

Reminders ...

Reading - Children are expected to read regularly at home, preferably every day but at least three times a week. We will always try to change their library book once a week and their reading book twice a week, but PLEASE make sure they bring their books every day as we don't have set days for individual reading. All the children have books that they should be able to read to you, practising the skills that they have been taught in our phonic sessions to decode new words and beginning to read many words by sight. Please sign the reading diary to let us know that you have read with your child and add comments should you wish to. If you don't sign their diary, we will assume that you haven't read with them and their book won't be changed as regularly.

PE Lessons - PE usually takes place on Thursdays. If children have pierced ears, the earrings must be taken out or taped over for PE. School staff will put tape over earrings but you will need to supply the tape. Children with long hair should have it tied back for PE. PE kit will be sent home for a wash at the end of each half term.

Labelling Property – We still have children coming to school with unnamed possessions. Please ensure that coats, PE kit, all uniform, water bottles, lunch boxes, book bags, etc. are clearly named and lost or faded labels replaced or re-written. If we can read the name there is a very good chance that lost items will find their way back to you. Labelling is especially important during the summer term as children frequently remove their jumpers and cardigans. During the term as the weather gets warmer, please make sure that your child has a **named** sun hat. Sun cream should be applied before children come to school, please. Any sun cream in book bags should be named and in a separate plastic bag to avoid leaks.

Finally, should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us. We can deal with quick queries at the gate, but if you prefer to speak to us for longer, please telephone the school office to arrange an appointment so that we can make sure we are able to have a quality discussion.

Orchard Primary School

Foundation Stage Overview



Summer Term 2026

Classroom News ...

Welcome back everyone to the Summer Term in Foundation Stage. We hope you all had a lovely Easter break.

Class Dojo - We will continue to use Class Dojo to share important school updates, post photos of special classroom activities, so don't forget to log in regularly. Please use the office email if you need to send a message to the EYFS staff

Tapestry – We are absolutely delighted by the parental contributions to Tapestry this year so far; it's so helpful to us to be able to get a fully rounded picture of your children. They love it when we know about things they've done at home or out and about. We hope you find it just as useful to know what your children are doing at school and see the progress they are making. If you're among the few that are logged in, but have never posted anything, please give it a go in the next few weeks. We'd love to see everyone active. At the end of the summer term, you'll be able to download your child's entire Tapestry journal as a PDF to keep as a record of their first year at school. There is also an option to have the journal made into a properly bound book. We'll send you details of how to do this nearer the time.

Book bags - School Information will normally be sent to you via e-mail; flyers or letters with slips to return may go home via the book bag however, so please do check and empty bags regularly.

Helping in School – We're delighted to be able to welcome parents into school to help with activities. If you can spare an hour or two to help with reading, gardening, cooking or crafts, please let us know. This can be a regular weekly time slot or an ad-hoc arrangement.

Forest School - We will continue to have weekly Forest School sessions on Wednesday mornings. If the weather is wet, children will need their waterproofs. If the weather is hot and sunny, they still need long sleeves and long trousers for safety.

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

This term's Learning Adventure will be 'In the Garden'. We will be learning all about the plants and animals that live and grow in our gardens.

The first half term has a focus on garden plants and in Summer 2, the focus will be on the creatures that live in our gardens.

We have a small vegetable patch built by Mr Macguire, our site manager, so we'll be getting started with planting very soon and harvesting later in the summer.

All our literacy work will be based around 'garden' stories and poems, beginning with Jack and the Beanstalk.

Please refer to the school website to see our Learning Adventure mind maps and plans, which outline the main areas we'll be covering during the term - though we sometimes do go off on a tangent to follow the children's interests.

Phonics – The focus will be on making sure that every child can use all the vowel digraphs confidently, blending words for reading and segmenting them for writing. They should also be reading and writing words with adjacent consonants. Please continue to practise the words on the blending strips stuck in their reading diaries. The blending strips can be used for practising spelling as well as reading.

Maths - We'll be working on counting and the pattern of numbers beyond 20, adding and subtracting, doubling, grouping and sharing and spatial reasoning

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 7th May	Class Photographs
Friday 15th May	PTA Rainbow Bounce Fundraiser
Thursday 21st May	Sports Day (EYFS and KS1 in the afternoon)

Half term week: Monday 25th - Friday 29th May

Tuesday 9th June	EYFS Trip to Bluebells Farm
Friday 19th June	Fathers' Day Breakfast
Friday 26th June	PTA Summer Fayre
Friday 3rd July	PTA Summer Disco
Tuesday 7th July	Last day of term