

Orchards News

July 2014

Assemblies for Parents & Carers

I'm really pleased with the outcomes of all of the class / year group assemblies and we are keen to have feedback. If you have any ideas for improvements please either leave a message on the facebook page or on the contact us section of the Internet. We will publish the times of the class assemblies as soon as we can in the Autumn Term so you can book the date into your diaries.

Videos of Events

Most parents and carers have signed to say you are happy for photographs of your children to be shared with the local paper and on our Website. We live in a time of social media and we have lots of lovely videos of events the children have been involved in this year and we would like to share them with you.

The safest way we have of doing this is to upload them onto UTube with a link to locate it. This means if you search UTube you won't find it, however if you click on the link from our website it takes you to the video. No names of children will ever be associated with the video. We will then link from Facebook to our website.

We would like to have these ready to be viewed when we return from the Summer Break, so ask you to return the attached slip when your child returns to school on Thursday 4th September. A copy of the slip will be available on the school website.

Potato Report by Willow Class

On our trip we went to the East of England Showground in Peterborough to harvest our potatoes. First we took them out and weighed them. Then we made potato salad. It was yummy! Finally we learnt about beetroot and tried some too. We had a brilliant day!



Visitor from DfE

Last week we had a visitor from the Department for Education to see how we are spending our Pupil Premium funding and he was pleased with everything the staff are doing. He said, "Thank you again to you, your staff and children for a very rewarding and fruitful visit yesterday. Orchards Primary has a very positive and nurturing atmosphere and it's clear to me that you and your team are doing a great deal to improve the children's education and life chances."

Renovated Courtyard

What a success our new Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Garden has been. Again I'm thrilled how our community has pulled together to make something lovely for the children... and was recognised by the judges from Wisbech in Bloom.

The renovated courtyard in the centre of school is a joint collaboration between children and members of our Time Credits Team. Mr Warren did a sterling job preparing the space and each class designed and prepared a pot to celebrate the theme. Mrs Johnson, one of our Wellbeing Team, led the renovation and her enthusiasm has led to the creation of a vibrant space.



Mrs Ann Purt, Chair of Governors, commented "It was a pleasure to show the judges around the school and see the continued improvements achieved by the committed team of adults and children. My thanks go to Mrs Johnson for her work with the community gardeners which has made the areas more colourful and child friendly. It was nice to see the children growing their own vegetables, and to hear how they enjoyed tasting them."

Rose Fair

I'd like to congratulate all the children from Year 5 who took part in the Tom Hickathrift procession and molly dancing in Museum Square at the Rose Fair. The moving giant model was amazing and attracted a great deal of attention. I think the town mayor and beadle enjoyed the proceedings just as much as the children clearly did. They were a great credit to the school!

Sue Beel; Museum Square Organiser



We also had a lot of dancers who performed with Alison's Street dance crew during the procession on Saturday and they all did well and were still in time after running the whole course!

Leavers

We are very proud of our Year 6 children and all of the achievements they have made this year. Between them they have achieved the best progress results we have had for four years. Well done Guys!

Good luck goes to... Curtis, Diana, Eimantas B, Luke, Conor Oliwia, Kamile, Aimee, Brendon, Lauren, Jessica, Erikas, Donatas G, Katherine, Kyle, Eimantas J, Alanas, Charles, Austeja, Arnas, Justina, Pawel, Karolina, Agne, Viktorija, Daniel, Laurynas, Greta, Megan, Alans, Connor, Lily, Lukas, Rudolfs, Matas, Katie, Ruth, Donatas V, Liam, Rosie, Lauren, Tyler, Megan and Dovile

We are also saying goodbye to Ian Manning who has done a sterling job keeping our computers chugging along. Though we persuaded him to stay an extra year he is determined to retire this year!

Dainie Wardill, who has been a teacher at Orchards for four years, is also saying goodbye as she moves to a new school. We wish her all the best in her future career.

