

Orchard Vale's Weekly News

Friday, 28th March 2025

www.ovschool.co.uk

orchardvale@ventrus.org.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Guardians

Well done our years 5/6 girls team who took part in the North Devon Under 11 Girls Football Competition on Wednesday. They were awarded a very respectable 5th place for their hard work.

We are getting closer to the end of term and the children have been thriving in their topics. Years 3/4 are excited to end their topic with a trip to Watermouth Castle next Tuesday which is a lovely treat to tie up all of their prior learning. I know that they are going to have a brilliant time.

On Friday next week, we have our RockSteady concert. The children who participate in these music lessons have really excelled in confidence and we are excited to welcome the parents of the performers to the end of term show at 9am on Friday, 4th April.

We are looking forward to the Eco Easter Bonnet competition on Friday. We have been lucky enough to receive donations of prizes from Asda, for which we are exceptionally grateful. We cannot wait to see your entries. Please deliver bonnet entries to the school hall on Friday morning ready for judging and showing off in our celebration assembly. You can enter the school hall via the Community Room.

Have a lovely weekend.



Don't forget the clocks go forward on Saturday night/Sunday morning.

Fiona Pearce



Bake a Difference Fundraising

In honour of Bill Tabberner, one of our valued Schoolreaders, we are hosting a bake sale on **Friday 25th April**. If you would like to bake or buy cakes to donate please bring these into the School Office in the morning.

We will host the bake sale at lunchtime and after school. We have a live link for online donations and we will also be able to accept cash donations.

Please do share the link on social media if possible. All funds raised will help raise money towards this invaluable charity that give children the reading skills they need for a brighter future.

If you would like to make a monetary donation please click this link for the [Bake A Difference](#) fundraising page.

A colorful poster for the 'Eco Easter Bonnet Competition'. The title is in large, bold, purple letters. Below it, the text says 'Create an environmentally Friendly Easter Bonnet!', 'Drop your entries to the school hall on the morning of Friday 4th April 2025.', and 'Prizes will be awarded in celebration assembly.' The poster is decorated with colorful Easter eggs at the top and bottom, and confetti.

Change to Breakfast Club

When we switch over to Arbor Pay our Breakfast Club will have a flat rate of £3.50 for all attendees.

Our prices for all Wraparound care will be revised for the start of the new academic year in September.

Coming Soon!

After Easter we will be selling Ice Lollies on Wednesday afternoons between 3pm and 3.45pm

The first Wednesday will be 23rd April
Look forward to seeing you all there.

Change to online payment method

From the end of April this year we will be moving our online payment system for meals, trips, breakfast and afterschool provision etc. over to the Arbor App.

Parent Pay will not be accessible to you after 30th April.



Please ensure you have activated your Arbor App so that you are ready to go when the payment option goes live.

Please could we ask you to bring all outstanding balances for meals, childcare provision, Little Seeds and Nursery fees up-to-date on Parent Pay before this change over.

Online Payments



STARS OF THE WEEK

Mrs Youll's class

Christopher for your super speaking and friendliness towards our new visiting children and good tidying.

Mrs Oldfield's class

Over the past few weeks, we have been making our own information booklets on 'The Life Cycle of a Frog.' Ollie has worked so hard every day, he has been focussing on holding his sentence, using finger spaces, using his sound chart to help him write unfamiliar words and also on his handwriting. I am so very proud of Ollie, his determination, concentration and effort produced the most fantastic book, that I know Ollie was super proud of. Keep up the amazing work Ollie. You are a super star. Mrs Oldfield x

Miss Cawthorne/Mrs De-Ritis' class

Fletch is our star of the week. Fletch has been fantastic all year, recently he has been trying really hard in using his words and talking to lots of different adults and children. Fletch has settled well into the school routine and has been trying really hard with his listening too. Well done Fletch, you are a superstar.

Mr Quilter's class

My star of the week is Theodore! Theodore has shown excellent work ethic this week, especially in his writing. He has been asked to write like a 'year 3' this week, and has really tried hard in doing so. His writing has been clearer and easier to read and he has also been more accurate with his spellings. Theodore has shown good reading ability during phonics, Miss Tillman has been super impressed. Theodore has behaved beautifully this week, we have had no wobbles, fall outs or issues with peers! Great job Theodore!

Miss Huxtable's class

My star of the week is the wonderful Seb. Seb really is faultless. Week on week he is consistently kind, hardworking, and an excellent role model. Seb is a quieter member of the class and never needs reminding or prompting to do the right thing, but more recently it's been lovely to see a different side to him coming out. He is still mr cool, calm and collected but now seems sure of himself and confident in his abilities. This week, he has been more involved in classroom discussion, sharing his ideas and putting himself out there. Seb, you are a joy! Keep it up.

