

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Thursday, 28th March 2024

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

On the last day of the Spring term, with Easter weekend upon us, I was not expecting to wake up to a full covering of snow this morning. It was certainly a surprise. One of the children thought the Easter bunny had brought snow to us all as a joke. It definitely made me smile, although I am hoping for some better weather over the Easter break.

We had a packed happy bench this morning with so many children named as star of the term for their hard work and positive attitude to school and to their learning. This was great to see. As the clocks go forward and the daylight gets longer, I am looking forward to the summer term. The children will be assessed in this term, and it is a good time to foster that love of learning and encourage good routines at home and for getting to school on time.

We have had a busy week in school with the Year 5 and 6 boys football team coming 3rd overall in a local school's football competition. They played brilliantly and their behaviour throughout was excellent. Mrs Dunn and Miss Madge had an extremely successful time at the national street dance finals at the weekend. They placed 1st in their categories and brought home a range of amazing trophies.

A huge congratulations to Mr and Mrs Ovey as they welcome their baby daughter into the world.



I hope you all have a fantastic Easter break and I look forward to welcoming you back in the summer term on Monday, 15th April.

Fiona Pearce
Headteacher



Re-opening of the Coffee Cabin

WE NEED YOU!

Can you spare us 2 hours per month working alongside a member of staff to re-opening the Coffee Cabin.

If you are interested, please contact Sue Manley via the school office or by email.

We appreciate any time you can spare.

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk

Book Sale

Wednesday 17th April

Coffee Cabin at

8.15 – 8.45am

&

3 – 3.45pm

We are recycling some of our books. Come along and bag yourselves a bargain.

10 books for £2 or larger hardback books £1 per book.

STARS OF THE TERM

The Pink Panthers

Mason for being a kind and loyal friend, having super manners and always trying his best in all he does.

The Curious Corals

My star of the term is Reuben. Reuben is like a little sponge... I'm sure he can take anything he hears and link it to something I've said months ago! He will remember everything you tell him and use it to be the best he can be. He has perfected the role of the perfect friend, learner, and classmate. Reuben really is Mr consistent, but this is down to his enthusiasm and hard work. Just this week, Reuben asked me for extra Drawing Club sheets to "practise at home". He loves to learn and is always in search of a new challenge, whether that's in reading, writing, or maths. This term, Reuben has worked hard to reduce the tears when he wants to see his Mum and he has matured into a fantastic learner and friend. Reuben, I am so proud of you! Well done.

The Silver Sweethearts

Our star of the term is Eleanor. Eleanor has worked exceedingly hard this half term in all areas. All of Eleanor hard work has paid off and she has made fantastic progress in phonics and with her writing. Eleanor is also a very helpful member of the class; she is always on hand at tidy up time and always wants to look after her friends. Well done, Eleanor, we are very proud of you, you are our superstar.

The Dancing Red Ravers

Seb has worked extremely hard on making good choices this term; he now has greater control over his emotions and can now talk to us when things get tricky. Seb loves socialising with his friends at school; his play is now calmer and more productive. When asked to complete work, Seb never fusses and always completes work to the best of his abilities. He is a wonderful mathematician and is most recently showing great 'writing potential'. Seb is awesome in so many ways and makes me proud each and every day! He is inquisitive, full of energy and works very hard; keep it up Seb you little superstar! Mr Quilter x

The Marvellous Midnight Blue Macaws

Pippa has had a fantastic Spring term. We are all super impressed with how much Pippa has grown in confidence, she has blossomed and is a very popular and much-loved member of our class. This term Pippa has really impressed me with her enthusiasm and effort in writing. Her dragon story is excellent, and she can often be found sharing this story with friend during reading time. In maths, Pippa has amazed us with her times tables knowledge, and this has greatly supported her throughout the term when completing both the multiplication and division tasks. In reading Pippa continues to grow in confidence and fluidity and it is a joy to sit and read with her. Pippa you are a super star and a much-deserved Star of the Term. We are all very proud of you. Mrs Oldfield x

The Lively Lilac Learners

My Star of the Term is Mia. She has had a brilliant term. Mia is doing a fantastic job in all areas of learning, and she has an excellent attitude. She is working hard, listening well and giving everything she has got. She has made strong progress in particular with her reading and writing. I have seen her really settle into the rhythms of Year 1 and she has just gone from strength to strength. Mia is a cheerful and lively member of our class, and she gets on well with other children. Mia is a super helper too and she loves to tidy in class! Mia, you are the whole package, and I am super impressed with you. Keep up the great learning! You are a star!

★ STARS OF THE TERM ★

The Energetic Emerald Explorers

My star of the term is Rory. Rory has shown a consistently positive attitude to his learning this term and always amazing me with his unique style of learning. He thinks about our topics in such interesting ways, always asking great questions and doing extra research in his own time. Rory has worked particularly hard on his handwriting this term. He made the decision to improve it and I can already start to see such a difference! Rory is also such a kind friend to many in our class. He is a great role model to others and models a high standard of behaviour for younger children in the school. Rory, your individuality is such a strength, and you are such a pleasure to have as a member of the class. Well done!

