**Orchard Teams**

3 weeks into term and our Orchard Teams are already competing. The boys football team played away against Abbotswood in the first of the league matches this week. Next week sees out Year 6 Maths Challenge Team competing at Applemore. If your child is interested in being part of a team, the announcements and how to take part are shared in assemblies by the staff who are leading the team.

**Coats and Jumpers**

As the weather changes, please remember to send suitable named clothing into school. Whilst we recognise that some children like to run around and get hot at lunchtime, we do send the children out in light rain, so a waterproof tucked away in a bag can help to keep the children comfortable.

**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 2022. 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.

**Homework**

As a School we thoroughly value the help and support parents give the children with their homework; it is a vital part in the team effort to progress every child’s learning. And, with this in mind we try to keep the homework simple.

\*All children will have weekly **spellings** sent home in their spelling book. All spellings are also on the school website.

\*We ask that all children **read** at home at least **3 times a week** and that this is recorded in their reading record books. We keep track of the number of nights children have read and they can gain certificates in school. Each year the total starts at 0 again.

\*Finally, the children will be working hard on their **times tables** in class. Each week the children will have a test.

You have been sent a paper copy of which days the homework is due in. It is the same for all classes across the school.

**Absence Reporting**

If your child is absence from school for any reason, and we have not previously been informed by a request for absence, we ask that you report any absence through the link on the website “Report Your Child’s Absence” – this is a google survey which provides school with immediate information so we are able to maintain up to date safeguarding data on the reasons for children’s absence from school.

**Emergency Contact Information**

Please remember to let the school office know if you have any personal data changes during the course of the summer holidays. Have you moved house or changed a mobile or telephone number? Have we got your up to date email address? Have you updated school records with your GPs name too?

This key essential information about your child is very important. It may be shared with relevant school staff, kept in the School Office paper files, stored electronically on the School computer network. If you would like further information, please read our School Privacy Notice and/or contact a member of School staff.

**Playtime**

All the children will have playtime at the same time. The children can bring in a snack – this can only be a piece of fresh fruit (e.g. a banana, apple, pear etc) not processed fruit.

**Ordering a School Dinner**

Please remember to log onto your child’s SCOPAY account on SUNDAY to book meals for the week ahead, or book 24 hours prior to the day the lunch is required.

Can we please ask you all to speak to your child about their choices each day and make sure that it is correct before ordering as **we shall not be able to change their choice in school**. Often last year, the choices that parents made for their child, were not known to the children. Please make sure that the correct code is used – M = meat, V = Vegetarian, P = Street food. If your child has no booking on Scopay or packed lunch provided, staff will be calling parents on the day to bring a packed lunch into school.

Current school dinner menus are on the school website and next week it is week

**Contact Email Addresses**

[www.orchardjunior.com](http://www.orchardjunior.com) School Website – Report a Pupil Absence

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

ELSA@orchardjunior.com – if you are worried about your child’s emotional wellbeing.

class@orchardjunior.com – Please put the name of the class at the start e.g. Miss Hampton’s class would be 3JH@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.

**European Day of Languages – Monday 26th September**

On Monday 26th September we will be joining in with celebrating the European Day of Languages.  Children are invited to attend school wearing the colours of a European Flag. They can also wear football kit or national dress of a European Country if they have it. Please **do not** go out and buy costumes

**Next Newsletter due Friday 7th October 2022**