that children will have grown and that shops have been shut. If your child's uniform no longer fits, please make a suitable substitution – e.g. school jumper and plain jogging bottoms or school t-shirt and a plain jumper etc.

We are aware that Mockingjay in Hythe may be able to offer some door-step feet measuring appointments – please contact them directly through their website

COVID Testing

As you are aware, staff at Orchard Junior School are carrying out COVID tests twice a week.

You may have seen in the media that testing will be available for families. We are waiting for a letter from the Government detailing how families can get hold of tests. Primary age pupils **ARE NOT** tested for COVID-19 at school. Pupil testing is only for secondary children. We will not be distributing tests to families.

Attendance

From the 8th March, school attendance will be mandatory with Hampshire Services attendance rules applying. They include parents' duty to ensure that their child of compulsory school age attends regularly at the school where the child is a registered pupil

- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices, in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

Not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus (COVID-19)

There are some circumstances where pupils cannot attend school due to (COVID-19).

In line with the Secretary of State's expectation that no parent will be penalised for following official public health advice for their child not to attend, this new category of non-attendance will not count as an absence (authorised or unauthorised) for statistical purposes. To make sure we record this accurately and consistently, can you please submit any absences, Covid-19 related and all other absences, by:

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Calling the school office 02380843162 before 8.50am and leaving an answerphone message

Absence Reporting link which is available on the school's website too

<https://forms.gle/Ac6fzSMTxEvps61aA>

covidresult@orchardjunior.com – this is to inform the school that your child has tested positive for COVID-19

Any absence not reported will be followed up by a text home to parents, asking for confirmation for the reason for absence.

Music Lessons

Lessons will resume next week for those children in Year 5 and 6. Your child will need to bring their instruments to school as prior to Lockdown and keep to the same days, times and routines for their instrumental lessons.

Library Books

If your child has any library books still at home, please send them to school with your child and during the scheduled class timetables in the library, the books can be returned. There will be an opportunity for your child to attend the library and resume their library exchanges.

Support for home learning – electronic devices

Any electronic devices that have been borrowed will need to be returned to the school office. Please contact the school to arrange a suitable time – please make contact with the office after Tuesday 9th March 2021, thank you.

Contact Email Addresses

covidresult@orchardjunior.com – this is to inform the school that your child has tested positive for COVID-19

ELSA@orchardjunior.com – if you are worried about your child emotional wellbeing at this time and you would like some support. We also can send out packs of information for parents when trying to support children who are experiencing a range of emotions including grief and anxiety.

class@orchardjunior.com – Please put the name of the class at the start e.g. Miss Hampton's class would be 3JH@orchardjunior.com, Mr Tappenden's class is 5TT@orchardjunior.com. These emails go directly to the class teacher and they can be used to arrange calls, show work and make contact.

adminoffice@orchard-jun.hants.sch.uk is still manned on a daily basis and emails will continue to be forwarded to the relevant member of staff.

Once again, thank you all for doing your part to keep our community safe and we look forward to seeing you all again on 8th March 2021.