

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 4th October 2024

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a really busy week in school. Year 5 and 6 children have been to Exeter to visit the Royal Albert Memorial Museum to support their history curriculum. They were able to see ration books and many other artifacts from the Second World War; as well as seeing photos of Exeter after it had been bombed in the Blitz. They tried on clothes from the time and took cover in an Anderson shelter. A memorable experience for all.

Mrs Oldfield's class went on a squirrel hunt this morning and found a squirrel busy finding food in the trees. They were encouraged to look for signs of Autumn and collect some Autumn leaves. The weather was beautiful, and it was so lovely to be out and about in our local community.

Our Harvest table is starting to fill up. Thank you for your kind donations. Please see the information below for ideas if you would like to contribute something towards our Harvest Festival donations to the Freedom Transforming Lives Charity.

We have noticed an increase in chocolate, sweets and other unhealthy items in children's lunchboxes. As a school, we know the importance of a healthy balanced diet. So, over the next few weeks we will be including some top tips for a healthy lunchbox content. We hope it gives you and your child some ideas of how to introduce some of these healthier snacks into your lunch routines. You can see some ideas on page 7.

Please could we ask parents not to park in the bus stops reserved for service buses, just before and opposite the school turning circle. Parking here prevents Stagecoach drivers being able to safely drop off and pick up their passengers.

Today, in assembly, we met our new School Councillors. These children have been voted by their classmates to represent them in promoting a voice for children and we look forward to working with them this year. Our Year 6 children have been invited to take on an additional role as prefects this year. They will be given further information about what this means and have an opportunity to apply for different roles in school. I am sure they will all rise to the challenge and be great role-models for the younger children.



We hope you have a relaxing weekend.

Fiona Pearce
Headteacher

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Continuing our community work we will be holding a Harvest Festival on Friday 18th October.

We will be supporting the Freedom Transforming Lives Charity.

Last year we had a fantastic response and would really like to be able to replicate this again.

Below is a list of things the Freedom Centre need to continue to run their kitchen and provide food parcels for clients.

- Meals in a tin (chilli, stew, curry)
- Tinned fruit
(pineapple chunks, pears, peaches, rhubarb, apple or mandarins)
- Tinned custard/rice pudding
- Coffee
- Pot noodles
- Biscuits
- Granola bars
- Chocolate bars
- Orange juice – large or small cartons
- Blackcurrant squash
- White flour- self raising and plain.
- Granulated white sugar.
- Jelly any flavour
- Mayonnaise
- Lasagne sheets
- Gravy granules – beef, chicken and vegetable
- Vegetable oil
- Washing up liquid



Merger of Ventrus and Tarka Learning Partnership



We are pleased to inform you that the application to the DfE for Ventrus and Tarka Learning Partnership to merge and form a new Trust is on the agenda to be heard by the South West Regions Group Advisory Board on Monday 21st October. As part of that process the DfE give an opportunity to submit comments about their published agenda and have asked us to share the following information with you. You may submit comments after their agenda has been published on 7th October.

If you have any comments about this agenda, please email

RG.SW@education.gov.uk

Comments must be submitted by email by 14th October, 5-working days before the meeting. Any comments submitted after this deadline may not be considered in advance of the meeting.

In your email please include

- the school/academy name and trust names, and the local authority of the school/academy;*
- your relationship to the school/academy*
- your comments on the proposal*
- any alternative proposal(s) you have and*
- any other comments on the school's/academy's future*

Please note that we will not respond to emails. Any representations received via email may be required to be released if a Freedom of Information Request (FOI) is received by the DfE.

We look forward to advising you of the outcome of the Advisory Boards decision at which point we will be contacting all stakeholders with further details about the merger and providing you with a further opportunity to represent your views to the Board of Trustees.

Gary Chown
Chief Executive Officer

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mrs Youll's class

Rowan for having a super start to nursery and happily joining in with lots of activities.

