

# Orchard Vale's Weekly News

## Friday, 19th January 2024

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### Headteacher's message

*Dear Parents/Carers*

Well done to the team of Years 5 and 6 children who represented us at the Park Primary School Sports Hall Athletics today; coming 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our School Council have been litter picking on the school grounds at lunch time and did an excellent job and our Year 4's have enjoyed another swimming lesson this week and are progressing wonderfully.

This week we saw a few flurries of snow, although not enough to make a snowball! It has remained very cold however and children need to be appropriately dressed for the weather. Please could parents ensure your children have suitable clothing and a warm coat to wear. Don't forget to name all items of clothing, including gloves and hats. Don't forget to look through our lost property for missing items.

We are delighted to share the news that Mr Whapham has a new baby boy who was delivered safely at the weekend. He is now on paternity leave for 2 weeks. We wish him and his family all the very best.

The School Council has been busy thinking up a whole school Lego competition. Children will be competing together in classes and building something to be judged next week. We are looking forward to seeing some wonderful creations.

#### Use of the school turning circle

If parents arrive early to collect their children, please remember that the turning circle is for **drop off and pick up only**, this is not a waiting area. Please park in the allocated parking areas on the main road. There has been an increase in people parking on the turning circle with engines running for a considerable amount of time. This is not good for the car or the environment.



Have a wonderful weekend and stay warm.

Fiona Pearce  
Headteacher

### Tempest Class Photos

Class photos are now ready for parents to order online. Links were emailed out yesterday for parents to view and buy.

Payment is being taken online only directly with Tempest Photography.

Any queries should be made to 01736 751555 (option 5) or click on [contact us](#) on their home page

### Barnstaple Allotment Club

We would like to thank the committee of Barnstaple Allotment Club for again donating to the school.

We will be purchasing Potting Compost to be used in our Forest School area.

### Sports for Champion – Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> February

Orchard Vale will be taking part in the Sports for Champions fundraising event again this year. The aim is to raise money as a school to help support an athlete on their sporting journey.

40% of the total money raised goes to the athlete to help fund travel, competition entry or equipment.

60% of the money raised comes directly back to Orchard Vale to buy new equipment for PE lessons.

Our athlete this year is Jaydon Paddock; a gymnast who has competed at the World Championships.

The children have watched footage of Jaydon's tumbling and are excited to hear more about his story when he comes to visit us in on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> February.

During the day the children will have the opportunity take part in a sponsored fitness circuit led by Jaydon, who will EDUCATE – ENABLE – EMPOWER the children, inspiring them to be the champions of tomorrow.

Your child should have brought home a sponsorship form last week, which includes details of the event.

**PLEASE COULD CHILDREN BRING ALL SPONSORSHIP MONEY  
AND THE FORM IN  
BY THURSDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY.**



# STARS OF THE WEEK

## **The Pink Panthers**

Alice for super maths. You have listened carefully, shown great enthusiasm and joined in with discussions.

Alfie for settling in quickly to nursery life and doing some super listening.

## **The Curious Corals**

Freddy has been a learning superstar, this week! He has been following the class rules and showing increased confidence with communication. It's been wonderful to see and hear such enthusiasm in phonics, maths and class discussions. Freddy has also been super helpful in the lunch hall-thank you, Freddy!

## **The Silver Sweethearts**

Our star of the week is Lainie. Lainie has been working really hard on coming into school with a big smile on her face. She is also a fantastic helpful and kind member of our class. Thank you Lainie for all of your hard work.

## **The Energetic Emerald Explorers**

My Star of the Week is Olivia. She has been working so hard this term so far and has made big improvements in her writing. She wrote a lovely story this week and even organised her writing into paragraphs which really impressed me! Olivia sometimes goes under the radar because she always gets on and tries her best no matter what the task. This is your moment to shine Olivia – you are a total superstar!

## **The Precious Pearl Problem Solvers**

Scarlett has worked tremendously hard this week in all her tasks during lessons and has displayed a real drive and determination to remain focussed when faced with challenges. Scarlett has quietly and independently got on with her work with a positive attitude. Well done, Scarlett!

## **The Groundbreaking Golds**

This week Mrs Moore has chosen Toby as her Star of the Week, and I couldn't agree more. Toby has been so helpful to all the adults who have been teaching the class, always doing the right thing, at the right time, in the right place. Toby is such a lovely boy who always tried his best and works hard. He is a pleasure to have in the class and is always so kind to others. Well done Toby – you are a star!

