

# Orchard Vale's Weekly News

## Friday, 22nd March 2024

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

[orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk)



### Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

We congratulated our winners of the Crazy Commute colouring and poetry competition today in assembly. There was a fantastic range of entries, both colourful and creative. Prizes were awarded for the winners and runners up. Well done everyone!

There was a full happy bench today crammed with children who have been great role models in terms of their behaviour around school and fantastic attitudes to learning. It is wonderful to celebrate children's achievements, which helps inspire others to make good choices about their own attitudes and behaviour.

Please can I remind parents to be considerate in their use of the turning circle. We are trying to provide this space for parents to drop off and pick up their children without having to park. We have noticed that some parents are stopping in the middle of the road or parking in the turning circle obstructing the road for other users. If there is not room to pull up, please drive away and return a few minutes later or find a place to park on the road. Please remember the staff car park is not for use during this time.

The children who signed up for their Rocksteady band sessions enjoyed their first introduction to their instruments today. Rocksteady Music School have a few more places available for children from Reception to Year 6. Please see the flyer attached to the newsletter.

Next Thursday, is a non-uniform day with no donations needed we would just like to give everyone something to smile about for Easter.



Fingers crossed the weather remains sunny this weekend.

Have a wonderful time.

Fiona Pearce  
Headteacher

Mr Ovey's after school PE Clubs have been cancelled for next week.  
Monday, 25th -Thursday, 28th March.

#### 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](mailto:orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk)

#### Orchard Vale Community School Easter Fayre

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 4-5.30pm

Come and enjoy some fun and games including Hook a Duck, Target Football and many more!

Cake Stall

Raffle

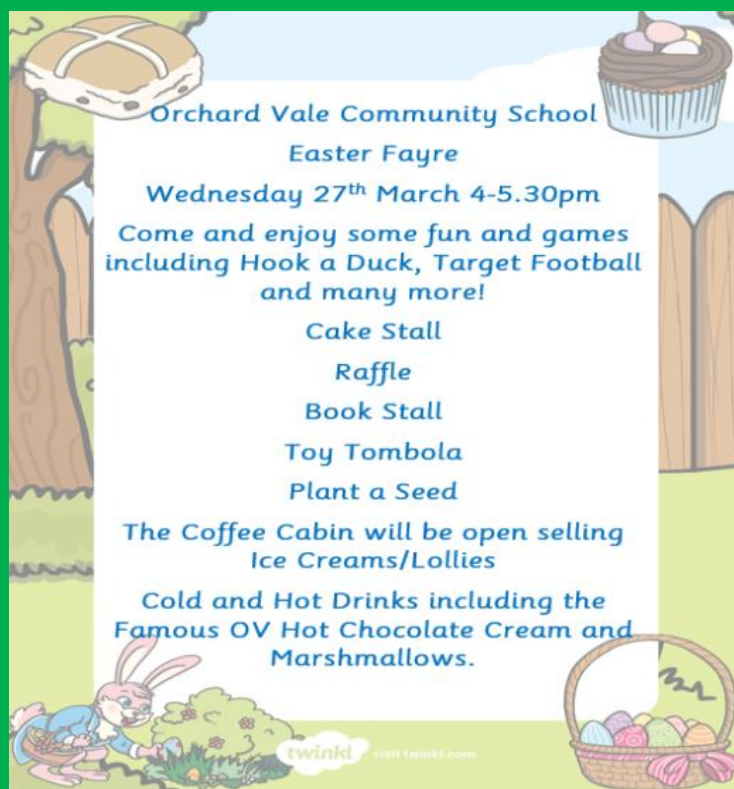
Book Stall

Toy Tombola

Plant a Seed

The Coffee Cabin will be open selling Ice Creams/Lollies

Cold and Hot Drinks including the Famous OV Hot Chocolate Cream and Marshmallows.



# STARS OF THE WEEK

## The Pink Panthers

Ellie-Mae for always showing enthusiasm when taking part in your activities and doing some super singing at music time.

Parker for settling in well and showing improved independence with health and self-care.

## The Curious Corals

My star of the week is the lovely Margot. Margot has been putting a lot of time and effort into her reading and writing this term and this is really showing in her work this week! She's been practising her finger spaces and enjoys a giggle with me when she forgets them and tries to make me read her mystery sentence. This has helped her to recognise their importance and she will ensure her sentences are the best they can be. Margot is a lovely friend to others too, always on hand to make sure everyone is happy and included. She plays with a range of children and makes sure her friends feel cared for and appreciated. Margot, you're a true star in every way. Keep shining!

