



ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2025

Dear Parents,

It has been a very positive Summer Term so far and we couldn't be more proud of your children. As well as working extremely hard to make good progress in all areas of the curriculum, we have also been impressed with the 'character' shown by so many of our pupils. We have been particularly impressed with how our Year 6 pupils have grown in confidence, independence and maturity - they are more than ready to move into Year 7, and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Thank you and 'well done' to staff, who have worked incredibly hard again this year to ensure that the school goes from strength to strength. They are a wonderful team and a privilege to work with.

Finally, thank you as always, for your support and partnership. Having great relationships with parents is something that we are always very appreciative of.

Here's to a good Summer, and a great start to the next school year ...

Best wishes

Fiona Shields & the Orchard Team

STAFFING UPDATE

I am delighted to inform you that Miss Brown is now Mrs Kirkwood, having got married over the Easter break. We also wish Miss Sheldon, and the future Mrs Shearsby, well for her forthcoming wedding in July. Finally, we have exciting news regarding two Orchard babies! Miss Farrar will be leaving at the beginning of October to have her second baby, with Mrs Marriott leaving us at the end this academic year to start her maternity leave. Miss Head will be staying on to help with Wraparound Care - thank you to her for her fantastic supporting in LKS2 and KS1 this year.

REMINDER: ANNUAL REPORTS

A reminder that annual reports and a letter informing you of your child's next class teacher/s will be sent out on **Thursday 19th June**. For any parents' wishing to discuss their child's report, there will be an opportunity to do on Wednesday 2nd July. See separate letter in report envelope for details on how to book an appointment.

REMINDER: PTA EVENTS

Fathers' Day Breakfast: Friday 13th June
Summer Fair: Friday 20th June 3.15-4.30pm
Summer Disco: Friday 4th July

The PTA raised £5800 from the Rainbow Bounce. Amazing! Thank you so much to our super PTA for their hard work. Without the additional funds that they (and you), generate for us, we wouldn't be able to offer half the enrichment activities that we do. Nor would we be able to purchase many new resources, such as books, lunchtime equipment and Sports Kit. We're so grateful.

Y5/6 ENTERPRISE SCHEME

Congratulations to Year 5 & 6 pupils for running a fantastic Enterprise morning. They raised hundreds of pounds for the school by 'growing' their £1 loans. We were blown away by their high levels of creativity, teamwork and entrepreneurial skills.

Thank you so much to parents/carers for sending children in with money to spend. They had a great time! All of the money raised will go towards enrichment activities for all classes.

REMINDER: TRANSITION MORNING

Class groups for 2025-26 will be communicated to parents via a letter in report envelopes on 19th June. Staff will have carefully considered class groupings, based on age, friendship groups and the proportion of pupils in each class with additional needs. Therefore, unless a genuine mistake has been made on our part, lists will not be changed, or pupils moved classes.

All pupils will get the chance to work with their new teacher and/or class group during our whole school transition morning on **Thursday 26th June**. If you would like to discuss any aspect of transition regarding your child however, please contact your child's 'new' class teacher in the first instance, so that we can help to alleviate any anxieties or concerns you or your child may have.

Current Y6 pupils transferring to Castle Donington College will have their transition days on Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th July.

Y6 LEAVERS' ASSEMBLY

Parents/carers of pupils in Year 6 are invited to attend a special leavers' assembly on Monday 7th July. Doors will open at 9.10am for a 9.30am start. Please arrive via the main foyer.

FIRST AID

Children are very prone to bumps and knocks when playing outdoors. Whilst we will always offer treatment to children who urgently require it, to make First Aid more manageable at break/lunchtimes, we need to create a triage system. Therefore, we may decide not to send a pupil in for First Aid if there is no visible sign of injury and the 'accident' was very minor e.g. ran into another child and banged the muscly part of their arm. Staff will monitor the injury however, to ensure that there is no further discomfort.

REMINDER: FROZEN FRIDAY

To raise money for School Council funds, members would like to sell ice pops for 50p at break time on Fridays, starting on **Friday 6th June**. Pupils who would like to purchase an ice pop are invited to bring in money every Friday.

REMINDER: No clubs Monday 7th & Tuesday 8th July. No Wrap Around Care Tuesday 8th July (school closes at 3.15pm)

RUCSACS

Apologies for any disappointment, but we really do need to ask that pupils in Y3 & 4 do not bring large rucsacs into school unless they are needed to store items for playdates/sleepovers.

We do not have the cloakroom space for the *huge* bags that are being brought into school. As stated at the start of the year, pupils in Y3 & 4 should only bring in **book bags** please otherwise pegs get crowded resulting in coats falling off onto the floor which becomes a trip hazard.

HIGH STANDARDS OF UNIFORM

A gentle reminder please that our uniform policy doesn't change in the last term. Trainers on non-PE days, jewellery and commercial sports tops are still not appropriate. Thank you for your support to uphold our high standards.

PARKING ON GRANGE DRIVE

Please could I urge drivers not to park cars on kerb near to the school, especially those by Lothian Place. We have had a few near misses recently due to children not being able to see between parked cars when they have tried crossing the road. For the safety of pupils, please park thoughtfully.

DIARY DATES

Wed 11th June: EYFS Trip to Rosliston Forestry Centre
Friday 13th June: PTA Fathers' Day Breakfast
Wednesday 18th June: Y6 trip to Alton Towers
Wednesday 18th June: YR-Y5 - International Picnic Day
Thursday 19th June: Annual Reports sent out
Friday 20th June: PTA Summer Fair 3.15-5.00pm
Thursday 26th June: Whole school transition morning
Wednesday 2nd July: Parents' Evening
Friday 4th July: PTA Summer Disco
Monday 7th July: Y6 Leavers' Assembly
Tuesday 8th July: SATS results published & school closes

DIARY DATES FOR THE FIRST HALF TERM 25-26

Mon 25th August – Bank Holiday

Pupils in Y1-6 start back to school Tuesday 26th August

Staggered start days for EYFS:

Group A - Wednesday 27th August

Group B - Thursday 28th August

Group C - Friday 29th August

Fri 29th August - Meet the Staff (3.15-3.45pm)

Monday 1st September - Character Ed Day including Rock Kidz visitors (phase sessions)

Mon 8th September - School Council President Hustings (Assembly)

Monday 15th September - School Council Election of President & Vice President

Friday 26th September - Macmillan House Bake Off

Mon 29th September - SEND Parent Coffee afternoon

Thurs 9th October - Phonics: Parent Workshops (TMG)

Parents' Evenings - Mon 13th October (3.30-6.30) & Thurs 16th October (4.00-6.00)

School closes - Friday 17th October

GOVERNORS

We have a very strong board of Governors who, as volunteers, have worked hard this year to ensure that the school remains efficient and effective. My thanks to them for their support, input and ideas.

LOST PROPERTY

We have a mountain of clothing, snack containers and water bottles without names in the lost property tub and we would therefore urge parents/carers to retrieve missing items before they are disposed of or re-cycled after the end of term.

YEAR 6 SATS RESULTS

Unfortunately for schools who break up at the start of July, the DFE will once again be publishing Y6 SATS results on the last day of term - Tuesday 8th July. We will be informing pupils of their results on this day and will send out paper copies of results to parents.