



Orchard Park Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Stacey Harper B Ed Hons NPQH

Issue 8

March 2019



School Newsletter

Welcome Back!

The second half of the Spring Term has been packed with exciting activities to engage the children. A number of Wow Days have taken place across the school where Dragonflies made Egyptian food, Beetles made ice cream and Borax crystals and Grasshoppers made a Roman headdress. World Book Day was also a resounding success. The children (and adults!) will have fantastic memories of the day the school was magically transformed into Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Fireflies celebrated International Women's Day by learning about the suffragettes and also enjoyed their Crime Scene Investigation Day at NCA. Pupils from Years 4,5 and 6 represented Orchard Park at the Tag Rugby Tournament at Shelford Rugby Club and Caterpillars have enjoyed a Mother's Day Tea Party! Photographs from all these events can be viewed on the school website and Twitter feed daily.



Staff Changes

Mrs Gilhart will become the new Ladybird Class Teacher after the Easter Holidays when we say a sad farewell to Mrs Beedle who, as planned, will be moving to London with her family. Mrs Gilhart has been working in Ladybird Class and with Mrs Beedle on a weekly basis to ensure a seamless change for the children.



Congratulations to Mrs Fletcher who has been promoted to Nursery Class Teacher. Mrs Fletcher will be taking on the new role after the Easter Holidays and

has been working very closely with Mrs Gilhart to, once again, ensure a smooth transition. Mrs Fletcher joined Orchard Park with a wealth of Early Years experience which included running and managing a nursery setting. We wish Mrs Fletcher every success in her new vital role at OP!



Parent Questionnaire Results

A staggering 103 Parent Questionnaires were completed when Parent Consultations took place. Representing 70% of families at Orchard Park. I am humbled to report a sample of the findings below:

- 100%** believe their child is happy in school (either strongly agree or agree).
- 100%** felt that if they had raised a concern it had been dealt with effectively.
- 99%** are able to communicate easily with school.
- 98%** believe their child is safe in school.
- 97%** believe their child is taught well, that the school delivers on its Mission Statement and would recommend Orchard Park to anyone!
- 96%** believe their child is making good progress and that their child is happy in school.
- 94%** believe that the school is well led and that they receive appropriate information relating to their child's progress.
- 89%** believe the school makes sure that pupils are well behaved.
- 86%** believe that the school deals effectively with bullying (with a further 10% selecting 'did not know' or 'neither disagreed or agreed').

Thank you to everybody who took the time to complete the questionnaire. Your input is always appreciated.



Attendance at Orchard Park



March Attendance Awards



Well done to Beetles who achieved 99%

2nd - 97%
Bumblebee Class

3rd - 96%
Grasshopper Class

Overall School Attendance 96%

Class Assemblies

Beetle Class



Beetle Class Assembly will take place on
Weds 3rd April

Butterfly Class



Butterfly Class Assembly will take place on
Weds 8th May

All welcome!





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School Newsletter Continued

Headteacher Award

This month the Headteacher Award has been awarded to children who have responded positively to their Teacher's marking, maximising their learning potential. Congratulations to the following recipients:



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Caterpillars - Myla H
Ladybirds - T'ella J
Butterflies - Jack LR
Bumblebees - Erol A
Grasshoppers - Srithanvi B
Beetles - Maximo G
Fireflies - Grace F
Dragonflies - Freja J



Thank you PTFA!

Thank you to the PTFA for organising some wonderful events this half term. Magic Dave kicked off the term with his amazing Magic Show. Thank you also for your support on Red Nose Day. £250 was raised by wearing red, painting noses and by baking and selling cakes. (We still have a number of cake boxes in school, please can you collect before they are disposed of). The Mother's Day Gift Swap was another success. The children were delighted to be able to select a secret gift ready for Mother's Day morning. Thank you for all your kind donations. We are now looking forward to the next PTFA event which is the Easter Eggstravaganza to be held on Thursday 4th April between 3:30 and 5 pm.

However, I would like to stress that the PTFA have never been in more need of new members. If you can help, in any small way at future events, please let a member of staff know.

The PTFA do a wonderful job by providing fun filled activities for the children whilst also raising much needed funds for the school. Please help support your PTFA. The school, especially the children, would be lost without it.



New Lunch Menu

There have been a few slight amendments to the new Spring Term Lunch Menu. Jacket potatoes are now back on the menu daily and potato wedges are now being offered to accompany hot dogs and burgers in a bun.



[Spring Term Lunch Menu v2](#)

Lunch Debt

Please may I remind parents that school lunches **must** be paid for in advance. Please can you check that your account is in credit for meals at the beginning of each week before ordering any school lunches. Thank you.

Times Tables Rock Stars



Orchard Park has recently subscribed to the maths programme [Times Tables Rock Stars](#). Teachers across the school use it with the children on a daily basis. Each week the programme concentrates on a different times table with a recommended consolidation week. We have found the programme to be engaging, gently competitive and motivational. Mathematical development is so important and using ICT to support this is a fantastic way to get the children excited about maths. Times Tables Rock Stars helps the children learn their times tables and we would like to encourage them to use this at home. All children have login information, but if this is mislaid, please ask their Teacher for details. After Easter, we will be launching a new maths learning platform so watch this space! In the meantime, there are many fantastic learning resources available online. Below are two that we recommend:

Bitesize

Crickweb

Back To School

May I remind you that the last day of the Spring Term is Friday 5th April when school will close at 2:30 pm. May I wish you all a wonderful Easter break and will look forward to welcoming the children back at school on **Tuesday 23rd April**.

S Harper



www.orchardparkprimary.co.uk

