

# Orchard Vale's Weekly News

## Friday, 1st December 2023

[www.ovschool.co.uk](http://www.ovschool.co.uk)

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### Headteacher's message

*Dear Parents/Carers*

Christmas is coming and we have been kicking off the festive season in style. Children have been decorating their classrooms today and the school is beginning to look very festive.

On Wednesday evening we welcomed parents to our Early Years Open Evening. It was lovely to see so many new and old faces and to get to know you and your children. We will be planning more events like this in the new year, so if you have a child who may be starting nursery or reception next September we would love to see you. Details will be advertised on our website and on the newsletter.

This morning we were treated to an amazing OV's Got Talent Show, organised by our School Council. We welcomed the finalist to show off their talents to the whole school, which was an absolute treat. The children overcame their nerves and performed brilliantly. The audience was so supportive and loved every minute. Thank you to our panel of judges Mr Ovey, Miss Williams, Mrs Johnson, and Mrs Grimwood. Congratulations to our winners Martha and Amelie who will be performing for you at our Christmas production. Congratulations also to everyone who took part, an amazing achievement, you are all winners in my eyes.

We welcomed back Miss Cawthorne from maternity leave this week. She will be returning to teach in Reception. She is really looking forward to getting to know all her children again. Joining her will be Miss Brown, who will share the teaching with her over the school week. A huge thank you to Mrs Thurlow for stepping in, and I know she is looking forward to being back in Little Seeds.

As many of you may know, Mrs De-Ritis will be taking a period of maternity leave in the new year, as she prepares to welcome her second child. We couldn't be happier for her and, whilst we will miss her greatly, we are very happy to share that we have appointed Mr Greenslade as a maternity cover teacher for her class. Mr Greenslade is a familiar face to Orchard Vale, having spent some time here during his teacher training, working with Mr Whapham. We are excited to welcome him back to OV and know that his energy and passion for education will make for an excellent addition to the year 5/6 team, where he will be working alongside Miss Williams and Mrs Scott.

#### Explosion of Colour Performances

If you have not already applied and paid for your tickets for the performance, please [click on this link to register your interest](#). After Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December we will open up Parentpay for those families who would like to book extra tickets. Please do come along to see the children performing, they have been practicing very hard this week.

#### Lost Property

We seem to have a lot of lost property again. If your child has lost any items of clothing, especially cardigans/sweatshirts please visit the Lost Property area outside the school office. All items are unnamed. Please remember to write your child's name on their uniform to enable items to be returned to them.

Stay warm this weekend and see you all on Monday.



Fiona Pearce  
Head teacher

## OV's Got Talent

This morning we were all treated to 12 Acts performing a variety of talent. It was an amazing show, and the children were all very supportive of each other. A magician, acting, singing, brake dancing to name a few. Congratulations to Larisa, Theo, Lily-Mae and Lettie who came joint second with Lilly-Rose and Mila-Monroe. First place went to Martha and Amelie who will perform in the Christmas Performances.



## Bikeability Level 2—Years 5 / 6

Well done to the children who took part in the Years 5/6 Level 2 Bikeability days last week and this week. They all did amazingly well.



## Bikeability Level 1—Years 3 / 4

Thirty Seven Year 3 and 4 children have signed up for the Level 1 course. These will run on January 26th and February 2nd.

You will receive a letter after Christmas to let you know which date your child is on.

Mrs Manley

## Congratulations to Reading road champions

**Lucas Wyatt**

On reaching 50 reads

**Oliver G Amber Charlie S George  
Ferne Carter**

On reaching 25 reads

## Mrs Manley's Community Project Page

### Mental Health Ambassadors

We held our first 'Natter Club' this week.

It was nice to be able to meet with children of all ages in the library. Some children just wanted a quiet reflective space where they sat quietly with others, some colouring and some just chatting.

Others joined in a few games/scenarios which the Mental Health Ambassadors set up.

Our next 'Natter Club' will be on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December in the Library at 12.45pm to 1.15pm.

See you there.

Mrs Manley

### Orchard Vale's Mental Health Ambassadors

This week we have decided that the Worry Box will be situated on the bottom step near the Office. Please could parents talk to their children about not putting unnecessary comments in it.

It has been decided we will be making some new posters for around the school. Keep an eye out for these.

We are also in the process of re-creating our Mental Health Ambassador Notice Board. This will be in the library.

To conclude we are starting up a 'Natter Group', where children can come to a quiet space to express any worries or just to have some quiet time.

Martha

# READING ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ CHAMPIONS

## This week's book picks:

### **Year 1/2**

'Goodnight Harry'

I have chosen this book because when I read the first two pages, I could picture the story happening at that moment. It is a friendly and heartwarming book. If you read this book before bed it is so lovely, it will give you happy dreams.

- Grazyinka



### **Year 3/4**

'Sky the unwanted kitten'

I have picked this book because it teaches children to care for one another and make them feel included.

- Lily-Rose



### **Year 5/6**

'There's a werewolf in my tent'

I have picked this book because it's a wilderness comedy and it shows that if you think something is bad, it might actually be a good thing.

