



ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2022

Dear Parents,

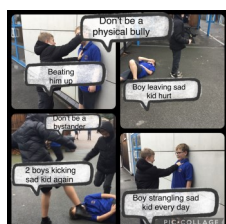
You'll see from our Twitter feed and newsletters that school has been a very busy and exciting place to be this term. It has been especially wonderful to welcome lots of visitors into school and to get out on visits. Behaviour and attitudes have been fantastic - your children are a credit to you. Moreover, there has been some fantastic learning taking place. Thank you to both the pupils and staff for their hard work.

I hope you and your family have a lovely Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Warmest regards - Fiona Shields & the Orchard Team

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

From a special Anti-Bullying Assembly to Odd Socks Day and Friendship Friday, there was a lot of super work on kindness and respect being completed in school last month.



CHOIR

Choir had a lovely visit to a local Care Home. Pupils sang beautifully, and as always, were a credit to the school.



SPORTING NEWS



Well done to those pupils who represented the school at the Dodgeball tournament at Charnwood at the beginning of December. Third place out of 16 teams. Great!

REMINDERS

Progress Checks will be sent out via pupil post on **Friday 16th December**. Please check bags.

All pupils are asked to wear a warm coat to school so that they are suitably dressed for the weather.

A polite reminder that PE uniform, consisting of jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt, with or without the school logo, is **navy blue**. An increasing number of pupils are wearing black sports branded tops.

KS1 READING EVENTS

Following their visit to the local library, KS1's love for reading was further enhanced through a super 'Bedtime Stories' event. Thank you to everyone who came back in their PJS!



THE HUB CHRISTMAS TREE DISPLAY

Our beautiful Christmas Tree at the Hub's Tree Festival. Well done to all of the pupils in EYFS for making the decorations and thanks to the PTA for their help.



DOGS TRUST VISIT

It was great to have Sarah from Dogs Trust join us in school to run workshops and a special assembly at the end of November.

ENTERPRISE SCHEME

Our amazing Year 5 and 6 pupils raised money for school funds through selling items that they had created. From home-made biscuits to reindeer food, there was a lot of enterprise and creativity on show. Well done all!



CAROLS IN THE COMMUNITY

Thank you to Mrs Wood for organising our Carol Singing event and to the staff who supported. Pupils had a lovely time helping to get our neighbours feeling festive! Thanks also to the parents who joined us.

SANTA DASH

We had lots of fun completing this year's Santa Dash, with some very competitive running in all classes!



CHOCOLATE RAFFLE

Thank you to Mrs Daft, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Farrar for organising a fantastic chocolate raffle. All of the money raised will go towards whole school enrichment events.

PTA FESTIVE FILM NIGHT & WREATH MAKING

Thank you to the PTA for organising the wreath making night, which was exceptionally well attended by members of the community. Thanks also to the PTA and Staff for the film night - the selection boxes went down a treat!

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

We have been astonished at the level of confidence displayed by our super EYFS pupils during their performance of The Nativity. Very well done all!

KS1 children sang beautifully in their Carol Service, and the LKS2 Celebration of Christmas Concert was lovely. So good to be able to welcome families into school to share in with these special events.

CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you to all those who supported this event. A total of £203.52 was raised.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 3rd January: School opens & clubs start
Tuesday 10th January: LKS2 Stone Age Workshop/Visitor
Thursday 19th January: Wombles in Litter Assembly/Visitor
Friday 27th January: The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch
Friday 3rd February: PTA Film Night
6th – 10th February: Children's Mental Health Week
Friday 10th February: Dress to Express Yourself (linked to the above).
Monday 13th February: Parents' Evening 3.30-6.30pm
Tuesday 14th February: Safer Internet Day
Thursday 16th February: Parents' Evening 5-7pm
Friday 17th February: School closes
Monday 27th February: School opens
Thursday 2nd March: World Book Day (KS1 event)
Wk. bg. 13th March: British Science Week
Thursday 16th March: PTA Mothers' Day Tea
Friday 17th March: Comic Relief Fundraiser
Friday 24th March: PTA Spring Disco
Tues 28th & Wed 29th March: Y3 Residential Visit
Friday 31st March: School closes

IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE HEADSETS

Thank you to the PTA for funding a subscription to 'Now Press Play' so that we can use their immersive experience headsets in school to really bring learning to life through sound, story and movement.



DONINGTON DYNAMO SESSION

Inspired by the Football World Cup, KS1 pupils have been taking part in a special Donington Dynamo session to examine different techniques for taking penalties. The Paneka penalty was a real favourite!

SPACE CENTRE VISIT

Y5 & 6 had a super visit to the National Space Centre, which inspired them to then put on their own Space Exhibition back at school.



FIRE SAFETY VISIT

Class 9 had a great time exploring Castle Donington Fire Station's recently installed Education Safety Zone, which aims to educate young people on fire safety in the home.



CHRISTMAS DINNER & JUMPER DAY

The kitchen staff made lunchtime very special for the pupils - thanks to them for their hard work. We also had a number of splendid jumpers on show!

LOST PROPERTY

We have a huge amount of found clothing/personal items in the Lost Property basket. Parents are therefore invited to check the Lost Property tub for themselves at drop off/collection times. It is located in the disabled toilet - please check in at reception.