

Reminders ...

How you can help

- **Reading** – We very much believe in reading for pleasure and will always encourage our children to enjoy reading as much as possible. Children are expected to read regularly at home – this will mostly be the book that they have selected to read, but we also encourage reading child-friendly newspapers (such as First News) and articles online as well as listening to e-books. It is important that they bring their reading book to school each day.
- **Spellings** – We will have a spelling focus which will be introduced each week. Children will bring home some examples of words that use the weekly spelling pattern and will be tested at the end of the week.
- **Multiplication and Division Facts** – Multiplication facts are very important and your child will be using them continually throughout the year to support them across many different areas of maths so we really welcome any support you can give with learning these at home.

Homework – For each Learning Adventure, children will receive a creative homework menu. They are free to choose whichever tasks they like. We ask that all pupils attempt at least 7 tasks. We are keen to stress that homework should only take up a small proportion of the evening/weekend. Pupils are allowed the whole half-term for completion of the tasks before bringing their homework book back into school in the last week. We are happy to extend homework deadlines where appropriate. However, we would kindly request your support in ensuring that your child's homework is completed to a high standard - all homework should. Year 6 will continue with their CGP homework and will receive a maths and an English activity each week. Children in year 6 will be given a copy of the creative homework menu, the children do not need to complete this but it is given as an option for any children wishing to complete any of the activities.

P.E and Forest School lessons - PE will take place on a Thursday and Friday. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing a full kit in school on these days.

Labelling Property - Please ensure that uniform, water bottles, book bags, etc. are named – a name written in marker pen is fine.

Finally, should you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me – either through emailing or by telephoning the school office to arrange a telephone appointment.

Orchard Primary School

Class 8 Overview



Summer Term 2026

Classroom News ...

All children have returned to school with an excellent attitude towards their learning and have impressed us with their enthusiasm and positive learning behaviour.

Behaviour – Our school defines respect as “*having due regard for someone’s feelings, wishes or rights.*” As a class, we have revisited our ‘Respect Rule’:

- Respect for yourself
- Respect for others
- Respect for property
- Respect for learning

Positive behaviour is celebrated through Dojo points, House points, certificates and stickers.

Class Dojo and Communication – We will continue to use Class Dojo to share key updates and photos of classroom activities. Please send any messages to the school office via email/phone, and they will pass them on to us. You are also welcome to speak with us directly during morning drop-off or afternoon pick-up.

Most school information will be sent via email or printed flyers/letters. Some letters (especially those with reply slips) may come home in book bags, so we kindly ask that you check them regularly.

Class Reader – Each half term, pupils will vote for their class reading book. They will choose from a selection of authors, helping them discover new stories and adventures as well as enjoy familiar favourites.

Character Values – This year, we are making a few adjustments to our character education programme and will be focusing on nine key values:

- Teamwork
- Respect
- Independence
- Perseverance
- Curiosity
- Communication
- Creativity
- Confidence
- Compassion

Over the next couple of months, we will be concentrating particularly on four of these:

Confidence and creativity, and respect and perseverance.

What are we learning?

We are very much looking forward to the term ahead and to all the exciting activities we have planned.

Learning Adventure (History, Design Technology, Art, Science)

After Easter, we will complete two more weeks of our Amazing Americas topic where we will design and make our Mayan masks and create our tourism websites for Perodista Travel. We will then move to look at the Vile Victorians. We will be finding out what it was like for a child growing up in the Victorian era. We will learn about the geography and housing of Castle Donnington through looking at census data this will provide us with a greater knowledge and understanding of Castle Donnington in the 19th century. We have also been approached by a museum’s gift shop to create a moving toy that would have been suitable for children during the Victorian times. The children will work through various stages of the design process before creating their toy for the shop.

English: After finishing reading Holes, we will move onto reading ‘Another Twist in the Tale’ by Catherine Bruton. A story that tells the tale of Twill Twist – a girl brought into the world ahead of her brother – Oliver. We will use the shared reading book to help us create pieces of suspense writing. Our other writing genres will include a formal letter, a Non-chronological report and a recount.

Maths: Year 5:

Pupils will begin by finding the perimeter and area of rectilinear shapes, then move on to statistics, interpreting graphs and tables. They will study angles and use a protractor accurately, before developing written methods for addition and subtraction with decimals, applying these skills in a later measurement unit.

Year 6:

Pupils will revise key topics in preparation for SATs, alongside learning new concepts such as algebra and ratio. In geometry, they will study parts of a circle, and in statistics, they will construct and interpret pie charts and calculate the mean. After SATs, they will complete a range of mathematical projects.

Computing: Introduction to spreadsheets and Sensing.

PSHE: Economic Wellbeing and RSE (Relationship and Sex Education)

RE: Summer 1 - What matters most to Humanists and Christians? and Summer 2- How does faith help people when life gets hard?

PE: PE will include Athletics and Cricket.

French: Summer 1 – Exploring the French speaking world and Summer 2 – Planning a French Holiday