- Mila-Monroe



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

**NEW MENU—Week commencing—Monday, 4th December**  
**Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options**

**LUNCH MENU – WEEK 3**  
 13<sup>th</sup> Nov / 4<sup>th</sup> Dec / 8<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> Jan / 26<sup>th</sup> Feb / 18<sup>th</sup> Mar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza	Butchers Mince Beef Cottage Pie	Roast Chicken with Sage & Onion Stuffing	Fish Shop Breaded Cod Nuggets (New)	Carbonara Pasta Bake
Handmade Falafel Burger in a Bun (New Recipe)	Handmade Cheese Wheels	Vegan Cauliflower Bites	Vegan Sausage Bap	Chinese Style Vegetable & Noodle Wrap (New Recipe)
Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna	Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna		Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna	
Wholemeal Pasta, Baked Beans & Sweetcorn	Peas & Cauliflower	Roast or Mash Potato, Sliced Carrots, Broccoli & Gravy	Chips, Wholemeal Pasta, Peas, Tomato Sauce & Coleslaw	Fresh Batons of Carrot & Cucumber Sticks
Fresh Fruit	Fruit Jelly	Pear & Vanilla Crumble & Custard (New Recipe)	Fruit Cookie	Pineapple Oaty Slice (New Recipe)
Ham Roll	Cheese Roll	Ham Roll	Tuna Roll	Sausage Roll

## School Diary Dates

Wed, 6th Dec	Community Choir
Fri, 8th Dec	Years 5/6—Girls Football—Park School
Mon, 11th Dec	Whole School Performance—1.30pm to 3pm and 5pm to 6.30pm
Tues, 12th Dec	Whole School Performance—9am to 10.30am and 5pm to 6.30pm
Wed, 13th Dec	Christmas Dinner—must be pre-booked through the office
Thur, 14th Dec	Sleeping Beauty Panto—Queen's Theatre (10am to 1pm)
Fri, 15th Dec	Last Day of Term
Wed, 3rd Jan	First Day Back
Wed, 10th Jan	Year 4—Swimming Lessons
Mon, 15th Jan	Tempest—Reception and Year 6 Vista photos and Class Photos
Wed, 17th Jan	Year 4—Swimming lessons
Wed, 24th Jan	Year 4—Swimming lessons
Fri, 26th Jan	Year 3/4—Groups 1 & 2 —Level 1 Bikeability
Mon, 29th Jan	Year 2 and Year 5—Fire Safety Awareness Workshops
Wed, 31st Jan	Year 4—Swimming lessons
Fri, 2nd Feb	Year 6 Rising Stars—Basketball at Pilton Community College
Fri, 2nd Feb	Years 3/4—Group 3—Level 1 Bikeability
Wed, 7th Feb	NHS Dental Survey—Selected 5 year olds (parents will have received information)
Thur, 8th Feb	Explore the Orchestra—Years 5/6— Visit to University of Exeter
Mon 12th to Fri, 16th Feb	Half Term
Mon, 19th Feb	Return to school



# Orchard Vale's An Explosion of Colour Performance

**Monday 11th December**  
**13:30 - 15:00**—Nursery to Year 6

**Monday 11th December**  
**17:00 - 18:30**—Years 1 to 6

**Tuesday 12th December**  
**09:30 - 11:00**—Reception to Year 6

**Tuesday 12th December**  
**17:00 - 18:30**—Years 1 to 6

**All Tickets - £2 (initially, 2 tickets per family)**  
**(under 3's free if sitting on a lap)**

Complete the online form by 1st December to book your 2 seats.  
You will be assigned the payment item on ParentPay.  
Payments to be made by Wednesday 6th December.  
Tickets will be sent home via Class Teachers.

**During performance raffle tickets will be on sale for your  
chance to win a wonderful Christmas Hamper.**



ventrus  
Multi Academy Trust

# Orchard Vale Community School Nursery

Is your child turning 3 years old?

We have availability within our nursery for you!

There are 3 intakes into our Nursery:

September - Autumn Term

January - Spring Term

April - Summer Term

If you would like to apply for a place please complete an application form that can be downloaded from the website at

[www.ovschool.co.uk](http://www.ovschool.co.uk)

or call us on 01271 375074

# HELPING GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS IN LANDKEY

## LANDKEY UNITED CHARITIES

(Charity No 233786)

brings together a number of long-established charities set up to meet needs in the village. The charity can help Landkey groups or individuals and welcomes applications.

Most applications that meet our guidelines receive some help.

Our Guidelines can be seen at [www.landkeyvillage.com](http://www.landkeyvillage.com), -scroll down 'In Brief'. We offer financial grants to meet needs or alleviate hardship or distress. These could be about family or domestic needs, bringing people together, helping with access, keeping people safe and well, or developing skills.

For **GROUPS** send the Secretary, (see website or Landkey Newsletter), your name and contacts, (phone, address, e-mail). Please state in a few sentences, (no more than 250 words), the nature of your project and which Landkey needs it meets, how much you require (to a maximum of £1,000), and what other funds you are raising.

For **INDIVIDUALS** send your name and contacts, (phone, address, e-mail), to the Secretary, (see website or Landkey Newsletter). You can apply on behalf of somebody else. State in a few sentences, (no more than 250 words) the nature of the need and what funds you require.

*Applications can be made at any time, but applications by end of March and September will enable trustees consider them in April and October.*

## PETROC



### ARE YOU SEEKING A NEW START IN THE NEW YEAR?

Petroc's free\* Skills Bootcamps will give you the boost you need to embark on a fresh career path!

**Working in Health & Social Care** – learn everything you need to hit the ground running in the rewarding world of care

**Ecology & Conservation** – turn protecting our local environment into your vocation with this exciting Skills Bootcamp

**Chef de Partie** – enter the vibrant catering profession with all the core kitchen skills you need to create delicious dishes to impress

**FIND OUT MORE  
AT [PETROC.AC.UK/SKILLS-BOOTCAMPS](http://PETROC.AC.UK/SKILLS-BOOTCAMPS)**

\*Subject to eligibility. Visit our website or contact [projects@petroc.ac.uk](mailto:projects@petroc.ac.uk) for more information.