## **The Jubilantly Jazzy Jades**

I have awarded this week's star of the week to Ala. With it only being my first two weeks at Orchard Vale, there has been a lot for me to learn - Ala has been a godsend in this regard. Despite me being the teacher, my endless questions have not been too much for Ala. Her helpful and patient nature is always apparent with both her peers and the adults around the school. Ala just exudes kindness and is an absolute pleasure to teach.

## **The Limitless Lemon Yellows**

My Star of the Week is the wonderful Harry! Harry has come back after Christmas focused and ready to learn and he has really impressed Mr Greenslade and I with his improved attitude to learning this week. It has been fantastic to see him motivated to do his best in all subjects, especially as we have been doing a lot of testing in class this week! Also, his maturity has shone through as he has not let distractions from other children faze him or his learning. Well done, Harry, keep up the excellent work!

## **The Athletic Aquamarines**

My star of the week, this week, is Charlotte, as I have been really impressed by her behaviour for learning. I've known Charlotte for a while now, and I know that there are parts of school life that are her favourite and parts that are not! Previously, Charlotte has found it hard to manage herself when faced with a task she does not enjoy (handwriting and spelling are her particular nemeses!), but over the past week or so, she has shown that she can engage with these areas of learning and has discovered that this can lead to success. I am hoping that she uses this acknowledgement of her progress to motivate her to continue on this new pathway. Well done.



## Mental Health Ambassadors

This week the MHA have been busy looking at ways in which they can encourage people to connect with each other.

They have also been given positive notes out to children on the playground.

Last week during 'Natter Club' they were able to talk to children who had popped a note into our school Worry Box'. Over 30 children attended, some just wanted a quiet space to reflect, others enjoyed the Mindful colouring the MHA had put out.

### Congratulations to Reading road champions

**Arthur Faith**

On reaching 100 reads

**Eli**

On reaching 50 reads

**Isla G**

On reaching 25 reads

The prize for the  
tidiest cloakroom  
goes to  
**Mr Quilter's**  
class this week.

### PE CHAMPS

Mr Ovey has selected the following children to be this week's PE Champs for their brilliant effort, sportsmanship and perseverance during PE sessions.

**Years 1 and 2—Ruby C**

**Years 3 and 4—Seb W**

**Years 5 and 6—Ciaran**

### Litter Pick

School Council were busy today with a litter pick of the school grounds. They filled up 2 bags of rubbish! Rubbish included a variety of sweet wrappers, food packaging and miscellaneous parts of broken toys.

School Council would like to remind everyone to use the bins provided to keep Orchard Vale tidy.



### Years 5 and 6 Sports Hall Athletics

Well done to the years 5/6 team who took part in the indoor sports hall athletics competition at Park School today.

We were placed third out of seven schools. The team competed in speed bounce, long jump and chest push as well as some relay races.



They were all excellent ambassadors for Orchard Vale. Well done!

## Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or play-group when they're unwell.

[Click here for the NHS/Government advice to parents.](#)

This explains when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

## WANTED—Toy Cars and tracks/garages

Breakfast Club would be very grateful for any donations of small toy cars, tracks garages.

Thank you in advance.

## Wanted spare socks for nursery

Thank you to our wonderful parents who have provided spare clothing for the Nursery to use should the children have an accident at school.

Our stocks are very low and we would be very grateful for any donations of spare socks.

## Parent information sessions around funding for childcare

Devon Early Years and Childcare Service are running some online sessions for parents in February to give an overview on what funding is available, the eligibility criteria, how they need to apply for different funding streams and how a child can access funded time.

This is for any families, parents, carers who have made enquiries or are on a waiting list. There is no need to book, just join by clicking on the Teams link below.

### Dates for online sessions:

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 10.30-11.30 – [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 19.30-20.30 – [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February, 16.00-17.00 – [Click here to join the meeting](#)

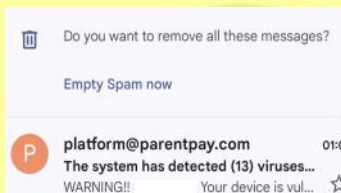
## New working entitlements for 2-year-olds

The HMRC Government gateway where parents can apply went live on the 2nd of January 2024. Eligible families will be able to access the new entitlement of up to 15 hours a week from 1st April 2024.