## The Silver Sweethearts

Our star of the week is Molly. Molly is one of our most caring members of our class. She is always on hand to help and look after others. She is also super helpful and works extremely hard. Well done Molly you are a superstar.

## The Dancing Red Ravers

My star of the week is Ryleigh! Ryleigh has been working extremely hard with her learning most recently. She is asking questions when unsure and is clearly growing in confidence when completing challenges and tasks.

Her writing stamina is improving and the quality of her written work is improving all the time. Her cursive handwriting is now clear legible and extremely neat! Well-done Ryleigh; I know you have worked very hard on this both in school and at home in your little note books. Ryleigh is a lovely girl with lots of sass! I love having her in class because she is great fun and full of enthusiasm. Keep up the excellent work Murch!

## The Marvellous Midnight Blue Macaws

My star of the week is Emi. Emi is a delight to have in the classroom. She enters class every morning with a huge smile on her face and her enthusiasm for school is infectious; she is a super role model for others which I am very grateful for. Emi is an excellent friend, she is kind, caring and thoughtful. She is always in the right place at the right time and I always know I can rely on Emi to help out and organise me! Emi, you are a wonderful girl to have in class; you work hard, always put in 100% effort and always produce learning that is of the best of your abilities. Mrs Oldfield x

## The Lively Lilac Learners

My star of the week is Grace. Grace has been quietly and diligently getting on with her learning week by week. This week I have been impressed in particular with her reading and some fabulous writing. Grace has not found it easy to push forward with her reading and writing but she has shown fantastic perseverance and resilience, and she should be really proud of herself. I also love the way Grace bounces into school each day with a big smile. It really feels that everything is starting to come together for Grace and that is down to her excellent attitude and hard work. Grace you are a star! Keep doing what you are doing!

# ★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★

## The Energetic Emerald Explorers

My star of the week is Bonnie. Bonnie began year 4 feeling very uncertain of her own abilities. I have been delighted to see how much her confidence has grown in the last 2 weeks. She is readily taking part in class discussions, answering questions and taking pride in producing work of an outstanding quality. Keep up the good work, Bonnie, you are a total star.

## The Precious Pearl Problem Solvers

Hugo has been a pleasure to teach this week. He has fostered a brilliant attitude to learning, starting his tasks straight away, as well as asking interesting and thought-provoking questions. I have been very pleased with Hugo's manners and attentiveness to classroom expectations. Well done, Hugo!

## The Groundbreaking Golds

Colby is my star of the week for always setting a great example for those around him. He is always ready to learn, listens well and shows good manners when learning. It is great to have such a fabulous role model in my class and Colby always shows how to be ready to learn. Well done.

## The Jubilantly Jazzy Jades

My star of the week this week is Jamie. Jamie has really impressed me over the past two weeks when it comes to his attitude towards his learning. Last week, during our class trip to the Guildhall, Jamie was able to apply his learning, consistently contributing his ideas to answer different questions. As we were walking around Barnstaple, Jamie stayed focused and sensible, showing great learning behaviours outside of the school environment. This week Jamie has continued this, both in our morning teaching groups and our afternoon topic lessons. Miss Williams has noticed a real positive change in Jamie over the past couple of weeks since their teaching group has changed seating plans. In the afternoons, Jamie has shown a real interest in our music lessons around sea shanties. He has contributed by answering theory questions on their history, joined in performing them and even written his own. Outside of school, Jamie has been really excited to tell us about how he has achieved his first grading in karate, having moved up to white and red belt.

## The Limitless Lemon Yellows

My star of the week is the wonderful James R. James is someone who is always doing the right thing at the right time; he is always offering to do jobs or help in any way possible. His work ethic is fantastic, and this has been noticed by other members of the year 5/6 team, particularly in his writing. He is a brilliant mathematician, and he is always willing to help his peers with their learning. Although he is a quiet member of the class, he is starting to contribute his ideas more and more in class, and this blossoming confidence has been lovely to see. Keep up the hard work James!

## The Athletic Aquamarines

Jake is my star of the week, for always, always, always being in the right place, doing the right thing, at the right time. Jake knows exactly what he needs to do to achieve his potential in his learning, and he doesn't let anything distract him - an incredibly powerful personality trait. He is dedicated, but also a good friend; he works hard and plays hard. Jake is a fantastic example of what I hope for all year 5/6s. Well done, Jake.

