



RECEPTION AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER 1



**ORCHARD
HEAD**

JUNIOR, INFANT
& NURSERY SCHOOL

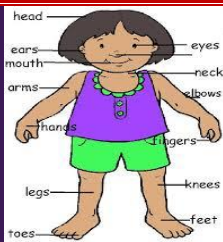
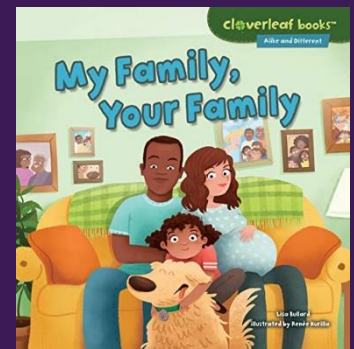
Welcome to the start of a new school year and your child's first experience of full-time education. Most of us are parents ourselves and fully understand how you are feeling, so please be assured we have your child's best interests at heart. We will do our utmost to help them settle into school life and achieve their potential academically, as well as socially and emotionally. Please contact school if you have any concerns or questions.

Our Topic

Our first topic for the new school year is 'I wonder who we are?' It would be fantastic if you could support your child with relevant conversations about your own family and the roles that people play within it.

Some of our key Canon books this half term will include: Bodies are cool, My family, Your family, It's a no money day.

We will be discussing our own families and the families of others. As historians we will create our own personal timeline and discuss how we have changed over time. Then as geographers we will investigate our local area by discussing maps of school and our wider community. As artists we will then create self-portraits and discuss what makes us unique.



MCAS

At Orchard Head we use a digital platform known as MCAS. This is a communication platform for anything and everything that goes on around school. Any important notices will be announced through this platform. Those new to school will need to make sure they have downloaded and logged into the app. You should receive an email with login information. If you have any problems accessing the app, please do see a member of the admin staff in the office.

PE Information

Children will need to come dressed in PE kits on Fridays, **starting from Friday 27th September**, although we will be physically active every day and will use the outdoor area as much as possible.

PE kits should include a white round neck t-shirt, black shorts or tracksuit bottoms and trainers (preferably velcro).

Homework

Every child will soon be given a plastic wallet containing phonics and number sheets, which should be returned to school every day. Please support your child with these at home and encourage a love of stories by sharing a bedtime story every night. Once children have settled in school, we will also introduce a library system for you to borrow a wider selection of books to share at home.

Key information

Please make sure that all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name. This really will help us to ensure that we can get misplaced property back to the correct owner.

Children are encouraged to bring a bottle of unflavoured still water each day, preferably in a bottle with a sports type lid to avoid spillages. All bottles and snacks must have your child's name on them. Fruit snacks are usually available at school each day, but if preferred you can also bring your own choice of fruit to eat at snack time. Please note that for safety reasons any grapes must be cut in half lengthways before being sent into school for snacks or in packed lunches and no items can be brought into school that contain nuts.

Due to a number of allergies within the setting it is vital that any snacks brought into school are fruit only.

Thank you for your continued support with your child's progress and learning.

Feel free to arrange an appointment to discuss anything if necessary.

Miss Jenkins, Miss Clements, Mrs Carr, Mrs Smith, Miss Cheney, Mrs Basharat.