Mrs Grimwood's class

My star of the week is Hallie. I have been especially impressed this week with Hallie's maths. Earlier in the year, Hallie would get a bit tied in knots when we approached new things in maths but recently she really seems to have sharpened her focus and is getting on with tasks much more confidently and independently. It is like things have clicked into place. Also Hallie is gaining confidence with her phonics and reading and she is gaining ground in these areas too. I can see Hallie is working hard with her writing too and she is coming up with more ideas and having a bit more to say which is fabulous to see. On top of all this Hallie is the sweetest person. She is so kind, gentle and caring. Hallie, it is lovely to see how your learning is really starting to take off. Keep going! You are a star and we are so proud of you.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Mr Bayliss' class

Isla has shown brilliant manners and has been super helpful in the classroom this week. She has consistently followed our classroom expectations excellently and has tried her very best to complete her tasks on time and to a high standard. Isla's positive attitude and dedication to her work in all of her subjects has been really impressive. Well done, Isla! Keep up the fantastic effort and focus!

Mrs Johnson's class

My Star of the Week is Albie. Albie is a lively member of the class who provides a lot of cheeky laughs and energy! He balances this with enthusiasm for his learning and works hard to produce quality work in all areas of the curriculum. This week he has really shone in our DT sessions. We have been completing a project on levers, making moving pictures. Albie remembered all of the parts of a lever as well as being able to name different types of pivot. His measuring and cutting skills were excellent, and he completed his project and began helping others in the class. Albie - I love the way you get so involved in our projects in such a practical and unflappable way - you are such a superstar!

Mr Whapham's class

My star of the week is Ben R! Ben has had a good week, focusing well in lessons and trying his best to show his full potential. He has also worked hard to make good, sensible choices on the playground, showing that he can be a good role model to those around him. Keep up the hard work Ben, you are doing great. Well done, Ben!

Mrs Ledger's class

My star of the week is Rory H. Rory is a polite and conscientious member of the class, who always tries his best. This week he has contributed really thoughtfully in class, and has shown a keen interest in his learning. Well done Rory!

Miss Williams' class

This week, our Star of the Week is someone who truly shines in every way — Isabella! Isabella is a kind, thoughtful, and incredibly hard-working member of our class. She always gives 100% to everything she does and takes great pride in her work. She's the kind of person who is always ready to lend a hand, no matter the task. Whether it's tidying up, handing out books, or helping someone who needs support, Isabella offers her help with a smile and carries out every job with care and diligence. As our class school councillor, Isabella has been nothing short of fantastic. It's been a joy to watch her confidence blossom as she stands up and shares ideas with the class — and this self-assurance has started to shine through in her learning too, with her hand regularly shooting up full of brilliant contributions. She also takes her role as a mental health ambassador seriously and shows real maturity and empathy when supporting her classmates. Isabella is a positive presence in the classroom, always cheerful and uplifting, and it's lovely to see her encouraging and helping others with their learning. We're so proud of you, Isabella. You are a ray of sunshine in our classroom and a truly deserving Star of the Week. Well done!

Mrs Scott's class

I have chosen Liam as my star this week, for his improved work ethic and engagement in learning. As the year has progressed, I have seen Liam's focus improve dramatically, with him now working hard to ensure he is taking on board all possible learning to help him improve. Within this, both myself and other members of Year 5/6 staff have seen Liam's willingness to actively contribute to lessons has significantly increased, which we love! Keep up the hard work, Liam!

Years 3/4 Girls' Football

On Wednesday 19th March, ten girls from year 3/4 travelled to Kingsley School in Bideford to take part in a football tournament. There were twelve teams in total, and the girls played so well, working together as a team. They won three of their games and represented the school brilliantly. Well done girls!



Years 5/6—Girls Football

A huge congratulations to the OV Girls Football Team for their fantastic performance at the North Devon Girls Football Tournament!

Competing against 15 teams, the girls showed great teamwork, determination, and skill, securing an impressive 5th place finish.

Well done to all the players for their hard work and effort—we're proud of you!



Wow Moments

Let's Celebrate

Lily has competed at her first British Championships at the M&S Bank Arena in Liverpool as a year 1 Aspire.

She was really excited just to compete there and didn't expect to do very well against the older girls. She just went out to do her best and have fun.

The atmosphere was incredible! The arena was packed with local school children.



- She ended up absolutely smashing it!
- She had a podium finish taking 6th place All Around.
- 1st reserve for the Bars finals.
- She also finished in the top 10 for Floor, Beam and Vault.
- Well done Lily!



Wow Moments

Let's Celebrate



A huge well done to Mrs Dunn and Miss Madge who were part of the Barnstaple's Unlimited Dance Company (UDC) who celebrated an incredible achievement at once again being crowned British Champions at the prestigious SOAR British Championships, held earlier this month at the BEC Manchester.

