

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 14th February 2025

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Guardians

Well, what changeable weather we have had this week; let's hope it picks up for half term.

This week the final group of year 4 children completed their final swimming lesson. They have all progressed well and have received certificates today.

On Wednesday, years 3 and 4 took part in a live virtual session with the author, M G Leonard. They learned that her love of history, particularly ancient Egypt, had inspired her to be a writer; and were all extremely interested to hear about her visit to Tutankhamun's tomb.

Children in Mrs Oldfield's class have been talking about people who are important to them and why they love them. They made their own lovely posters to take home to their families for Valentines Day. There have been some exciting boat races in Mrs De-Ritis and Miss Cawthorne's class whilst the children learn about different forms of transport. They have also made Chinese lanterns for the end of the Chinese New Year celebrations.

Well done the girls in the years 5 and 6 under 11's girls football team. On Wednesday, they were placed 3rd in their group in the Premier League U11 Girls Football Cup, narrowly missing getting through to the next stage.

We hope the children have a good rest over the half term, enjoy getting out and about and perhaps read a good book in preparation for World Book Day in March.



We look forward to seeing you back on Monday, 24th February.

Fiona Pearce
Headteacher

World Book Day 2025 Thursday, 6th March

We celebrate World Book Day in school supporting the charity's mission to change lives through a love of books and reading.

This year's theme is 'Read Your Way'.

Children can choose to do 1 or all of these activities if they wish.

- Dress up as your favourite character.
- Draw your favourite character and share this on World Book Day.
- Make your favourite scene from a book and share this on World Book Day (this can be junk modelled or crafted in anyway.)

In the afternoon classes will be paired with a different class to read and share stories.

Extreme Reading Challenge

We will be running the 'Extreme Reading Challenge'.

Children can have photos taken of them reading a book somewhere unusual, bizarre or extreme.

Post these photos on Teams or email them to orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk

Prizes will be handed out in a celebratory assembly.

Closing date is Thursday, 6th March.

Access to books

Getting a free £1 book for your child is easy.

Take your £1 book token to your nearest bookseller and swap it for World Book Day £1 book

OR

Use it to get £1 off ANY book/audiobook costing £2.99 or more.

You can find your nearest bookseller at:

[Participating retailers - World Book Day](#)

Check out [World Book Day—For Families](#) for more things to do at home.

We're very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day,

ECO EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

Create an environmentally
Friendly Easter Bonnet!

Drop your entries to the
school hall on the morning
of
Friday 4th April 2025.

Prizes will be awarded in
celebration assembly.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mrs Youll's class

Phoebe for making a new friend and doing some super role play.

Mrs Oldfield's class

My star of the week is Lyla. We have made a outstanding discovery this week ... Lyla is a rhyming Queen! For the past couple of weeks, we have been learning about rhyming. She quickly picked up the concept of rhyming and has had great fun with this. Lyla has enjoyed rhyming so much she has been sharing this learning at home and then bringing us rhyming books, from home, to read with the class. Lyla has produced some outstanding writing this week, she has been working with the year 1 children finding words that rhyme and then putting these words into rhyming sentences. She has blown us away with her fantastic effort. You are amazing Lyla, keep up the great work sweetheart! Mrs Oldfield x

Miss Cawthorne/Mrs De-Ritis' class

Bella is our star of the week. Bella has amazed us with her fantastic phonics recently. Bella always works hard and achieves everything that she sets her mind to. Bella has made lots of new friends this year and is fantastic at looking after them. Well done Bella, you are a superstar.

Mr Quilter's class

My star of the week is Meadow! Meadow has been working exceptionally hard in her phonics lessons this week. The sounds are starting to stick, and I can see her confidence growing more and more each day. The sounds learnt; she now knows well, and it is lovely listening to her blend more successfully! Meadow has also worked hard in English; she has used verbs to identify movement, and her sentences have been more accurate this week. Meadow was very brave this week; she stumbled on the playground but bounced back up again to continue her day; great job Meadow! Meadow is kind sweet and a cheeky little member of my class; you definitely deserve to be star of the week! Mr Q x

Miss Huxtable's class

My star of the week is Reuben W. Reuben puts enough effort into school for everybody combined. Reuben is working beyond his years, he thrives on challenges and is always pushing himself to go further and perfect his work. This week he has impressed everyone with his extended writing in English where he will write pages on pages of ideas. Reuben's attitude is inspiring - he simply loves to learn. Having taught Reuben for two years now, I can say with certainty that he is an absolute joy to have in the classroom. I am sure that the other teachers in the school will have their eye on you Reuben, and if they don't they should do! Keep shining lovely boy.