## Crazy Commute—drawing and poetry winners

Well done to our winners:

### Key Stage 2 Poetry competition

Charlotte in Mrs Scott's class

Chloe in Mr Whapham's class

### Key Stage 1 Colouring

Elodie, Carter, Bella and Isla in Mr Quilter's class,

Sophia and Chloe in Mrs Oldfield's class

The children received their prizes during assembly today.



## Key Stage One—Great Fire of OV

On Tuesday, KS1 had the Great Fire of OV.

We had made our houses in DT and they were carefully lined up very close together to demonstrate how quickly fire spreads, just as it did back in 1666!

The children enjoyed watching and Miss Huxtable's class also joined in watching the spectacle.

As the houses burned, we sang a rendition of our Great Fire of London song! It was a magnificent end to a great topic!



## Wow Moment!



Thank you to everyone who donated to Darcy's Easter Egg collection for his Martial Arts Junior Instructor Community Challenge. He delivered 122 Easter Eggs to Rose Lane Foodbank today.



**Congratulations to KS1  
Reading road champions**

**Aiden      Reuben      Seb G      Mason**

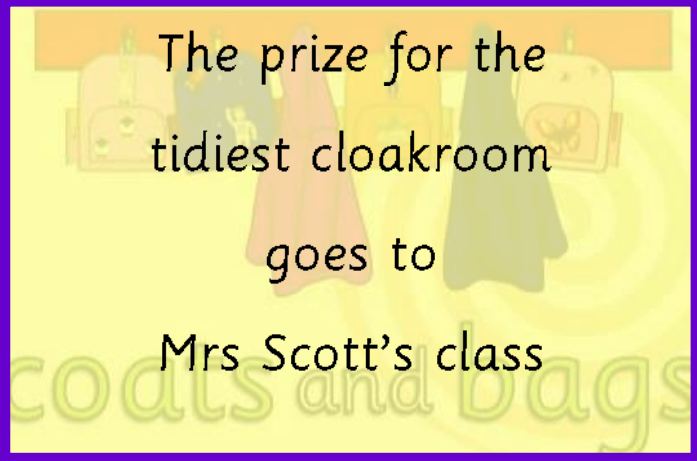
On reaching 25 reads



**Congratulations to  
Years 3 and 4 - High Flyers**

**Jensen W**

On reaching 75 reads



The prize for the  
tidiest cloakroom  
goes to  
Mrs Scott's class



**PE CHAMPS**

Mr Ovey has selected the following children to be this week's PE Champs.

**Years 1 and 2**

Ben B for excellent football skills.

**Years 3 and 4**

Olivia T for working well with others.

**Years 5 and 6**

Archie KP for great enthusiasm for pe and sports clubs.

# READING ★★★★★ CHAMPIONS



**Year 1/2**

## **'Elephant'**

I have chosen this book because it is about a boy that wants to play but everyone is busy and then he finds an elephant to play with but when he tells his family they didn't believe him.

**Grazynka**

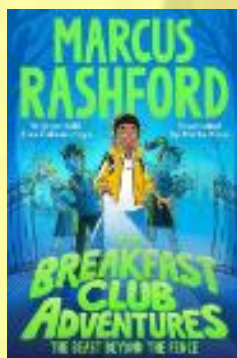


**Year 3/4**

## **'The summer lion'**

I have picked this book because summer is just around the corner, and it says on the front of the book 'Nothing is more powerful than friendship'. It is just a heartwarming and lovely book.

**Lily-Rose**



**Year 5/6**

## **'Marcus Rashford the breakfast club adventures'**

I have chosen this book because adventure books are always fun, exciting and it's a great book to read.

**Mila-Monroe**

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

Happy reading!

Written by Grazynka, Martha, Lily and Mila

**Week commencing—Monday, 25th March**  
**Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options**

LUNCH MENU – WEEK 1				
30 <sup>th</sup> Oct / 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov / 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec / 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan / 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb / 4 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Butchers Pork Sausages & Potato Wedges	Butchers Mince Beef Nachos & Wholegrain Rice	Chicken Stew (New Recipe)	Harry Ramsdens Battered Salmon Fillets	Non School Day
Spanish Omelette	Cheese Pasty & Tomato Pasta	Vegetarian Roast	Vegan Nuggets	
Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna	Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna	Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna	Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna	
Baked Beans & Mixed Vegetables	Sweetcorn & Green Beans	Mash Potato & Cauliflower	Chips, Wholemeal Pasta Peas, Tomato Sauce & Coleslaw	
Fruit Smoothie	Sticky Toffee Pudding & Custard	Strawberry Mousse with Berry Compote	Fruity Flapjack	
Ham Roll	Cheese Roll	Ham Roll	Tuna Roll	