Mrs Dunn won a British Championship title.

The owner of UDC, said: "We are beyond thrilled to have retained our British Champion titles once again. It's a testament to the dedication, passion, and hard work of all our dancers and teachers.

"To see our students, from our competitive teams to our solo performers, shining at the highest level is an absolute joy. These achievements highlight not only their talent but also the strength of our supportive community here at UDC. We couldn't be prouder."

The achievement follows another year of continued success, with UDC's dancers excelling across a wide range of disciplines including ballet, street dance, lyrical, tap and musical theatre.

For more information on Unlimited Dance Company or to join its growing family of talented dancers, please email hello@unlimiteddance.co.uk

School Diary Dates

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, 21st Apr	Easter Holidays (Last day of school Fri, 4th April)
Tue, 22nd Apr	Back to school
Wed, 23 Apr	Y2 Tennis Festival—Tarka Leisure Centre
Fri, 25th Apr	Y5/6—Tag Rugby Festival
Fri, 25th Apr	Cake Sale in memory of Bill Tabberner
Tue, 29th Apr	Y6—Pilton Community College—Virtual Welcome Evening
Mon, 5th May	Bank Holiday (back to school on Tue, 6th May)
Tue, 6th to Fri, 9th May	Y3 / 4 Bikeability
Tue, 6th May	Y2—Northam Burrows trip
Wed, 7th May	Y1 Multi-skills Festival—Park School
Thur, 8th May	Y1—Northam Burrows trip
Fri, 16th May	Y3 Cricket Skills Festival
Wed, 21st May	Wilcombe Wobbler Cross Country (details to come)
Fri, 23rd May	Aquathlon—Torrington
Fri, 23rd May	Y6 and Reception—National Child Measurement
Fri, 26th to Fri, 30th May	HALF TERM

Week commencing—Monday, 31st March

Please see website for Vegan/Dairy and gluten free options

LUNCH MENU - WEEK 1

Week Commencing 31st Mar 2025

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

Food to
excite
ventrus
Catering for your
children's education

Meat Free Monday	Tasty Tuesday	Roast it up Wednesday	Treat yourself Thursday	Finish it off Friday
Margherita Pizza	Sausage & Mash Potato	Roast Chicken & Stuffing	Fish Fingers	Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Pasta
Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese	Veggie Sausage & Mash Potato	Cauliflower & Broccoli Bake	Vegan Nuggets	Cheese & Onion Pasty with Herby Potatoes
Pasta & Mixed Vegetables	Jacket Potato with Tuna, Beans or Cheese	Roast or Mash Potato, Carrots, Broccoli & Gravy	Jacket Potato with Beans or Cheese	Crusty Bread, Corn on the Cob or Salad
Cheese Bap	Baked Beans, or Peas & Gravy	Tuna Mayo Bap	Chips, Pasta, Baked Beans or Peas & Tomato Sauce	Sausage Roll
Pancakes & Syrup	Ham Bap	Cookie & Juice	Ham Bap	Ice Cream
	Raspberry Chocolate Krispie Cake		Fruit Lolly	



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are the **Mental Health Support Team** for schools in North Devon, and we work for Children and Family Health Devon, part of the NHS. We are an award-winning early intervention service for children and young people, supporting schools to raise awareness of Mental Health, reduce stigma around asking for support, and providing families with targeted support at an earlier stage of mental health difficulty.

We support your school to develop a Whole School Approach to mental health, and we take referrals for either 1:1 or small group interventions to address mild to moderate mental health needs such as anxiety or low mood.

A 'Whole School Approach' means thinking about how every part of school life – people, environments, timetables and parents and carers, can work together to develop a mentally healthy place to learn and work; one that promotes positive wellbeing and where students are supported to be happy, resilient, and healthy young people.

We will be available in the Coffee Cabin from 8.15am-9am on Wednesday 2nd April. Which will give a relaxed and informal chance to meet some of the team and hear more about what we can offer.

Please come and join us for a cup of tea or coffee, we look forward to meeting you!



Devon Family Hub Newsletter
Parent Carer Newsletters

The Newsletter contains a wealth of information, tips and guidance.

[Devon Family Hub March Newsletter](#)

How to help your family enjoy a screen free week

The first week of May is **Screen-Free Week**, an annual event that encourages people to explore and rediscover joy beyond screens.

During this week, thousands of children, families and communities from around the world will put down their devices in favour of reconnecting with the world around them.

[BBC Bitesize Parents' Toolkit](#) takes a look at the ways you can take part in a screen-free week and how it can benefit you and your children.

What is the Max Card?

The Max Card is free to families with children aged 0-25 who have SEND and it allows eligible children and young people free or discounted admission to more than 800 attractions nationwide, over 60 of which are in Devon and Cornwall.

