



The Orchard School

Weekly Bulletin

Friday 29th November 2024

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 11th December	Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
Friday 13th December	Parents Activity Morning
Friday 20th December	Break up for Christmas
Monday 6th January 2025	Pupils return to school

I cannot believe we have reached December already! We have a busy few weeks ahead in the run up to Christmas and look forward to welcoming as many families as are able to the activity morning on Friday 13th December.

Thank you to all the parents who completed the parent/carer questionnaire, we had 46 responses. We are currently analysing the results and will share these with you along with our response before the end of term.

Thank you for your understanding when we had to close due to the weather conditions. Unfortunately, we had to make this difficult decision due to the icy condition of the roads, as the safety of our pupils is paramount. I know there were some issues with informing families of the decision and apologise for this. We will ensure the website is updated and a text message sent out as early as possible and will also update the website regarding the following day. If you have changed your phone number, please ensure we have the correct number to ensure you receive any messages.

Attendance Matters

The whole school attendance so far for this academic year is 87.6%.

Last week's whole school attendance was 86%.



At this time of year, it can be tricky deciding whether to keep your child off school when they are unwell. Information can be found here - [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

A reminder that if your child has vomiting and/or diarrhoea they should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).



UK Health
Security
Agency

NHS

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

Safeguarding - Toy Safety

Love it or loathe it, the run-up to Christmas for parents means having a lot on your plate (and we're not talking Christmas dinner).

While toys sold by well-known stores are generally safe; many cheap toys from unknown sellers on online marketplaces come from abroad and have not been safety tested.



From super-strong magnets that can be harmful, to easy-access button batteries that cause serious illness or even a fatality if swallowed, to dangerous electrical goods that can start fires in your home. **SHOP SMART** and **STAY SAFE**.

Top tips for shopping safely this Christmas:

Take care when shopping at marketplaces online (think AliExpress, Amazon, eBay, Etsy, Groupon, Joom, OnBuy, Shein, Temu, TikTok Shop and Wish). There might be dangerous products that haven't been safety checked.

1. Stick with brand names you know. If you've never heard of the seller or the brand and the price is really tempting, it could be dangerous.
2. Be really careful when buying for under 3s as they're most at risk from dangerous products.
3. Check if the product has been removed from sale. Visit [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) for a list of recalled products.
4. If you buy something that looks unsafe, trust your instincts and send it back.

See this link for information about dangerous toys: [8 dangerous gifts that could be a nightmare this Christmas](#)

5 top tips for buying safe toys online

Take care when shopping at marketplaces online (think AliExpress, Amazon, eBay, Etsy, Groupon, Joom, OnBuy, Shein, Temu, TikTok Shop and Wish). There might be dangerous products that haven't been safety checked.



Buy toys from brand names you know. If you've never heard of the seller and the price is really tempting, the toy could be dangerous.



Be really careful when buying for under 3s as they're most at risk from dangerous toys.



Watch out for cheap copies of popular toys. They may not be made to UK safety standards.



Check if the toy has been removed from sale because it's unsafe. Visit [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) for a list of recalled products.



If you buy something that looks unsafe, trust your instincts and send it back.

Toy safety

“I would hate for any other child to go through what Becca suffered because of buying dangerous toys via online marketplaces.”

Mum of two-year-old Becca who swallowed magnets from a toy

Toys from reputable brands are made to be safe. But if they've come from an unknown seller on an online marketplace, a market or small discount store, they could be dangerous.

Buying safely

- ✦ Buy toys from brand names you know. If you've never heard of the seller or the brand and price is really tempting, it could be dangerous
- ✦ Watch out for cheap copies of popular toys. They may not be made to UK safety standards.
- ✦ Check if the toy has been removed from sale because it's unsafe. Visit gov.uk and search 'product recalls'
- ✦ If you buy something that looks unsafe, trust your instincts and send it back.

Under 3s most at risk

Babies and toddlers are curious and naturally put everything in their mouths. So dangerous toys can pose the biggest risk to small children. Be especially careful when buying for under 3s.

Watch out for missing or contradictory age warnings. If a toy is pictured with a toddler but marketed as unsuitable for young children, pick something else.

Which toys are most dangerous?

- ✦ Toys with:
 - accessible button batteries that can burn through your child's food pipe
 - super strong magnets that can rip through your child's belly
 - long cords that can strangle your child
 - small parts that can choke your small child
- ✦ Water beads that can block your child's bowel if swallowed
- ✦ Electrical toys with exposed wires or chargers that can catch fire.



Checking toys

If you're unsure about the safety of a toy, here are some checks you can do:

- ✦ Check battery compartments for accessible button batteries or loose spares in the box
- ✦ Check for any loose small magnets
- ✦ Give the parts on the toy a quick tug and check for small parts that come off
- ✦ Look for long cords or access to stuffing
- ✦ Check if there are any age restrictions or safety warnings on the product.

Report dangerous toys

If you spot or buy a toy you're concerned about:

- ✦ Citizens Advice consumer helpline: 0808 223 1133
- ✦ Citizens Advice consumer helpline (Welsh-speaking adviser): 0808 223 1144
- ✦ Advice Direct Scotland helpline: 0808 164 6000
- ✦ Northern Ireland Consumerline: 0300 123 6262

 capt.org.uk

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


child accident
prevention trust