Mrs Oldfield's class

My star of the week is Theo W-C. Over the past few weeks, we have been very impressed with the effort and positive attitude Theo has shown across all areas of learning. Many adults have noticed and commented on his enthusiasm, he has shown excellent listening skills and is keen to learn new things. Theo is a very polite boy, and I love the way he finishes our register with a 'good morning everyone'. Thank you for being such a wonderful member of our class Theo. Keep up the great work. Mrs Oldfield x

Miss Cawthorne/Mrs De-Ritis' class

Our star of the week is Hugo. Hugo has worked extremely hard to get used to the routines of reception, it is lovely to see his face as part of our carpet sessions. Hugo has done some fabulous counting and letter formation and is making fantastic progress. Well done Hugo, keep up the good work.

Mr Quilter's class

Lillie-Mai is new to my class, therefore new to my routines and expectations. This hasn't fazed her and I have been extremely impressed with how she has adapted and settled in! Lillie-Mai initially wanted lots of reassurance when writing, however this week she has shown me great 'writing stamina' and has completed tasks quickly and efficiently. Lillie-Mai is working incredibly hard since joining my class and I feel her efforts need to be recognised. Keep up the hard work and you will have an awesome year 2. Great Job! Mr Q x

Miss Huxtable's class

My star of the week is Eli S. Eli has amazed us all with his confidence starting Year 1. He has been working extra hard in all areas of his learning and has surprised us all with just how brilliant his attitude to school is. Nothing is too much of an ask for Eli, and he wants to do his best in absolutely everything. Eli has a cheeky side to him and makes us all laugh every day. It's been a big jump from Reception to Year 1, and Eli is making it look easy. Well done E-T, you are a star!

Mrs Grimwood's class

My star of the week is Jayden. Jayden has just been on fire this week. He has been making supreme efforts with his writing, is trying really hard with his maths and made some really great contributions to science. He has been chattier and brimming with confidence and determination and it has been an absolute pleasure to observe. On top of that, Jayden is always such a kind, thoughtful and caring person. He holds open doors, has lovely manners and I am so thankful he is in my class. You are awesome, Jayden!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mr Bayliss' class

Summer has been a joy to teach! Her brilliant listening skills help her fully engage with the lessons, and she always contributes thoughtfully. She is incredibly kind and caring, making her a great friend to her classmates during playtime. Summer shows wonderful perseverance, consistently working hard on her tasks and never giving up. Well done, Summer! Keep up the amazing work!

Mrs Johnson's class

My Star of the Week is Archie. Archie has had a fantastic start to Year 4 and has really impressed me with his attitude to learning. He has been working so hard to listen to instructions and the quality of his work is fantastic! He has shown this week how well he can focus and has produced some lovely writing based on the story 'Jumanji'. Archie, you are such a pleasure to have in my class and I can't wait to see how the year develops for you; remember to maintain your determination and positive attitude!

Mr Whapham's class

My star of the week is Renzo! Renzo is an extremely hard working member of our class who always puts in maximum effort. He completes tasks carefully and efficiently and always ensures his work is completed to the highest standard. He is a great example of someone who understands the importance of learning. Keep up the hard work!

Mrs Ledger's class

My star this week is Carly. She has shown real enthusiasm and curiosity during our history learning this week, asking and answering questions at the museum. She is always keen to join in discussions and is cheerful and helpful. She is making some good choices with friendships and showing a kind and mature attitude. Well done Carly!

Miss Williams' class

This week my Star of the Week is the wonderful Malaki! Malaki is someone who I can always rely on to be getting on quietly and sensibly; it has been brilliant to see him making a conscious effort to steer clear from any distractions during learning time. He really impressed Mrs Ledger and I on the trip to Exeter to museum with his retention of information about World War Two and his willingness and confidence to share that with his group. Also, he produced the most fantastic silhouette scene based on the Blitz in art this week. Keep being an excellent year 6 role model. I am very proud of you Malaki!

Mrs Scott's class


I have chosen Bella as our class star this week, as she is just wonderful! Bella is thoughtful and kind, hard-working, a good friend... The list goes on! Bella gives everything 100%, and she helps others around her, showing great care and patience. I have even now started calling her 'Miss B' from time to time, as she is taking on such a leadership role in our room. Bella helps across the school - she is a librarian and an assembly monitor - and she also quietly notices things that need doing to help make our classroom and our school a nice place to be. I have known Bella for a while now, and I feel like, this term, we are really starting to see her potential, both in her learning, and as a role model. It is a pleasure to teach Bella; she is just a superstar! Well done, Bella; keep it up.

