

Orchard Junior School Newsletter

Headteacher: Mrs Carol Taylor

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Friday 6th October 2023

Headteacher update

October is here, the leaves are changing colour and the children have all been busy settling into their classes. Orchard Junior School is a busy school and the best way of keeping in touch with what is happening is either via our facebook page or the school website.

From this week, we will be sharing a picture of the children who are chosen as the “stars of the week” each week – keep an eye out in your child’s bag for their certificate and on the website for their group picture.

The PTFA have held their AGM and they have a lot of ideas for fun activities for the children to join in with. All the money raised will be going towards a minibus!

There are a number of fundraising events planned, but some easy ways of making money include:

Registering for [easyfundraising](#). Using this app to make your normal purchases will give a small donation to the school. Already 13 people have registered and raised £137 for the school – it costs you nothing!

We are also running a [school lottery](#) – follow the link to see what the current prize fund is for our school.

Are you having a pre-Christmas clear out? We will collect used clothes and shoes in the clothing bin on the car park. Donating your unwanted / outgrown clothes has already raised over £300 for the school. The collection is emptied at least monthly. Please keep an eye out on the school website / facebook page for other items we are currently looking for.

Team Orchard!!

Congratulations go to the teams who competed in the Applemore Maths Challenge this week, 2nd place was ours!

Please keep an eye out for the key dates sheet that will be shared both electronically and a paper copy for you to refer to.

The staff are busy organising different sports teams to represent the school in the New Forest area. We now have teams from long running to dodgeball and this week saw the first medals arrive in our celebration assembly today – well done to the cross country team! All teams are heavily oversubscribed and staff aim to include as many pupils as possible in order to give children the chance to represent the school. I am looking forward to sharing the successes of the teams within the newsletters. Please make sure all kits are returned to the school, after being washed, as soon as possible to ensure Orchard pupils look their best when representing our school. Thank you to all the parents who come along and support their children.

School Meals

Please continue to book your meals via Scopey each week. This helps the cooks to waste less food and makes sure your child gets a meal that they want to eat. There will be a new menu on our website after half term.

Waterside Foodbank Donations

Next week we will be collecting any donations you are able to contribute for the Waterside Foodbank. Please see the link for information on the items they are running low on – they have also asked for any contributions for dried pet food, which would be gratefully received too. Thank you for your support.

<https://waterside.foodbank.org.uk/>

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Cardwell School Photographs

Your child's photo will be taken by Cardwell next Thursday and you will be given a proof card with all the information and bar codes needed to make an order with Cardwell, if you wish to do so.

Any queries should go directly to Cardwell and not to the school office, thank you.

Secondary School Transfer

I hope all the Year 6 children / parents have enjoyed visiting our local secondary schools. Please remember the **deadline** for applications is **31st October 2023**. Applications received after this date will be dealt with when all other on time applications have been allocated. If you apply late, you risk not being allocated your preferred school – even if you are in the catchment.

New Parent Tours

Watch this space for our new Year 3 tours, dates will be released soon on the website and on the school website page.

Autumn Parent's Evening Booking

Parent's Evening booking slots will be available from midday on Monday 16th October through your SCOPAY account. The two dates are Wed 8th November 3.30 – 7.00pm or Thursday 9th November 3.30 – 5.30pm. For new parents, meetings take place in the hall with class teachers for a 10 minute slot. You will be able to review your child's work in the library, in their labelled class tray, either before or after your meeting with their teacher.

Term dates

INSET	27 th November 2023
Autumn Term ends	15 th December 2023
INSET	2 nd January 2024
Spring Term Starts	3 rd January 2024

Next newsletter due: November 2023