The Precious Pearl Problem Solvers

Jasmine has been an absolute joy to teach this term. Jasmine always puts an incredible amount of hard work and concentration into completing her learning to the best of her ability. She always has a brilliant, positive mental attitude at school and her tenacity when completing challenges makes her a role model to her peers. Jasmine has shown strong diligence to following instructions and expectations. Well done, Jasmine!

The Groundbreaking Golds

Chloe is a real superstar! She works extremely hard in class, always listening carefully and then completing the task she has been given. She has really embraced being in a mixed class this year - at times pushing herself into exploring some Year 4 content! Chloe is always a lovely, kind, and caring girl who loves supporting her peers and making people smile. Your hard work and effort do not go unnoticed, and it is your turn to be celebrated! Fab effort this term - you should be very proud of yourself.

The Jubilantly Jazzy Jades

My star of the term is Lara. Lara always goes above and beyond to see what she can do to help, often keeping me organised. Lara's inquisitive mind and strong work ethic are some of the important qualities that are evident throughout all her learning, making her an absolute pleasure to teach. Lara has a fantastic sense of humour, that is infectious within the classroom, cheering up those around her. Lara just exudes all the qualities expected of an OV student, being a fantastic role model to her peers. Well done, Lara, keep it up!

The Limitless Lemon Yellows

Alexa-Jade is my Star of the Term. Alexa is an absolute privilege to teach, and I am so proud of how her confidence and her learning have flourished this term. She has really impressed me with her attitude to learning and her engagement in lessons. I know that learning can sometimes pose a challenge for Alexa, but that never stops her from pushing herself; she takes on board feedback from adults and implements this in her learning; she is consistently contributing ideas and is just such a happy and keen individual to have in class. Alexa, you are like a ray of sunshine, and I am so grateful that you are always there to brighten my day. Keep up the fantastic work!

The Athletic Aquamarines

My star of the term is Luna - Luna is a wonderful member of Year 5/6! She works incredibly hard, in all areas, and does all of this because she knows it is the right thing to do, and that it will help her learning. She was very surprised to be on the happy bench this morning, and it is this hard-working nature, that doesn't expect these rewards, that makes Luna truly special. Luna is a fantastic role model to others, and a pleasure to have in our class. Well done, Luna.

Years 5/6 Boys Football

On Tuesday, a team of 8 boys represented Orchard Vale at the Tarka Leisure Centre in a Year 5/6 boys football tournament.

Game 1— we managed to win 4:0.

Game 2— we won 2:0, scoring the goals right at the end.

We had 20 minutes brake so rested for the next game.

Game 3— we got a close victory 1:0.

Game 4— against Sticklepath we didn't managed to score 0:0.

Game 5— we won 2:0.

Lunch

We had qualified for the quarter finals winning our group on 13 points

Quarter finals—we won 10:1.

Semi finals— we lost 1:0.

After being knocked out we played for 3rd and 4th places and won 1:0.

After the award ceremony we returned to school.

Written by Ashton



Congratulations to KS1 Reading road champions

Ruby Charles

On reaching 25 reads

Amber Erin Seb Gwendoline

Vienna

On reaching 50 reads

Bella Wyatt

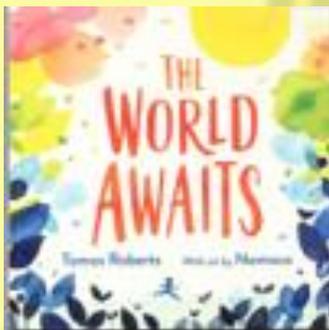
On reaching 100 reads

The prize for the
tidiest cloakroom
goes to

Mr Quilter's class

coats and bags

READING ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ CHAMPIONS



Year 1/2

'The world awaits'.

I have chosen this book because it is an extremely sweet book, has emotions and its very colourful. The book has a quote 'With each good word, and each good deed, the global goodness grows.'

Grazyinka

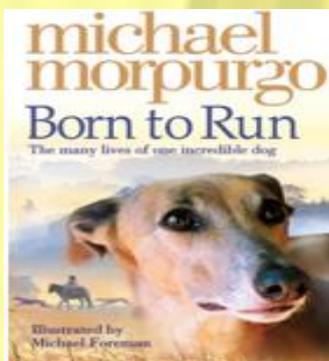


Year 3/4

'The wizard of oz'

I have chosen this book because it is a bittersweet story about a young girl Dorothy who travels to the world of Oz on a magical journey to save her friends.

Mila-Monroe



Year 5/6

'Born to run'

I have chosen this book because it is a very nice, and it is an addictive read. It is about an innocent animal drowning, but a boy comes and rescues him.