For more information click [here](#).

Westcountry

Dental and Implant Centre

WE ARE ACCEPTING NEW NHS PATIENTS UNDER 18 NOW! Limited slots available

West country dental and Implant Centre, Unit 2 Old Station Road EX328PB

GET IN TOUCH NOW ON 01271345006 OR EMAIL US AT westcountry.dental@nhs.net

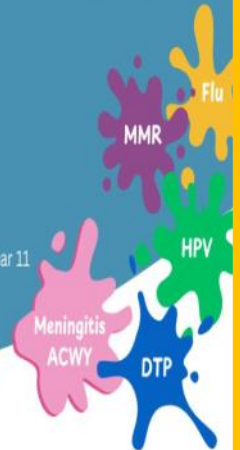


School aged vaccinations

CORNWALL & DEVON
School Age Immunisation Service
Delivered by Kernow Health CIC

Did you know children will be offered these routine vaccinations at school?

- ✓ Flu - reception - year 11
- ✓ MMR - catch up
- ✓ HPV - year 8 - year 11
- ✓ Meningitis ACWY - year 9 - year 11
- ✓ Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP) - year 9 - year 11



Did you miss us?

We also have community clinics across Devon for:

- ✓ Home educated children
- ✓ Anxious children
- ✓ Children who missed the session at school

For more information, scan the QR code, or call us to speak with a member of our team



Call us on 01392 342678

kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net

2025
9 & 10
16 & 17
APRIL
10am - 2pm

WELCOME TO
● LOTS OF ACTIVITIES!!

EASTER CLUB

● LOTS OF FUN!

£30

5 - 11 YEARS

LET'S GO

ASHLEIGH CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
BEVAN ROAD, BARNSTAPLE, EX32 8LJ

BOOKING LINK
<https://eequ.org/book/romar-sports-half-holiday-club-with-romar-sports-devon-limited-14408>

ROMAR SPORTS

EASTER FOOTBALL HOLIDAY CLUB

Join us for a fun filled Easter of football, games, competitions & prizes
Girls & Boys / All abilities
Ages 5 - 15 years / 9am - 4pm

Both days £50

9 & 10 April
7 hours of fun for £30 per day

THE KINGLEY SCHOOL
Northdown Road
Bideford
EX39 3JR

www.romarsports.com

For more info email e: info@romarsports.com

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EASTER FOOTBALL HOLIDAY CLUB

Join us for a fun filled Easter of football, games, competitions & prizes
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TARMA LEISURE CENTRE 4G
Barnstaple, North Devon EX31 2AP

Full timetable available on our website
For more info email e: info@romarsports.com

Libraries
Unlimited

SAT 29 MAR
11.00 & 14.00
Barnstaple Library
Children's Library &
Under the Reading Tree
Pay what you can



Interactive Story & Art Workshop

with Sophie Cobb

'The King Who Couldn't Sing', is a tale about a little Wren who's lost his song, but who can help, if he's always hiding? To find out, Join Storyteller, Sophie Cobb, for an 'Interactive Storytelling and Art Workshop' making 'Curious Creatures' with clay & twigs, leaves seeds and heaps of imagination!



Scan the QR code

Get tickets via Eventbrite, in person at
Barnstaple Library or tel 01271 318780



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ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

EXETER
LIVE BETTER

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In association with
SEVEN FABLES

SAT 29 MAR
11.00 – 13.00
& 14.00 – 16.00
Barnstaple Library
FREE Drop in



Meet the Artist

with Jackie Morris

Jackie Morris is internationally admired for her imaginative and atmospheric picture books, illustrated with watercolours and often with a fantasy dimension. She has over thirty years' experience writing and illustrating books, and says that from the age of six she knew that she wanted to be an artist because she realised it would never be possible for her to be a bear!

This is a rare & wonderful opportunity to meet Jackie, browse the exhibition of her work in the library, join in creative activities for all ages & buy books curated by Seven Fables.



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To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

EXETER
LIVE BETTER

April Eggstravaganza

1 Game of Bowling

Hot Food Option

1 Drink Voucher

£15 Per person

Available throughout April

T & C's Apply

48 Hours Notice Required

WWW.LETSGOBARNSTAPLE.COM
01271 321123



FINE ART APRIL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

8th & 15th April - 10am-12pm
£15.00 per class

Creating a hare & other animals!
Taught by Emmylou Shine, Muralist
and fine artist. Students will learn how
to create their very own masterpiece!



TO BOOK GO TO
WWW.AURORASHINEONLINE.COM
E@EMMYLOUART.COM / 07949293463



The White Room Creative Space
50 Commonmarsh Lane
Crediton, Devon, EX17 1DN
07422712894
info@whiteroomdevon.co.uk