

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week is Keeping Healthy Week. The theme of this year's Keeping Healthy Week is 'Going for Goals'. Children will be learning about the benefits that being outside brings on not only our physical health but also our mental wellbeing. Children will be taking part in activities that promote being outside including workshops and a walk to school initiative. Next Friday we are also holding our annual sports day to which you are warmly invited to attend. Don't forget your trainers for the parent/carer race! Please help us to promote healthy lifestyles by making sure that packed lunches contain food which will help growing learners. We do not allow chocolate bars, fizzy drinks or crisps to be eaten in our lunch hall or playgrounds and encourage children to try out snacks such as carrot sticks and raisins which have less sugar and more vitamins. For children eating school dinners, our catering company work in partnership with the school to exceed all nutritional standards, produce delicious freshly cooked meals that create a home from home experience. We regularly have 'executive chefs' quality assuring the school dinner offer.

Please do book your appointment to meet with your child's class teacher for our Summer Term parents evening, which is on Thursday 11th July. You can book a time by either logging onto our booking system or by calling the school office. We encourage all parents to come and take advantage of this opportunity to talk about how your child has got on this year and find out what you can do to further support them at home. We have had some fantastic examples of home learning projects, completed reading diaries and homework tasks this year, of which the children have been very proud.

As we near the end of term we have planned celebration assemblies for all classes in Year 1 to 6. You will receive an invitation for this but dates are also on the back of this newsletter. Children will meet their new teacher for September on Wednesday 17th July and will bring home a letter on this day informing you of the teachers name and their class name. Our school timetable continues right up until the end of term on the 24th July. Please make sure that children come to school on time, every day wearing our school uniform including our school jumper and black school shoes. We will not authorise holidays taken during term time and actively discourage parents from taking children away from school outside of the long holiday periods.

Mr Stephen O'Brien - Headteacher | Ms Rachel Davie - Executive Headteacher

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Reminders

Reading

Reading for 15 minutes each day helps improve reading fluency, vocabulary and concentration!



Road Safety

Don't forget, if you walk to school, to use this time to teach children the green cross code. Smart pedestrians are safe pedestrians.



Clay Models

EYFS have been exploring clay to create gifts for significant people. They moulded the clay by rolling and pressing it to create mini plates, and even practised using tools to carefully carve some details. Once the clay had dried, they painted their models using bright colours. EYFS are really excited to present their fantastic gifts to their loved ones!



Southend

This week Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic and exciting visit to Southend seaside! They explored the beach and collected special shells and stones. They paddled in the water and even built sandcastles. They even looked for sea creatures in their natural habitats such as crabs and fish.



Plant Reproduction

This week Year 6 took their learning outdoors to the gardening area. They first started in the classrooms where they learned all about plant reproduction and how plants are classified. They then observed all the wonderful plants that have been growing since last term and even harvested some baby carrots!





Sports Festival

Leading up to Keeping Healthy Week, Orchard pupils joined other schools from across the borough at the Summer Festival held at Britannia Leisure Centre. They engaged in various sports activities such as rugby, taekwondo, and street games, and were particularly inspired by the engaging and skilful sport of boccia.



Bike Bus Record

This week was a special week as Orchard recorded the biggest ever bike bus! 56 pupils and 9 parents joined making up a total of 65 riders. It has been wonderful to see our pupils become confident and learn to safely navigate cycling on the roads, all while keeping healthy. Thank you to our cycling coaches and parents for their support.



Key Dates

Sports' Day
Friday 28th June

INSET Day (School closed to pupils)
Friday 5th July

Year 4 Celebration Assembly
Monday 8th July at 2:30pm

Year 3 Celebration Assembly
Tuesday 9th July at 2:30pm

Hispanic Day
Tuesday 9th July

Year 2 Celebration Assembly
Wednesday 10th July at 2:30pm

Parents' Evening
Thursday 11th July

Year 5 Celebration Assembly
Friday 12th July at 2:30pm

Year 1 Celebration Assembly
Monday 15th July at 2:30pm

Federation Music Festival
Tuesday 16th July

Coffee Mornings

Parents/Carers are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held in the Flexible Space at 9:15am on a Friday. These allow you to meet with other parents as well as to learn more about what the school does and get some practical tips on how to support your child with their learning from home. EYFS Workshops are held separately. Please see the dates below.

Date	Focus
Friday 12th July	<u>Summer Holiday Activities</u> : What activities can we try in the holidays and what local places can we visit?

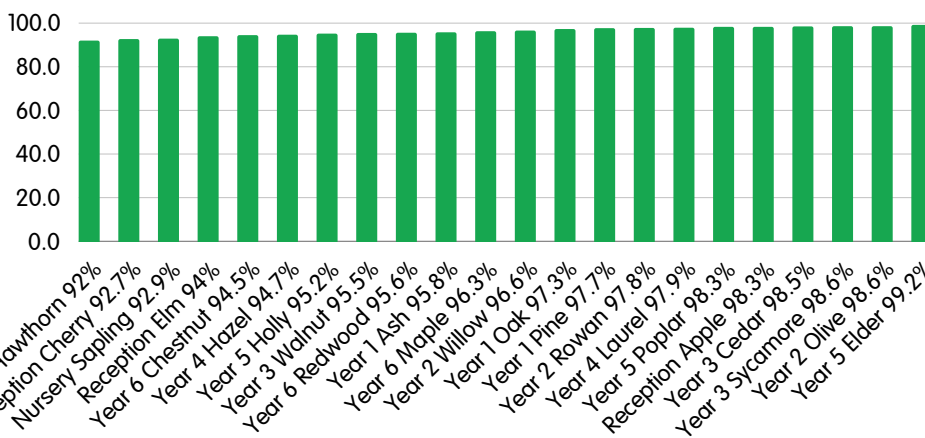
Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 96.1%.

Well done to Year 5 Elder Class, last week's winners with 99.2% attendance.

Attending school every day makes a real difference.

Please remember that WE DO NOT AUTHORISE HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME and unauthorised absences may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued.



Term End and Start

The second half of the summer term ends on Wednesday 24th July 2024 at 2pm. Please scan the QR code to view our 2024 - 2025 term dates.



School Uniform

Please scan the QR code to order school uniform,



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