

The Orchards Primary Academy

Newsletter

1st October 2020 / Autumn Term



Dear Parents/Carers,

School feels a very, very busy place at the moment with lots going on with the rebuild as well as staff being focused on the catch up with our children. In the next few weeks, we are expecting the demolition of the lower part of the Key Stage 2 building to commence. As well as being very exciting, it is also going to be quite a noisy place to be soon!

A reminder that on Friday, 2nd October, school will be closed to all pupils as a mark of respect for the funeral of Mrs. Hadley. Thank you to all parents who have shared kind words to staff over the last few weeks. We hope that you can appreciate that the family are immensely private and also struggling to come to terms with what has happened. For these reasons, we are unable to share any details of the funeral.

Thank you for your understanding,

Mrs Carrier



Important Information

We are now asking all Parents and Carers to wear a face mask during collection and drop off times at the school gate. This is in order to keep everyone as safe as possible.

In school, all staff, visitors and contractors are being asked to wear a mask in communal areas where a 2m distance cannot be kept. This will start from Monday. Please talk to your children about this as we do not want them to be alarmed seeing staff wearing masks in corridors. Staff will not be wearing masks inside classrooms.

Reminders

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

Photo Gallery



The haul road is currently being put in place ready for the arrival of the demolition cranes which should be arriving soon! As you can see, the area of our school next to the the Forest Classroom is starting to look very different indeed!

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News from Early Years

Nursery - The Nursery children are continuing to get used to the routine and expectations in the Nursery. This week the children were learning about Mo Farah. They watched him win gold in the Olympics and watched him receive his medal. The children loved the crowd cheering and all the children were able to remember what Mo Farah had done to win the gold medal!

Reception - This week the children have been learning about 'one more than' with numbers up to 20. The children have also painted their homes and talked about their own home in great detail. All the children had lots of interesting things to say; some beautiful paintings were created too!

News from KS1

Year 1 - In Year 1, the children have been writing their own stories using familiar story language. Their letter formation is developing well through regular handwriting lessons and they are engaging in additional phonics lessons to improve their reading skill. In their topic lessons, the children have been 'Street Detectives' and have enjoyed finding out about their local area using a range of geography skills.

Year 2 - The children have been working hard to pull apart their text, 'How did the coyote bring fire?'. They have been developing vocabulary and working on text structure in preparation for their own narrative writing. In their topic work, Year 2 have found out about Henry VII and how the Tudor dynasty began. They are now looking at the life of Henry VIII and the War of Roses. A big well done to the children who are accessing tasks and uploading their homework to DB Primary. Mrs Hughes regularly emails through DB so please check for updates accordingly.

Year 3 - In English, Year 3 are currently working on a visual literacy unit entitled 'Ride of Passage'. The children have enjoyed learning about Toki in the rainforest and developing vocabulary, sentence types and characters in preparation for narrative writing. In Maths, the children have been looking at place value and comparing numbers. The children have been introduced to their Stone Age topic and have learnt all about how the Stone Age started and the three time periods within it. They had a fantastic lesson pretending to be archaeologists and predicting what different stone age tools were used for.

News from KS2

Year 4 are at the beginning of their 'Jungle Journeys' topic and will be exploring rainforests around the world with an in depth look at Asia. In Mathematics, we are learning place value and problem solving, as well as applying our knowledge. We have also been learning different sounds that could be made with a violin and creating our own music.

Year 5 have been learning about rivers in Topic, and have so far identified the different features of rivers, the correct terminology used, and how rivers are formed. In English, the children have been watching a short story called "The Lighthouse". The children have been learning how to use expanded noun phrases, adverbial phrases and direct speech. They then applied this into their first piece of writing; a narrative about the story.

Year 6 have been learning about their topic of 'The British Empire' and how such a small nation was able to rule over a quarter of the world. The children will be learning about both the positive and negative aspects of this regime and will examine the points of view from different people of the time in order to form a balanced view.

All year groups have been fully engaged in our recovery curriculum with a strong emphasis on grammar and punctuation in English and arithmetic skills in Mathematics.

Finally, congratulations to our new Head Boy and Girl, as well as their deputies. After written applications of high quality and subsequent interviews, the following pupils have been successful.

Deputy Head Boy: Jayden **Deputy Head Girl:** Tay' Jannai

Head Boy: Darren **Head Girl:** Alise

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: 94.6%

Highest class attendance: Year 6, 96%

Social Media

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