

Orchards News

September 2015

Welcome back to the new year. We got off to a flying start with our whole school history week. Each class or year group looked at a different aspect of British History and we had a great History fair.

I am so proud of the children and their enthusiasm for learning. Children on the stalls were clear about what they had learnt and spoke about it well to parents and other visitors on Friday. We look forwards to more fairs where the children can show you their learning in specific areas of the curriculum.

New Building and Refurbishments



The building works are now nearing completion with just a few finishing touches to do. As a large school, with some careful spending, we are now able to have several specialist spaces in school. The main spaces are ICT Suite,

Room, Music Room and larger English and Maths Zones. We are also lucky to have the



Blueberry Room this year, where Miss Lynch and Mrs Shepperson are able to work with smaller groups to give them a learning boost.



Water and Water Bottles

As part of the new refurbishments we have new water coolers which children in Years 2 to 6 can use to fill their bottles to have in class. These are more efficient than the old water fountains. Please do send your child with a bottle they can refill and have in class. Please make sure they are named.

We have had a huge amount of lost property that we have been unable to return to children as it is not named. Please make sure you write your child's name on all of their belongings.

JEANS for GENES DAY—Friday 18th September



Support this charity which supports scientists in supporting future generations. I know this charity is close to many families' hearts. Please wear JEANS, DUNGAREES or denim SHORTS with a sensible top. This is not a general dress up day. Children should be wearing JEANS or uniform. Please support by wearing your jeans and donating a £1 to charity. Staff will continue to support this charity and wear jeans on a Friday and donate to the charity boxes which can be found on both Reception Desks.

Start of the day

We have had some confusion about the start of the day with the new building. Mr Warren will lock gates at 8.45am to keep our site secure. Teachers will either collect their class or open the door, depending on the arrangements for your child's year group, at 8.30am. Once the children who are waiting, are in the building the doors will be closed for building security. Registers are at 8.35am at the latest and children are expected to be in assembly for 8.40am, ensuring lessons start at 9am. If children are late, and teachers keep opening the door, all children in school miss learning time as assembly starts late. Can I ask you to support us in this by having your children ready to go into class at 8.30am.

Thank you.



Which Hall is which?

Orange Hall is still Orange Hall and will now be mainly used for sport and clubs.

Lemon Hall is the Dining Hall and is used for lunchtime, breakfast club, some assemblies and sport. Lime Hall is the new hall and will be used for drama, dance and assemblies.



Cancer Macmillan

Friday 25th September - Coffee Morning for staff and parents from 10am in the Orange Hall. Please help us with baking the cakes... and eating them! And we are going to have some fun... so bring your pennies along!

Cake sale for children at the end of the school day if we have enough cakes.

Church Café

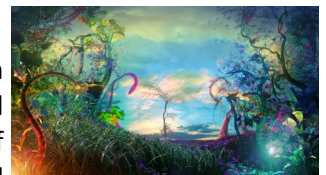
Friday 18th September from 1pm until 2.45pm and then every third Wednesday of the month.

Come and join us for lunch and a bit of a get together with people from the community. Try something new... grab a seat and a cuppa... and nice soup and roll. This informal event is hosted by St Augustines.



English Week is coming

Children will enjoy English week from 19th to 22nd October with the theme of magic. The children will dress up on one of the days and there will be a reading café to involve parents. More information to come.



History Week Reports

The children all enjoyed the performances and learning about a specific aspect of British History last week.

Pictured is the performance of King Arthur, which the younger children watched. We also had Thompson's War for Y4-6 and a Viking tale for Y2-4.



As part of the week **Year 2** had a Victorian day. Their class report follows: On Monday we dressed up in Victorian Clothes and had a Victorian name. Girls worked on one side and the boys on the other. It was not very nice because you got hit with the cane when you got it wrong and had to wear the dunce's hat! We found out lots about Victorian Schools. Children's comments included; 'I liked being a Victorian because you copied off the board.' Natalie, 'I liked having a Victorian name.' John and 'I didn't like it because you sat in rows.' Emilija.

Year 4 had a Titanic day... some comments: 'I really enjoyed researching the different people that were on the Titanic. It was fun looking at 1st, 2nd and 3rd class passengers. We were given someone to research and we found out if they survived or not.' Gracie Mai and 'I have enjoyed looking at the cabins that were on the Titanic. It was fun making our own cabins out of shoe boxes. If you had a 1st class cabin you had to make lots. It was fun making everything we made.' Ellie May

Year 1 all looked at different aspects of British History. In **Pine Class** we learnt about trains. We like trains. We learnt about George Stephenson's Rocket. George Stephenson invented and made the Rocket for a race and the Rocket won. The Rocket is a locomotive, it is yellow, it has coal to make fire and a water tank because it is a steam train. We made cotton reel motors and race them. We found out that if the stick was long the motor went faster and straighter.



We had lovely feedback from the parents including Mrs Stacey who said; "The children on the stalls are a credit to you. I got both children out of class to go to the fair, and as we went round all of the children were well spoken and told me everything they had been learning about." we were thrilled that 54 parents joined us for the fair.

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St Augustines WWI Remembrance through Art



Year 6 School Captain nominees and Art Club supported the opening of the art exhibition at St Augustines. In the pictures you can see the fabulous installation created with

the children's work. Art club produced the backgrounds and every child in school last year produced a 3D poppy. We think you will agree the effect is stunning.



Assemblies for Parents & Carers

Please note we are currently in the process of updating the calendar on the school website which should have all the future dates you need by the end of the week.

Nursery Harvest Festival—14th October

Y2-6 Harvest Festival at St Augustines —20th October 2-3 9.15to10.15 & y4-6 10.30-11.30 with coffee and biscuits for parents

Christingle Service—15th December;

Easter Service —24th March

Class Assemblies

Willow	22th Jan	Almond	4th May
Pine	2nd Dec	Rowan	20th April
Walnut	9th March	Holly	13th January
Beech	25th Nov	Cedar	8th June
Maple	18th Nov	Elm	16th March
Hazel	15th June	Chestnut	10th Feb
Laburnum	7th October	Oak	2nd March

Reception Classes will have a Class Assembly based around the nativity.

Cherry—9th Dec, Peach 10th Dec, Apple 11th Dec

Diary Dates

Staff Training Day: Friday 23rd October

October Half term: 26th-30th inclusive

Christmas Holiday: 21th Dec 5th January 2015 inclusive

Staff Training Day: Monday 4th January

February Half term: 15—19th inclusive

Easter : 25th March—12th April inclusive

N. Parker