Mrs Grimwood's class

My star of the week is Ava-Mai. Ava Mai has a brilliant brain and many skills. When she is doing her learning, she can often become distracted and consequently does not produce a great deal or complete things. This week she has really started to turn this around and I am so proud of her. She did a much longer piece of writing yesterday and I have been noticing this week how she has completed far more pieces of learning. I have also seen the delight this has brought her. Ava Mai is also a very loving and caring person and she brings joy to our classroom every day. Ava Mai, you are a lively, sparkly person who has so many gifts. Keep channelling all that fire inside of you into your learning and you are going to go far. Keep doing what you have done this week. You are amazing!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mr Bayliss' class

Arabella has shown brilliant effort in her learning this week. She has consistently stayed on task, showing a strong commitment to completing her work to a high standard. Arabella has also made significant strides in working more independently, growing her confidence in the classroom. Arabella has shown a positive attitude and willingness to learn and make progress. Well done, Arabella! Keep up the fantastic work!

Mrs Johnson's class

My Star of the Week is George. George came into Year 3 with the best attitude to learning and has grown in confidence and determination ever since! He doesn't let challenges knock him and tries his very best to complete all tasks to the best of his abilities. His presentation is lovely, and he has worked so hard on his handwriting. George is also a kind and caring friend; he always looks out for others and is a great friend. As a side note, I love the drawings George creates – he is such a talented artist and his enthusiasm for art is unstoppable! Keep being you.

Mr Whapham's class

My star of the week is Chloe H! Chloe is a wonderful learner who tries her best in each lesson within the school day. The last few weeks, I have noticed a confidence growth in Chloe, resulting in her sharing her ideas more regularly in class. It is lovely to see her with her hand up asking questions and joining in our class discussions more and more often! Well done Chloe!

Mrs Ledger's class

My star of the week is Bonnie- she has had a great week, really focussed in lessons and showing a positive attitude. Sometimes Bonnie can lack confidence in her learning, but recently she has been working more independently and demonstrating how well she can work both by herself and with others. Well done, Bonnie!

Miss Williams' class

My Star of the Week is the wonderful Olivia D. Olivia has truly impressed us all with her confidence and maturity both in class and on the playground. Over the past couple of weeks, her love for school life has blossomed, and it has been fantastic to see her enthusiasm shine through in everything she does. She has shown incredible motivation and engagement in her learning, consistently putting in her best effort and embracing every challenge with a positive attitude. Not only has Olivia been focused on her own progress, but she has also been eager to support others. It has been wonderful to see her volunteering to help at every opportunity, demonstrating a real sense of responsibility and kindness. Olivia is a kind, helpful, and thoughtful individual, always looking out for those around her and making a positive impact on our school community. Well done, Olivia – you should be very proud of yourself! Keep up the amazing work!

Mrs Scott's class

I have chosen Dylan to be the star for our class, for his great attitude to school and learning this week. Over the past few days, I have seen real determination from Dylan, particularly in his writing, where he has shown care and taken pride in his narrative poem, with a clear vision for the story he wanted to tell, but was also accepting of constructive feedback to help him continually improve. This care has also been shown in his wider curriculum learning, where he has used his time wisely, listened carefully, and again, has shown great pride in the learning he has produced. I am very proud of the Dylan I have seen this week, and he can accomplish great things if he keeps this up. Well done, Dylan.

Premier League Primary Stars U11 Girls Cup



Our under 11s girls football team had a great time at this football tournament, finishing 3rd in their group and played brilliantly throughout. They gave it their all in every match, showing great teamwork, determination, and plenty of OV spirit.

We are so proud of their effort and the way they supported each other on and off the pitch!

Well done girls!



