

The Orchards Primary Academy

Newsletter

7th February 2020 / Spring Term



Dear Parents/Carers

This week we have been thinking about children's mental health, as part of the national initiative in schools. The week got underway with an assembly where we talked about what mental health is, and why it is so important to take care of it. Activities across the school have included artwork, mindfulness, meditation and yoga. As well as lots of opportunities for the children to just talk to one another; something that so often gets lost in the busy day to day life of a school.

The main theme was 'find your own brave' and we hope that the children will be able to apply some of the things we have learnt in school this week, in to their everyday lives.

Have a peaceful weekend,

Mrs Carrier

Important Dates

Friday 14th February – Break up for half term

Monday 24th February – Children return to school

Thursday 27th February – Year 1 Legoland trip

Wednesday 18th March – Year 3 and 4 Holi workshop

Thursday 2nd April – Children break up for half term

Friday 3rd April – TEACHER DAY

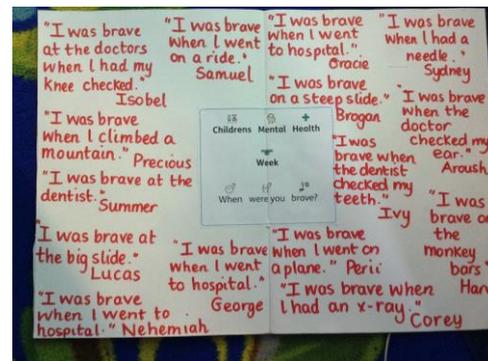
Reminders

Children must be in the correct school uniform consisting of white polo shirt, grey skirt / trouser, blue jumper and tie. Black school shoes are required; no trainers or boots.

Full PE kits should now be in school so that your child is able to join in with their lessons.

Reading books should be in school every day.

Highlights from Children's Mental Health Week



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News from Early Years

Reception The children have enjoyed taking their learning in to the outdoor classroom. They have learnt facts about elephant's, and they have learnt how to subtract and add numbers to find a total. To support Children's Mental Health Week the children have thought of kind words they can say to their friends and have drawn pictures about a time when they were brave.

Nursery The children are now learning about how firefighters help us. They have enjoyed a visit from the fire service and had a great time sitting in the fire engine and spraying water out of the hose! Next week the children are also having a visit from the police which I'm sure will be most enjoyable.

Please continue to bring book bags to school each day. Also please support your child in completing their homework.

Attendance

Number for reporting absences 0121 464 4302 Mr Hadley. School should be informed of absences before 9.30am on each day of absence.

Whole school attendance: 96.7%

Highest class attendance this week: Year 3, 99.3%

Social Media

Follow us on...

www.theorchardsprimary.com

@orchardsac on Twitter

News from KS1

As part of Mental Health Awareness week, KS1 have been engaging in lots of activities to enable them to identify and deal with their emotions. The children have taken part in mindfulness and well-being activities and these will be embedded within routines to promote positive mental health on a regular basis.

Year 1 - The children have been completing a visual literacy unit on 'Owl Babies'. They have produced some fantastic writing based on the story. To help with their descriptions, Y1 have used different materials to make their own owl babies- using their senses they have then been able to effectively describe their creations.

Year 2 - The children are thoroughly engaged in their class text 'The Plague: A cross on the door'. This week, some super writing has been produced linked to their class text. The children have re-told key events in role as well as writing arguments to conclude the main character's dilemma.

Year 3 - The children have been working particularly hard in mathematics this week. When working with measures, they have successfully been able to convert measures and have enjoyed using a range of practical resources to support their understanding of this concept.

News from KS2

Thank you to all the parents that attended the 'Times Tables' workshop held for Year 4 pupils. We hope the booklets and materials that you received really helped and that they will give you some options regarding how to help your children practice their multiplications at speed.

Year 5- Well done to children who continue to bring creative and inventive homework in. The 'River' homework that Max brought in was excellent and the materials used were highly unusual.

Year 6- Don't forget, the 'Morning Maths' club runs for 4 days per week. After half-term it is likely that all children will be able to attend every day. It would be great to see a few more faces however as SATs are looming ever closer.