[Click here for information](#)

## Warning Parentpay Phishing Campaign

Parentpay have noticed an ongoing phishing campaign which appears to be impacting the Hotmail domain exclusively; Customers have received emails as the result of a phishing tactic called Spoofing, where an attacker will falsify the "from" field of an email to make it appear as if it was sent by another address.



If you receive an email similar to the screen shot this has not been sent from ParentPay systems, and there has been no system compromise. It is likely that the threat actor obtained your email address and knowledge of your use of ParentPay via phishing, malware, tracking cookies or by compromising your email inbox.

Parentpay would advise you carry out the following:

- Delete your cookies and cache on your web browser and delete any browser extensions you do not know or trust.
- Scan your computer or device with reputable and up to date anti-virus software.
- Change your email accounts password and if possible enable Multi Factor Authentication.
- Also, please change the passwords of any accounts linked to that email address.



**Week commencing—Monday, 22nd January**  
**Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options**

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div> </div> <div> <b>LUNCH MENU – WEEK 2</b>  6<sup>th</sup> &amp; 27<sup>th</sup> Nov / 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan / 19<sup>th</sup> Feb / 11<sup>th</sup> Mar </div> <div> </div> </div>					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Cheeseburger (100% Beef) in a Bun	Handmade Chicken Curry, Wholegrain Rice & Naan Bread (New Recipe)	Toad in the Hole (Butchers Sausage & Yorkshire Pudding)	Jumbo Fish Fingers (New)	Chicken Goujons with Tomato Pasta	
Roasted Stuffed Feta Peppers	Macaroni Cheese & Crusty Bread	Herby Lentil Loaf	Vegan Sausage Roll	Sweet & Sour Quorn with Noodles	
Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna	Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna		Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna		
Potato Wedges, Peas & Corn on Cob	Mixed Vegetables	Roast or Mash Potato with Fresh Sliced Carrots, Cabbage & Gravy	Chips, Wholemeal Pasta, Peas, Tomato Sauce & Coleslaw	Sweetcorn & Green Beans	
Pip Organic Ice Lolly	Fruit Muffin/Tray Bake	Fresh Fruit	Date & Rice Crispy Cake (New Recipe)	Apple Cake	
Ham Roll	Cheese Roll	Ham Roll	Tuna Roll	Sausage Roll	

## School Diary Dates

Wed, 24th Jan	Year 4—Swimming lessons
Fri, 26th Jan	Year 3/4—Groups 1 (9am) & 2 (1.30pm) —Level 1 Bikeability
Mon, 29th Jan	Year 2 and Year 5—Fire Safety Awareness Workshops
Wed, 31st Jan	Year 4—Swimming lessons
Wed, 31st Jan	Years 5/6 Netball—Park School
Fri, 2nd Feb	Year 6 Rising Stars—Basketball at Pilton Community College
Fri, 2nd Feb	Years 3/4—Group 3—Level 1 (9.30am) Bikeability
Mon, 5th Feb	Years 3/4—Heatree Parent/Child Briefing Meeting—3.45pm
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
Fri, 9th Feb	Sports for Champion Day—sponsored day
Mon 12th to Fri, 16th Feb	Half Term
Mon, 19th Feb	Return to school
Mon, 26th Feb	Year 2 visit to Exmoor Zoo
Tue, 27th Feb	Year 1 visit to Exmoor Zoo
Wed, 28th Feb to Fri, 1st Mar	Years 3/4 Residential to Heatree Activity Centre
Wed, 6th Mar	Years 4,5,6—Dance Workshop (selected children)
Thur, 7th Mar	World Book Day (information to come)
Wed, 27th Mar	KS1—Oral Health assembly and class workshops.
Fri, 29th Mar	Bank Holiday
Mon 1st to Fri, 12th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS



Come and have  
**FUN** as a  
**FAMILY**

*(All children must be accompanied by an adult)*

# Unfrozen

What is real love?

*crazy crafts,  
great games,  
magical music  
and fabulous food!*



**Date:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February

**Time:** 4-6pm

**Place:** Trinity Church, Barnstaple *(the one with the tower!)*

**For Booking link** (booking closes on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb)

**email:** [messychurch@trinitybarnstaple.org.uk](mailto:messychurch@trinitybarnstaple.org.uk)

**or tel:** 01271 374240

trinity