The 100 Club

Well done
to the following children in our
times tables challenge

Spencer Dexter

Platinum Award

Teagan Mila

Gold Award

Toby Jenson P

Rory H Layla Cheryl

Bronze Award

Reading Road Champions Years 1 and 2

Congratulations to:

Ava F Toby Freya
For completing 25 reads

Alice
For completing 75 reads

School Diary Dates

Mon, 17th to Fri, 21st Feb	Spring Half Term (last day of school is Friday, 14th February)
Mon, 24th Feb	Water Safety Talk by Tarka Leisure Centre—KS1 and KS2
Wed, 5th Mar	Group of Y5—Park School Mid-Eighties Night's Dreams
Thur, 6th Mar	World Book Day
Fri, 7th Mar	Y3/4 Girls Football Tournament
Wed, 12th Mar	Park Dance Festival
Fri, 14th Mar	Y6 Rising Stars—Basketball at Pilton Community College
Wed, 19th Mar	Y3/4 U9's Girls Football Tournament
Wed, 26th Mar	Y5/6 U11 Girls Football Tournament
Fri, 28th Mar	Ready Steady Rock Bank Practice
Tues, 1st Apr	Y3/4 Watermouth Castle Trip (details to come)
Wed, 2nd Apr	Y5/6 Boys Football Tournament
Fri, 4th Apr	Ready Steady Rock End of Term Concert
Mon, 7th to Mon, 21s Apr	Easter Holidays (Last day of school Fri, 4th April)
Tue, 22nd Apr	Back to school

Week commencing—Monday, 24th February

Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options



LUNCH MENU – WEEK 2

2nd Dec 2024 – 6th & 27th Jan – 24th Feb – 17th Mar 2025





Wholemeal Bread, Salad Bowls, Low Fat Yoghurts, Fruit, Milk and Water available daily. All Special Diets catered for.

	Meat Free Monday	Tasty Tuesday	Roast it up Wednesday	Treat yourself Thursday	Finish it off Friday
	Mozzarella topped Mediterranean Pasta	100% Beef Burger Bap & Diced Potatoes	Roast Chicken & Stuffing	Crispy Salmon Bites	Beefy Macaroni Cheese
	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Veggie Curry with Wholegrain Rice	Cauliflower Bites	Vegan Sausage Roll	Cheese & Onion Pasty with Diced Potatoes
	Mixed Vegetables	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cauliflower Bites	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese & Onion Pasty with Diced Potatoes
	Warm Pancakes with Syrup	Tomato Sauce, Corn on the Cob or Green Beans	Roast or Mash Potato with Fresh Broccoli, Carrots, & Gravy	Chips, Pasta, Peas or Baked Beans	Cauliflower, Sweetcorn & Crusty Bread
	Cheese Bap	Ham Bap	Cheese Bap	Ham Bap	Sausage Roll
	Warm Pancakes with Syrup	Chocolate Cake & Chocolate Sauce	Cheese, Apple & Crackers	Mandarin Jelly	Fruity Lolly






Sensory Garden Plants required

Could you help us?

We are looking for the following plants to put into our new Sensory Garden.

Globe thistle, Teasel,

Stachys byzantine Rabbits Ears

Silver sage,

Nodding/quaking grass

Mint types of, Chives, Pansy,

Current red/black, Lavender types of

Rosemary, Rose, Cotton lavender

Lemon verbena

Now is the time to split shrubs.

If you could offer us any of the above please contact Mrs Manley via the school office.



Tidiest
Cloakroom
This week was
Mrs Oldfield's
class
3 in a row 🍌

Libraries
Unlimited

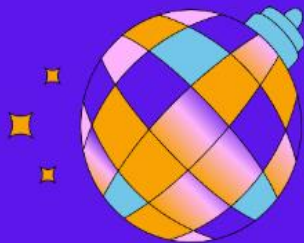


northdevon
MUSIC



For ages 0-3 years and their
grownups

Baby Disco



Saturday 1st & 29th March
10.30-11.30
Barnstaple Library
Top floor

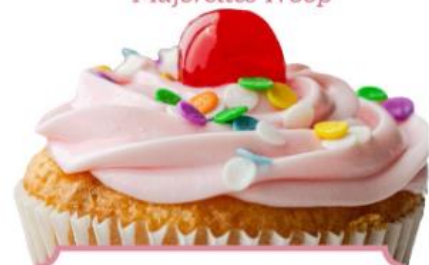


www.ticketsource.co.uk/sam-g-creates



CAKE Sale

a fundraiser for Tarka Starlightz
Majorettes Troop



WEDNESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY
AFTER SCHOOL

Orchard Vale Next To The
Coffee Cabin