



## Orchard Park Community Primary School

Ring Fort Road Orchard Park Cambridge CB4 2GR

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E-mail: office@orchardpark.cambs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Stacey Harper B Ed Hons NPQH

Issue 5

Jan 2020



# School Newsletter

## January Jottings

The Spring Term has already seen a number of exciting activities at Orchard Park. Butterflies took a trip to The Ely Toy Museum to support their toy project. Dragonflies visited the Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology to explore the ancient civilisation of the Mayans, whilst Grasshoppers and Beetles took part in a Gymnastics competition at NCA.



January's highlight was the Young Voices Concert at the O2 in London. This spectacular event was attended by Fireflies and the school choir. The children performed a large number of songs accompanied, at times, by The Shires and Tony Hadley. Thank you to the PTFA for supporting the event and to the many parents who made the journey to London to join us for the occasion.



We have had a number of wow days across the school this month. These are focused immersive sessions that aim to fully engage the children into their new topic. This month these have involved learning the chocolate making process, ice cream production, showcasing favourite toys and completing an outdoor orienteering event linked with art exploration.

## Vocabulary Enrichment

This term we launched our vocabulary initiative. The links between educational success and vocabulary are strong, with pupils with enhanced vocabularies being able to process information quicker, expand their abstract thinking and relate and communicate more readily to a broader global audience.

This new initiative involves introducing three new words per week. The words are linked



to clear visual images and all the synonyms connected to it. The children have an opportunity to use the word in a range of contexts and are encouraged to apply the new vocabulary into their daily conversations and their written work when possible. The three words are shared from year 2 to year 6, with reception and year 1 working on a slightly different vocabulary programme. Please track the words through your child's homework and see if you can apply them into home conversations too.

## Mothers' Day Gift Swap

The PTFA will be organising another Mother's Day Gift Swap that will take place in school on **Wednesday 18th March**. This is a really special event and it is always such a delight to see the children choose gifts for their mothers. It is also a brilliant way to recycle any unused gifts. If you have anything appropriate that you wish to recycle please bring your donations into school anytime from this week until Monday 16th March.



The PTFA have also organised a **Valentine's Day Bake Sale**. This will be after school on **Friday 14th February**, outside the library. Please could we ask you to donate cakes, cookies etc. to be brought in on the morning of the 14th February. The



PTFA would like to thank you for your continued support and kind donations. All monies raised will be donated to Sport Relief.

## Staff News

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Steggle, as Deputy Headteacher following her maternity leave with her daughter. Mrs Steggle will continue to support teaching and learning across the school as well as driving whole school curriculum initiatives. We are equally delighted that Mrs Mitchell has been able to stay with us in the interim. She has been an asset to the team over the last year and continues to work alongside teacher's to ensure the progress of all pupils is strong.



## Attendance at Orchard Park



## January Attendance Awards



January saw a significant dip in our attendance with all classes falling below the statutory 96%. As the winter period comes to an end, we hope to see significant increase in attendance to bring us back in line with national guidelines.

**Overall School Attendance 95.7%**

## Class Assemblies

### Beetles



Beetles Class Assembly will take place on Weds 12th Feb

### Grasshoppers



Grasshoppers Class Assembly will take place on Weds 25th March

*All welcome!*

*School Hall at 9:10 am*





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# School Newsletter Continued

## Headteacher Award

This month the class teacher's have nominated a child from their class who is hardworking and determined, giving 100% in all that they do:

- Caterpillars** - Enrico
- Ladybirds** - Imaan
- Butterflies** - Karolina
- Bumblebees** - Musa
- Grasshoppers** - Alican
- Beetles** - Jacob
- Fireflies** - Abigail
- Dragonflies** - Dhana



SHUTTERSTOCK - 63877057

your child's place through SIMs Pay and collect your child at 4pm from the school office, on the day of the event.



## Mental Health Drop Ins 2020

Cambridge United Community Trust in partnership with Cambridge County Council are running free drop in sessions starting with the 6th February and 26th March between 3pm-6pm, at The Abbey Stadium, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, CB5 8LN. These sessions enable you to discuss any social, emotional or mental health difficulties regarding your child. They are also for children/adults between 16 and 25 (with or without parents). The sessions will be hosted by the Educational and Child Psychologists that work for the Special Educational Needs and Disability Service (0-25) at the Council. Although these sessions are free please book in advance by emailing [darryl.coakley@cambridge-united.co.uk](mailto:darryl.coakley@cambridge-united.co.uk)

## Parent Consultation Evenings

Consultations are due to take place during the week beginning Monday 10th February. You should have received a separate letter, enabling you to book your appointment. If you have not received a copy, please speak to the office at your earliest convenience. We do hope that you are able to meet with the class teacher to discuss your child's progress at this halfway stage of the academic year.

## New Lunch Menu

The new Spring Term Lunch Menu is now available on the School Website and the following link:

[Spring Term Lunch Menu](#)

## Free Magic Show for KS1

The PTFA are proud to present a multi award winning magic show on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February, at 3.15 - 4pm in the School Hall**. Magic Dave will give a free show with refreshments for all KS1 children. Please book



www.shutterstock.com - 51268005

## Lost Property

Lost property will be sorted through for the end of half term, any items which are not claimed by **Friday 14th February** will be disposed of or donated. Thank You

*SJHarper*

## Nursing and Midwifery Open Day

Saturday 15th February 2020 9am-2pm at the Deakin Centre

No appointment or pre-booking required

Free Event

Workshops

Tours

Educational Talks

Interactive and fun day for the whole family

[www.bit.ly/OpenDayFeb20](http://www.bit.ly/OpenDayFeb20)



2020 is designated by the World Health Organisation as the Year of the Nurse. Commemorating the birth of Florence Nightingale.



[www.orchardparkprimary.co.uk](http://www.orchardparkprimary.co.uk)

