

The Orchards Primary Academy

Newsletter

16th October 2020 / Autumn Term



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. There are lots of exciting things going on in school at the moment, with the children in all year groups really getting in to their new topics; see the individual class updates.

When we return to school following the half term break, our Parent Evening sessions will take place. This will obviously look very different this year due to the current restrictions that we have in place. This term, you will receive a telephone consultation from your child's class teacher on either Wednesday 4th November or Thursday 5th November. On Monday 19th October, you will receive a time slot when you will be called by your child's class teacher. Please try to be available between these times to answer the teacher's call.

Mrs Carrier

Important Information

We are receiving an increasing number of complaints from local residents regarding the parking outside of school. Please try to park responsibly when dropping off and collecting your children; not blocking the drive-ways of the people who live near our school.

Reminders

As you know, it is really important to fuel our bodies correctly. We have noticed recently that some of the children are bringing in lunches that are not necessarily the most nutritious. Please do not send your child in with take away food for lunch time.

News from KS2

Year 4: We have been learning about Jesse Owens and his impact at the Olympic Games as part of our topic about black history. As part of our jungle journeys topic, we have also classified different forests by applying our knowledge of what a rainforest is and their locations in the world. In Science, we are going to be investigating drinks that can affect our teeth, by replicating the effect with eggs and four soft drinks. We have learnt how to represent numbers using Roman Numerals in mathematics.

Year 5: To celebrate Black History Month, we opened with sharing information about famous, inspirational black people that we know of and discussed our understanding about the importance of celebrating Black History Month. We then focused on exploring an inspirational lady called Elizabeth Eckford and the hardship she endured when she joined a white-only school. Through this, we explored "segregation" and looked at various sources to help us understand what it was like for people from different backgrounds then. As we continue celebrating Black History Month, we will be looking at other inspirational black people of Science and Maths.

Year 6: We have been busy learning about Nelson Mandela and the fight against apartheid as part of Black History Month. This has run alongside our topic regarding the British Empire where we have studied the impact the Empire had on the lives of people in India.

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News from Early Years

Pre-School

All the children in Pre-School are working hard to learn the routines and expectations of the class. The children are learning how to access all the equipment independently and are learning how to share with their new friends.

Nursery

In Nursery the children are continuing to learn 3 phonemes a week. So far, the children have learnt the phonemes 'a, s, m, i, o, n, p, t, g, d'. Please continue to use the phonics packs that were sent home at the beginning of the term to reinforce the sounds learnt at school.

Reception

In Reception the children have been on a nature walk around school. They collected leaves and twigs to create collages and there was great excitement when they spotted bugs amongst the leaves!

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: 95.1%

Highest class attendance: Year 1,

96.6%



Social Media

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@orchardsac on Twitter

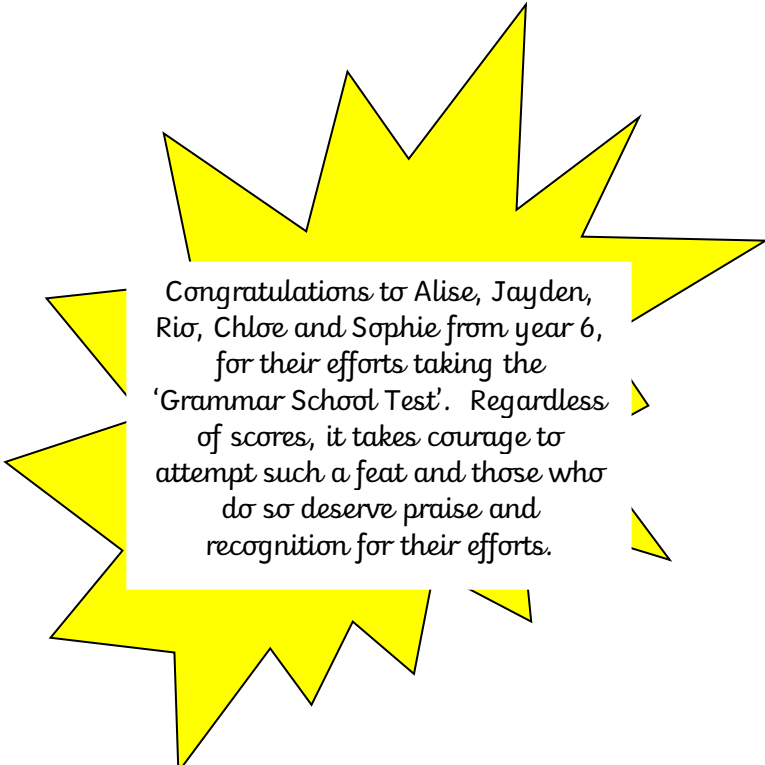
The Orchards Primary Academy on Facebook

News from KS1

Year 1 have been working extremely hard on improving their skills in Reading. Miss Robbins is ensuring that the children are being provided with additional phonics sessions and the children are now also learning common exception words daily. In other work, the children have been enjoying their visual literacy unit which focuses upon 'The Girl with the Yellow Bag' - this is all about a girl who is trying to improve the negativity in the world.

Year 2 have started to read a new class text entitled 'The Thief, The Fool and The King' this links perfectly with their Tudor topic. The children are thoroughly enjoying learning about Henry VIII and some excellent homework has been produced including some wonderful examples of Tudor houses.

Year 3 are currently reading 'Stig of the Dump' and have produced setting descriptions linked to their reading of the text following our 5R sequence. In Maths, the children are working on addition and subtraction of 2 and 3-digit numbers. As part of our Black History work, the children have been researching Muhammed Ali and discussing why he is a significant individual.



Congratulations to Alise, Jayden, Rio, Chloe and Sophie from year 6, for their efforts taking the 'Grammar School Test'. Regardless of scores, it takes courage to attempt such a feat and those who do so deserve praise and recognition for their efforts.