Year 1 Snettisham Farm Trip

We went to Snettisham and we saw a tractor. We saw sheep and goats. We fed the deer and the baby deer had spots so that the mums could hide them. We really had a good time.

By Pine Class



For older group.. I liked the history of medicines room because there was lots of gross stuff like chopped off legs and frozen feet. I also liked the Launch pad because there were lots of interesting experiments ; we even got to build a bridge!

Year 2 Hunstanton Trip

Well... the Year 2 trip to the Wash Monster was somewhat soggy! However, we had a fantastic time touring old and new Hunstanton and listening to the history. We also looked at the cliffs which we have been learning about in the classroom.



Year 3 Bewilderwood Trip

Bewilderwood was really good fun. We went on zip wires and a slippery slope. We went down it really fast and some of us felt scared... or horrified! We got to go in a maze and some of us got lost... but we found our way out in the end. We saw lots of little Boggle and Twiggles' houses in the trees. We also did lots of climbing in nets.



By Almond Class

Year 4 Residential to Thetford

When we got there we did abseiling which was scary and canoeing which was fun as we had to get the ball into each others boat. We also played games with one of the sports coaches. On day two we made our own campfire for lunch and had cook our own potato and beans. After that we went swimming in a pool which had a waterslide, Jacuzzi and wave machine. That night we had a campfire and we sang campfire songs.

By Lime Class

Dinosaur Park

The Dinosaur Park was a brilliant end to year 5. We saw replica dinosaurs which made noises and moved and to show which ones we'd seen. The indoor play area was amazing fun! There were drop slides, mat slides, rope climbing and a ball pond. There was an adventure play outside; there were carts and mini golf. We would definitely recommend this trip.

Science Museum Trip

The 50 best attenders went to the London to the Science Museum on Thursday 18th July and had a great time. The traffic was awful... but that didn't spoil our fun! We were split into groups of older and younger children. The younger group were with Mrs Parker and the older group with Miss Lynch. The younger group started in the Space room and saw lots of interesting things include a big huge model of the Earth and it told you about different part of the Earth. We went to this huge room which had trains and other things from history but we weren't allowed to touch anything. Downstairs in the basement we went into a play area and we had to know the safe rules and to have fun! We all started playing with the water pit and there was a huge frame to carry bean bags up and drop them down the slide. In the splash pit some children got really wet! The Enormous Turnip play was hilarious and there was a dog who jumped up at everyone. (Mrs Parker will put a video clip on Facebook!)

Y6 Mystery Trip

Year 6 had a fantastic time on the mystery trip, even though it rained a lot. Rudolfs said, "It was fun... the rollercoaster was the best." whilst Arnas said, "I love the roundabouts." and Jessica added, "The weather was really bad but we still had fun. I loved all the rides I went on and it was the best trip ever. Everyone got wet, but it did not bother us!"

Spinney Playmakers

2nd August is the final opportunity to join in with the playmakers at the Spinney (all day).

6th August is again the National Play day including a Playmakers celebration and the usual games and activities.

Grafham water

It was an epic trip! We got to go on a power boat; we took it in turns to drive it. It was freezing cold but still a brilliant trip. Most people laughed when Vanesa fell into the water as the boat was slowing down to stop. Vanesa didn't laugh at the time but when she was back in the boat she was pleased she had her life jacket on and was safe; then she had a shower and was able to laugh about her accident.



We also went fossil hunting, mountain biking, wall climbing and learnt about safety near fire.

By Elm Class

Diary Dates

Staff Training Day: Wednesday 3rd September

Return after the summer: Thursday 4th September

Staff Training Day: Friday 24th October

October Half term: 27th-31st inclusive

Christmas Holiday: 20th Dec 2104-5th January 2015 inclusive

Staff Training Day: Monday 5th January

February Half term: 16-20th 2015 inclusive

Easter : 27th March—12th April 2015 inclusive

Staff Training Day: Monday 13th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 4th May

Summer Half term: 25th-29th May inclusive

Staff Training Day: Friday 19th June

Summer holiday begins 23rd July 2015

N. Parker