Martha

You can find all this week's Reading Champion picks on display in the school library.

Happy reading!

Written by Grazyinka, Lilly-may, Lily-Rose, Mila-Monroe, Martha & Theo

Week commencing—Monday, 15th April
Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options

LUNCH MENU – WEEK 1

15th Apr - 6th May - 3rd & 24th June - 15 Jul - 9th & 30th Sept-21st Oct 2024
 Malted, Wholemeal Sliced Baguettes, Low Fat Yoghurts, Milk and Water available daily. All Special Diets catered for.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Butchers Pork Sausages	Butchers Mince Beef Nachos & Wholegrain Rice	Chicken with Sage & Onion Stuffing	Harry Ramsdens Battered Salmon Fillets	Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Pasta
	Spanish Omelette	Cheese Pasty & Tomato Pasta	Vegetarian Roast	Vegan Nuggets	Oaty Veggie Crumble & Creamy Mash Potato
	Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese	Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese		Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese	
	Potato Wedges, Baked Beans & Mixed Vegetables	Sweetcorn & Green Beans	Roast or Mash Potato, Sliced Carrots, Cabbage & Gravy	Chips, Wholemeal Pasta Peas, Tomato Sauce & Coleslaw	Fresh Sliced Carrots & Sweetcorn
	Fruit Smoothie	Pip Organic Lolly	Strawberry Mousse with Berry Compote	Fruity Flapjack	Fresh Fruit
	Ham Roll	Cheese Roll	Ham Roll	Tuna Roll	Sausage Roll

School Diary Dates

Fri, 29th Mar	Bank Holiday
Mon 1st to Fri, 12th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Mon, 15th April	Back at school
Mon, 15th, 16th, 18th and 19th April	KS1 Balanceability
Wed, 17th April	KS2—Oral Health assembly and class workshops
Wed, 17th April	Book Sale—Coffee Cabin—3pm to 3.45pm
Thur, 18th April	Year 6 and Reception—National Child Measurement Programme
Thur, 18th April	Y6—Pilton Community Collect Virtual Parent Evening
Mon, 22nd April	Y3 / 4—Rubicon Skateboarding workshops
Wed, 24th April	Y2—Tennis Festival—Tarka Leisure Centre
Fri, 26th April	Y5/6—Tag Rugby
Fri, 26th April	PTA Non Uniform Day
Tues, 30th April	KS1 and KS2—RNLI assembly
Mon, 6th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Fri, 10th May	Year 1 Multi Skills Festival—Park School
Mon, 13th to Thurs, 16th May	Year 6 SATS

What age can a child come home from school alone?



There's no legal age that your child can travel home from school alone – this is up to you and your best judgement, or your school's rules and policies.

However, you should never leave a child alone who isn't ready or is unable to care for themselves.

Every child is different – but some schools advise children under 8 shouldn't walk home without an adult or older sibling.

If you and your child do feel they're ready to come home alone, it helps to go over some rules about staying safe.

- Make sure they know their address and your telephone number by heart, in case they get lost or have to navigate home from somewhere new.
- If they have a mobile phone, remind them to fully charge it before leaving the house, and make sure they have all your contact numbers saved.
- Talk to them about road safety. They should always look both ways before crossing the street, and never be on their phone whilst crossing a road.
- Remind them never to accept a lift from someone they don't know, or let a stranger into the house. They should never give personal information away – in real life or online.
- Remind them that if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable at any time, they can call you or a trusted adult.
- If they ever feel like they're in immediate danger, they should call the police straight away on 999.

[Leaving our child at home advice from the NSPCC](#)

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around a billion users worldwide.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app.

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CENSORED

EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.

W&#*!

TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Amelio and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become 'TikTok famous'. While most aspiring stars hoping to be 'the next big thing' will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.



HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTok – including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive. It can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next mean it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.

IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase 'TikTok coins', which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 99p to an eye-watering £99 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Shopify, which allows users to buy products through the app.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information (like their school) or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under 16s' accounts to 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Stitch' (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Duet' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 16s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.

LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' section, you can filter out inappropriate content (specific content creators or hashtags, for instance) using 'Restricted Mode'. This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the 'Digital Wellbeing' section. Under 'Screen Time Management', you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.

Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



NOS
National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

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April

Eggstravaganza

1 Game of Bowling

1 Drinks Voucher

£10 Per person

Available throughout April

**T & C's Apply
48 Hours Notice Required**

WWW.LETSGOBARNSTAPLE.COM
01271 321123



 **BARNSTAPLE
TOWN COUNCIL**

FREE

Easter

CRAFTING WORKSHOPS

**WEDNESDAY
3RD & 10TH APRIL 2024**

 **11AM-2PM**

 **GUILDHALL,
BARNSTAPLE**

