

# The Orchards Primary Academy

## Newsletter

18<sup>th</sup> September 2020 / Autumn Term



Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are all now aware, at the beginning of this week we received the terrible news that Mrs Hadley had passed away. Everyone is still in shock and finding it very difficult to comprehend the news.

Children always have a way of making things feel more bearable; when I visited the classrooms this week to talk to them, it was so comforting to see them being so sensible, thoughtful and caring in their responses. The children in this school never fail to make me feel immense pride. Lots of memories were shared as well as ideas on how we can remember Mrs Hadley as we try to navigate our way forward.

Thank you all for your kind words over the last few days, it means a lot to us all.

Mrs Carrier

### Important Information

We are all aware of the national testing crisis for COVID-19. In school, we are receiving lots of calls from concerned Parents and Carers about whether to send their child to school. Attached to this newsletter is a really useful guide for when you **should** and **should not** send your child to school. As is always the case at this time of year, the common cold is spreading rapidly. **This is not a reason to keep your child off school unless they are showed COVID symptoms.** Please see the attached which outlines this very clearly.

### Reminders

Children must come to school in their PE kits on the day of their PE lesson.

You will have received a letter regarding your child's flu jab this week. These will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020 for Reception to Year 6.

### Photo Gallery



It has been a pleasure to welcome our newest children to The Orchards and see them settling in so well already! I cannot recall a year when our Nursery children have settled in so well and so quickly! They have started to form friendships and are really enjoying getting to know their new environments.

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### News from Early Years

The Early Years children have all settled really well. They are starting to learn the rules and routines of their classes and are starting to access the classrooms independently. Please remember to access DB Primary where you will find activities to share at home with your child.

#### Nursery

In Nursery, the children have already threaded wool on a face and painted a picture of themselves by looking into a mirror and identified features on their face. The children are also having fun exploring their outdoor classroom.

#### Reception

In Reception, the children are learning all about themselves. They have painted a portrait and are practising writing their names. The children have started to learn a new phoneme each day.

### Attendance

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

Whole school attendance: 95.6%

Highest class attendance: Year 6, 95.9%

### Social Media

Follow us on...

[www.theorchardsprimary.com](http://www.theorchardsprimary.com)

@orchardsac on Twitter

The Orchards Primary Academy on Facebook

### News from KS1

Year 1 have been learning about their local area and this week, used Google Earth to see their school and homes from a very different perspective! They have also been practising their phonics as these are going to be really important to help them with their reading and writing now that they are in Key Stage 1.

Year 2 have started the year off with poetry! They used talk for writing to recite a poem about how to keep ourselves protected from coronavirus. To hear the whole class reciting such a long poem by heart was really impressive! What a positive start to the new school year!

### News from KS2

It has been wonderful to welcome our children back to The Orchards after such a long time apart and we are incredibly impressed with their attitude, effort and desire to learn. To help wet their creative appetite, strange 'eggs' appeared in the playground and different bubbles of children were able to observe this and speculate what was there and how they arrived, leading to a whole school writing competition. Here is our Year Six bubble discussing the spectacle before them.

