

Newsletter

5 October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all well and have had a good week. We are now into October and the days are getting chillier!

I would like to update you with events that have taken place in school this year and to clarify one of the issues surrounding the lunchtime healthy eating plan.

Items in packed lunches

The food items in our list of foods recommended for lunch and break times are suggestions from Orchard Head School's healthy eating initiative. These are merely guidelines and the overall responsibility lies with parents and carers. Some parents have questioned why their child is not permitted to bring buns or cakes for their packed lunch, but those children having school meals have them as a dessert. The buns and cakes from our school kitchen are made with very low amounts of fat and very little (or no) sugar, whereas shop-bought cakes tend to be very high in fat and sugar.

There are some items that we specifically request are not brought in to school. These are:

- 'Chunky' chocolate confectionery bars, such as Snickers, Mars Bars, Double Decker, etc.;
- Large bars of chocolate, e.g. family-sized bars of Dairy Milk;
- Large or family-sized bags of crisps;
- Nuts or food items containing nuts.

Thank you so much for your understanding and co-operation in this matter.

Key dates

Wed 10 October	Open morning for prospective Parents
Wed 7 November	Open morning for prospective Parents
Mon 5 November:	Training Day (School closed to pupils)
8 October	Boggle Hole Information Evening for parents/carers, 5.00pm
18/19 October	Boggle Hole residential visit

School Photographs

The photographer came in to school to take individual and family group photographs last week and she remarked upon how smartly dressed and how polite and well-behaved the children were. Well done children!

Fire Drill in school

We had a fire drill in school earlier this week, which flowed very smoothly and successfully.

After-School Clubs

We are looking into introducing several after-school clubs following the October half-term. Further information will be sent out at a later date.

Reading in Unusual Places

Please can I remind parents/carers to send in photographs of your child/ren reading in unusual places. This could be reading in the garden shed, on a swing or even at the top of Blackpool Tower!

Parents' Evening

Thank you for attending Parents' Evening and working in partnership with school, in order for your child to be happy in school and thus, make the best possible progress. Focusing on reading, spellings and tables at home will really build confidence in your child. We will collate your questionnaire responses and publish them next week. Thank you again.

Football

The match against De Lacy Primary yesterday resulted in a fantastic 5-0 victory for Orchard Head! This was the first match of the season and the players' team spirit was high and their attitude extremely positive.

Mr McArthur is recruiting players for a girls' team, whose first training session took place today. If your daughter is interested in playing football in our girls' team, please could they see Mr McArthur.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you so much to those parents who baked and bought items for our coffee morning last Friday, in aid of Macmillan. Thank you for those parents and carers who attended and purchased these tasty buns and cakes. It was really lovely to see you all. We were able to raise £181.93 in aid of this very worthy cause.

Enquiry Day

Yesterday was an Enquiry Day in school. The visitors who came to see the school and the children at work in their classrooms, included Mr Joe Mitchell, who will be our new Head of School in January 2019.

The team remarked upon how delightful the children were and how well-behaved and polite they were. Well done again children!

SEN Coffee Morning

There will be a SEN Coffee Morning on Monday 8 October. Those parents and carers who are attending, will have received a personal invitation from school.

School Calendar for the academic year 2019 - 2020

The calendar dates for the academic year 2019 – 2020 will be considered by The Trust in Spring 2019.

Residential Visits 2018

Please may I make parents/carers aware that the deadline for payment for the Conwy and Marrick Priory residential visits are as follows:

Conwy	12 October 2018
Marrick Priory	26 October 2018.

If your child is entitled to free school meals, you may be entitled to a reduction in the cost of the visit. Please put this in writing (a handwritten note, dated and signed by you, will be sufficient) and send it in to school. Just a reminder: should full payment not be received by the due date, the child will not be able to take part in the visit. Thank you.

Consent Form

Please can I remind those parents and carers to complete and return the consent form given out last week, which asks permission for your child to take part in certain activities and the details of the people who have your permission to collect your child from school. Safeguarding is a priority at Orchard Head and we wish to ensure that we have the most up-to-date information regarding your child.

New Starter 2019 Meeting

There will be a meeting for parents/carers of those children due to start school in September 2019 at 9.30am on Wednesday, 10 October 2018.

There will be a further opportunity to attend this meeting on Wednesday, 7 November at 9.30am.

Relief Lunchtime Supervisors required

If you are interested in becoming a Relief Lunchtime Supervisor, please contact the school office on 01977 723495.

Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance %
Nursery am	87.90
Nursery pm	90.00
UFSLC	89.55
UFSR	97.62
Y1W	92.33
Y1/2B	98.28
Y2S	91.67
Y3T	94.29
Y3/4HL	95.81
Y4McA	97.00
Y5Fr	99.33
Y5/6F	96.33
Y5/6J	98.52
Whole School	95.22

Yours sincerely



Mrs G Lindley
Head of School