## School Diary Dates

Mon, 25th Mar	Bikeability Learn to Ride (selected children)
Tue, 26th Mar	Y5/6 Boys Football
Wed, 27th Mar	KS1—Oral Health assembly and class workshops.
Wed, 27th Mar	Easter Fayre (PTA)
Thurs, 28th Mar	Non Uniform day—No donations just a day to make you smile
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
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, 13th to Thurs, 16th May	Year 6 SATS

~~You WANT it~~re....

Could you donate any of the following items to the school.

We are looking for:

Old pots and pans.



Metal toy cars.



Toy prams or pushchairs.



Roadworthy bicycle for age 8-10.

Wideline

### 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](#)

Dear parent / carer.

**Ref: Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme Easter 2024**

The HAF Programme is fully funded by the Government and enables your child to access a variety of exciting activities over the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays as well as receiving a cooked meal.

Children can book and access up to 4 sessions in the Easter holidays and some programmes are offering family events or outings for those children that **attend** sessions. Additional sessions maybe available but will be charged for. Please enquire, direct with your local HAF provider for further details.

Children have the same unique code available to use for each holiday's so those issued previously are still valid.

To see what programmes are available near you, please visit:

[HAF providers map - Easter 2024 – Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](https://www.devon.gov.uk/haf-providers-map) ✓

You will need to enquire and book, direct with the provider, who may require sight of your letter you received with your child/s code previously and reference code to confirm your space.

It is important that if you book onto a HAF scheme and then cannot attend any of the days, that you let the provider know and cancel your space so another child can attend. As per our non-attendance policy, if you do not notify your provider in advance, your bookings will be cancelled for the remainder of that holiday and may not be accepted to make future bookings.

Kind regards,

**Holiday Activities and Food Programme Team**



**The HAF Website is now live!**

The programme of events for the Easter holidays has now gone live in Devon

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/haf-map/>

Please share far and wide!  
Places are limited

Fully funded places are available for children who are accessing benefit related free school meals



**Easter Activity days**

**Dates:**  
Tuesday 2nd April  
Wednesday 3rd April  
Thursday 4th April  
Tuesday 9th April  
Wednesday 10th April  
Thursday 11th April

**Ages:**  
5-11 Years old

**Venue:**  
Sticklepath Primary school  
EX31 2HH

**TIME:**  
8.30am-3.30pm

**To book:**

- Visit – [www.primary-sports.co.uk](http://www.primary-sports.co.uk)
- Click on the “Book now tab”
- “Sticklepath EASTER activity days”
- Complete the online booking form

**Contact us:** [north.devon@primary-sports.co.uk](mailto:north.devon@primary-sports.co.uk)





**BOOK  
HERE  
(FREE)**



SMARTPHONE NEEDED TO ACCESS TRAIL AND  
APP REQUIRED FOR STOP MOTION ANIMATION

Holy Trinity Church

Barbican Terrace, Barnstaple



EX32 9HQ



**EASTER STORY TRAIL**

**2**

**FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
BETWEEN 10AM-1PM**

**3**

**GARDEN, GRAVEYARD  
AND CHURCH  
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**

**4**

**FIND THE CARDS  
USE YOUR SMARTPHONE  
WATCH THE STORIES**

**5**

**STOP MOTION ANIMATION  
IN CHURCH USING  
DUPLO/LEGO ETC**

**PLUS REFRESHMENTS**

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COLLECTION

North Devon Hospice

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[nightwalk.co.uk](http://nightwalk.co.uk)

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## ***Learn to swim at Tarka Leisure Centre***

*"Learning to swim is a great way for your child to maintain a healthy lifestyle and learn a new vital life skill.*

*Tarka Leisure Centre provide swimming lessons for children of all ages and abilities. They are a great way to introduce children to the water, boost children's skills and techniques even more!*

*Our swimming lessons run:*

*Monday- Friday 16.00-18.00,  
Saturday mornings 8.30-12.00  
Sunday mornings 9.00-10.30.*

*All of our swimming instructors are highly qualified and are very willing to advise if you have any questions. For more information please give us a call on 01271 373361 or email [andy.unstead@texleisure.org.uk](mailto:andy.unstead@texleisure.org.uk)*