



The Orchard School

Weekly Bulletin

Friday 11th October 2024

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 15 th October	Parent Support Group – Evidence for Learning
Wednesday 23 rd October	Parents Evening
Monday 28 th October	Half Term

It was lovely to see so many families at our Parent Activity morning yesterday, I hope you enjoyed your time in class, working with your child and meeting the class team. Thank you to those who donated to our MacMillan Coffee morning we raised £58.72.

Parent Support Morning

We are holding a parent support morning on Tuesday at 9:30am which will give you the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the Evidence for Learning app and how you can use it. This will be particularly useful for new parents or those parents who have been unable to attend in the past, although all parents are welcome to attend it will be a repeat of previous years. We look forward to seeing you there if you can attend.

Attendance

The whole school attendance so far for this academic year is 86.1%
Last week's whole school attendance was 85.4%

The Orchard School is committed to 'getting it right for everyone'. It is important that your child attends school regularly so that they can reach their full potential.

Many of our pupils have complex medical needs and require a lot of medical appointments. We know there is little flexibility to arrange appointments outside the school day.

Thank you for your continued support, ensuring that you provide medical records of appointments and, where possible bringing your child into school before and after appointments.



Book Loan Scheme Survey

During the last academic year, we started running a book loan scheme to enable pupils to take books home to read with family members. We would like to get your feedback on the scheme and ask that you complete the short questionnaire which can be found here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Psm0UmROxkuhA-lkA34J1N0EoRkf1aZOorVaROdLPj1URFFHME1HNU9DMVdPMEdNNU9FMjJPVvk9LNy4u>



Physical and Occupational Therapy Referrals

The process for requesting physical and occupational therapy for your child has changed and it is now the parents/carers who need to place the request for support. The process is as follows:

- If school have any concerns with gross motor skills or need to request an assessment for seating, school will call parents and discuss our concerns.
- Parents then call FASTA line on 0121 612 2010 or can email: swbh.childrensotptreferrals@nhs.net and make referral to service.
- Parents to provide details of concern and to advise during referral that their child attends The Orchard school.
- Once the referral has been logged it will be passed back to therapist in The Orchard to triage and allocate an assessment time.

This process is in place to ensure all referrals are logged through formal channels.

Anybody who is open already for PT or OT if there are any questions / concerns / queries / requests to be seen, can these be emailed to the OT/PT email:

swbh.otptatorchardschool@nhs.net.

Referrals will no longer be accepted from the school.

ASDA Cashpot for Schools



Parentkind are working with ASDA, who are making millions of pounds available to every state primary school in the UK.

Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024, every time customers shop with Asda using their Rewards app, they can choose a primary school to receive a percentage of their spend. And that's not all — every time a customer chooses your primary school, Asda will donate £1 to your school's Cashpot, plus a further £50 when your first customer shops.

All you have to do is opt in through the ASDA Rewards app, choose our school and shop and scan in store or shop online at [Asda.com](https://www.asda.com) to be part of this scheme. Can I encourage any families who shop in ASDA to download the app and choose The Orchard School.

Keep water beads away from young children



Children love water beads. But it's really dangerous if a young child swallows them.



They expand in the belly and can block the bowel. Some grow as big as golf balls.

A child may need major surgery to remove them. So please keep them away from young children.




If you suspect a child has swallowed a water bead, get medical help straight away.

Scan to learn more



 www.capt.org.uk

 [@ChildAccidentPreventionTrust](https://www.facebook.com/ChildAccidentPreventionTrust)

 [@capt_charity](https://www.instagram.com/capt_charity)





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Dear Parent/Guardian,

It's that time of year again where communities will soon be enjoying celebrations including Halloween, Diwali and Bonfire night. Children and young people will break up from school this week and whilst this provides an opportunity for families and friends to spend some enjoyable time together, I want to remind you all of the dangers that this busy period poses. The darker nights will soon be upon us, so ask yourself if you know where your child is going, who they are with and what they are doing.

Fireworks provide wonderful entertainment as part of an organised display. They can, however, be very dangerous when used inappropriately. Remember that in order to buy fireworks you must be over the age of 18 and they can only be purchased from registered retailers. Please remind your child of this: any child or young person found in possession of, or letting off fireworks in public commits a criminal offence. More importantly, they also place themselves and members of the public in unnecessary danger.

Also, please be mindful of the vulnerable members of our community who may be fearful at this time of year. I would ask you to ensure that your child does not cause unnecessary distress through their actions, whether by involving themselves in anti-social behaviour or associating with those engaging in such behaviour.

Sandwell Police are very proud of our relationship with the young people of Sandwell and our wider communities. We encourage families to spend time with each other and enjoy the celebrations.

At the same time I would ask you, as parents/guardians, to ensure that the whole of Sandwell can enjoy this time together, and that the actions of a few do not spoil the enjoyment of many. If we all ensure our own child is safe then we can be sure others are safe too.

Regards

Sandwell Police Partnerships Team
West Bromwich Police Station