School Diary Dates

Wed, 9th Oct	Y5/6 cross country
Wed, 9th Oct	Y5/6 swimming lessons—group 1
Mon, 14th, Tue, 15th and Wed, 16th Oct	Bikeability
Wed, 16th Oct	Y5/6 swimming lessons
Thur, 17th Oct	School Photos—8am Family, during school individual and siblings
Fri, 18th Oct	Harvest Festival
Wed, 23rd Oct	Y3 Multi Skills Festival
Wed, 23rd Oct	Y5/6 swimming lessons
Fri, 25th Oct	Non Pupil Day
Mon 28th Oct to Fri 1st Nov	HALF TERM—(back to school on 4th Nov)
Wed, 6th Nov	Nasal Flu Vaccinations—Reception to Year 6 children only (please could all parents complete the only consent/decline form)
Fri, 8th Nov	Whole School Remembrance Service and Children's Remembrance Service—Rock Park
Wed, 13th Nov	Y3/4 Roman Baths trip (please note that the swimming lesson has been moved to 4th Dec)
Thur, 21st Nov	Y5/6—Into Film—Scott Cinema

Week commencing—Monday, 7th October












Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options



LUNCH MENU - WEEK 2

16th Sept. – 7th Oct.

Malted, Wholemeal Sliced Baguettes, Low Fat Yoghurts, Milk and Water available daily. All Special Diets catered for.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
	Cheeseburger (100% Beef) in a Bun	Chicken Curry, Wholegrain Rice & Naan Bread	Toad in the Hole (Butchers Sausage & Yorkshire Pudding)	Jumbo Fish Fingers	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 Tuna, Beans or Cheese	Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese		Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese		
	Potato Wedges, Peas & Corn on Cob	Mixed Vegetables	Roast or Mash Potato with Fresh Sliced Carrots, Cabbage & Gravy	Chips, Pasta, Peas, Coleslaw & Tomato Sauce	Sweetcorn & Broccoli	
	Pip Organic Ice Lolly	Fruit Jelly	Fresh Fruit	Date & Rice Crispy Cake	Fruit Smoothie	
	Ham Roll	Cheese Roll	Ham Roll	Tuna Roll	Sausage Roll	

Congratulations to KS1

Reading road champions

Erin

On reaching 25 reads

World War II—Years 5/6

This week, year 5/6 visited Royal Albert Memorial Museum in Exeter to learn more about World War II and how Exeter was affected during The Blitz.

The children were able to try on wartime clothing and to learn more about the importance of rationing and 'Digging for Victory!'. A highlight of the visit was to experience our own air raid drill and using the air raid shelter!

It was fantastic to see the children engaged and sharing their knowledge about World War II with the staff and volunteers at the museum.

We received some very complimentary feedback from the museum; who were impressed by the children's knowledge of the subject and their superb behaviour during the visits. Well done everyone!

During the week, we were also fortunate to have the use of some World War II artefacts from the Barnstaple Museum. The children loved exploring the different items, dressing up in the clothing and an array of different hats and helmets. We particularly enjoyed sounding the air raid siren.

We have had a fantastic immersive World War II experience this week.





Healthy Eating

Tips for a Healthy Diet

Check out the NHS Better Health, Healthy Family

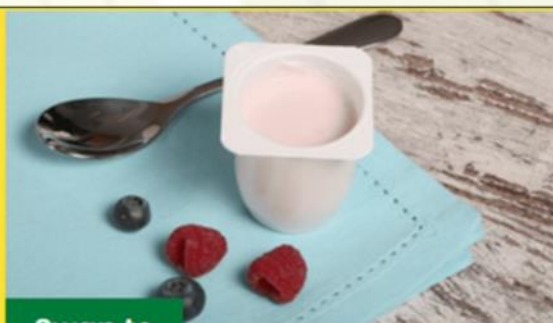
information [click here](#).

See below for some healthy food swap ideas.



