

Orchards News

December 2015

Christmas Edition

This has been another fantastic half term with teachers focussing on learning. Last year we worked hard on improving outcomes for children in mathematics and we were pleased that when we had visitors this half term they noticed the improvements we have made and how enthusiastically the children talked about their learning in maths. This year our targets focus on improving outcomes for children in phonics, spelling and reading. Some children will be offered support after school and Mrs Parker will be working closely with teachers in Year 1 to develop phonics further. Supporting your children at home also fits into this and it is important that children do read at home everyday. This can be on the computer on Bug Club or reading their school and / or library book.



Pudsey and I would like to say a big thank you for the support given on Children in Need day. We managed to raise a fantastic £327.50 to help children across the country.

Feedback from HMI

We have waited quite a long time for our HMI letter, but did receive it in the middle of November. We agreed with lots of the actions to continue our journey of improvement, but were disappointed that it didn't acknowledge the improvements already made.

We are so proud of our children and their conduct. All visitors say how calm school is and how well behaved the children are. They are making great progress in their learning, and we had the best Year 6 results ever at Orchards in July 2015.

We are aiming higher in Year 6 next year, but this is only one year group and all teachers are looking at the progress your children are making and setting individual targets for and with them. If you would like to find out more about your child's targets please talk to their class teacher. You will find a copy of the letter on our school website.

Below is a poem written by Rugile in (Y4) in response to a poetry lesson at the time of Remembrance.

The trenches are tight caves under the ground, so deep, so down, soldiers orders.

Over the mud and under the sea the soldiers are waiting for me, over the clouds and over the sky there.

Are god's cry for me.

The poppies graceful ballerinas. The poppies fly, the poppies die, I can see the soldiers cry.

Over the Earth and the sun the soldiers shout Hooray!

Children are able to submit articles or poems for the newsletter at any time. These should be given to me or left with the office.

Regular Cake Sales

We now have regular Friday cake sales after school in the CDT room to raise money to support the children's learning... this may be to buy resources for the Role Play Area, pay for a visitor into lessons, buy particular resources or even make an expensive trip more affordable for parents.

We have been really pleased with the start of these sales and the support parents have given in baking cakes for their year group. Any left over cakes will be sold on the Monday play-time. Thank you for your support with these.



Christmas Events for Families



Well done to children in Nursery and Reception for lovely performances. There are still the following performances you are welcome to join us for to get you into the Christmas Spirit.

Book Fair—

Wear your Christmas outfit — This Friday 11th bring a tombola prize please :-)

Christmas with Santa / stalls— Wednesday 16th December

Nursery Christingle Services

Reception & Year 1 Christingle Service —

Year 2-3 Christingle Services at St Augustines 15th Dec

Y4,5, 6 Christingle Services 15th Dec

Coffee and Carols All children -

Thurs 17th Dec 1.15—3.00pm in the LIME HALL

Friday 18th Christmas Jumper day to raise money for TEXT SANTA

Diary Dates

Christmas Holiday: 21th Dec 4th Jan

Children should return to school on Tuesday 5th January

February Half term: 15—19th inclusive

Easter 25th March—11th April inclusive

Half Term—30th May—3rd June inc

Summer Holidays start on Friday 22nd July



N. Parker

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