Swap from

- ✗ Split pot yoghurts and pudding pots
- ✗ Cake bars and cereal bars
- ✗ Muffins and chocolate
- ✗ Crisps
- ✗ Juice pouches and fizzy drinks
- ✗ Tinned soup
- ✗ Ham and cheese sandwiches



Swap to

- ✓ Lower-sugar fromage frais or plain natural yoghurt
- ✓ Sugar-free jelly
- ✓ A slice of malt loaf or a fruited teacake
- ✓ Fresh or tinned fruit (in juice, not syrup)
- ✓ Plain popcorn, plain rice cakes or raisins
- ✓ No-added-sugar juice drinks, or water with berries and chopped fruit
- ✓ Homemade [spiced chicken and vegetable soup](#) or [harvest vegetable soup](#)
- ✓ Our delicious [beefed up sarnies](#)

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Kids' health information hub



Got a mobile? Great!
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on your smartphone



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Abdominal pain



Asthma



Bronchiolitis



Coughs and colds



Croup



Crying baby
(under 3 months)



Diarrhoea and
vomiting



Earache



Fever in children



Fits, faints and
funny turns



Conjunctivitis



Headache



Head injury



Jaundice



Limping child



Safe sleep for
babies



Sore throat



Rashes in children



Vaccinations



Wheeze

POP UP SHOP



WEDNESDAY 6TH
NOVEMBER

2.45 – 3.30pm
COFFEE CABIN

RECYCLED SCHOOL UNIFORM.
TOYS & A WIDE SELECTION OF
BIRTHDAY/CHRISTMAS
GREETING CARDS.

COFFEE CABIN

Following on from the success during the summer term, we will be opening the Coffee Cabin.

every Wednesday

Wednesday, 20th, November
until we break up for Christmas.

8.15-8.45am

We will be offering:

Hot Chocolate
Tea
Coffee
Milkshake

pain-au-chocolat
croissant
brioche

Christmas Jumper Recycling Event

As part of the PTA fundraising, we will be holding a:

Christmas Jumper Recycled Event
On
Wednesday, 13th November

It would be wonderful if families could have a look at home and send in any unwanted Christmas jumpers by 20th October.

Please hand these into class teachers for the attention of Mrs Manley.

Christmas jumpers can be very expensive, and children grow out of them so quickly. Why not put them to good use.

Thank you in advance for your support.



twinkl



Primary Admissions - September 2025 Reception Class

The admissions process for children joining a Reception Class in September 2025 has changed.

Parents/carers will no longer receive a letter inviting them to apply. Instead you need to use the Microsoft form ([CLICK HERE](#)) to express your interest in applying for a school place.

Once registered you will receive an automated text/email when the application window opens on 15th November 2024.



THE PENGUIN SPORTS FOUNDATION PROVIDES SPORT & REHAB OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES IN NORTH DEVON AND BEYOND.

We provide a hydrotherapy programme with 1:1 sessions, frame running club and a brand new hydrotherapy after school club.

find out more



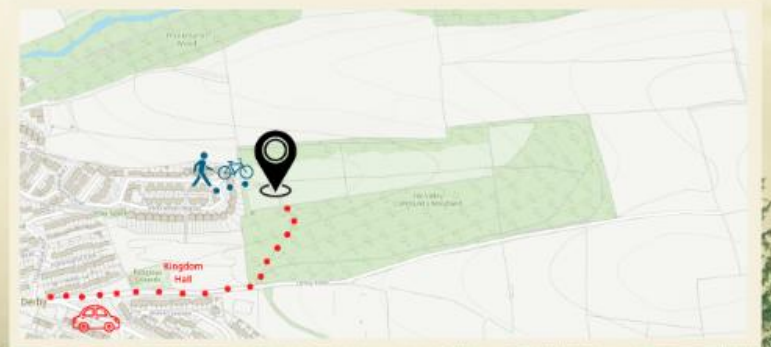
www.thepenguinsportsfoundation.co.uk



Registered Charity Number: 1206051 info@thepenguinsportsfoundation.co.uk



RICHARD IRVINE
COUNCILLOR



FOOD FROM THE FOREST

AT YEO VALLEY COMMUNITY WOODLAND
SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER, 10AM - 3PM

Come and forage 'Food for Free' from the trees and bushes of Yeo Valley Community Woodland. Sloes, apples, blackberries, haws, hazelnuts and more.

Help with apple pressing - bring along a clean bottle and take home some fresh, free, organic apple juice and plenty of energy to press those apples!

Learn what you can make from the natural harvest in the woodland, then go out for a walk with local foragers to collect what you need.

There's no need to book - just turn up!