



23 / 09 / 2025

# The Orchard School

## HEADTEACHER UPDATE

### AT A GLANCE

- News - Home school Agreement and other updates
- Key dates for your diaries
- Attendance Matters
- Safeguarding Update - The dangers of an online trend
- Parent Council - come and join us for the first parent council meeting

## News

What a busy start to the term we have had. It has been lovely to see all our pupils from last year settle back into the routine of school so well. We have welcomed a number of new pupils to The School who have transitioned well, and despite the new environments and routines already feel part of the school community. I look forward to meeting and working with our new families over the coming months.

### Home School Agreement

As part of our commitment to a strong partnership between home and school, we kindly ask that you take a moment to read through the Home-School Agreement 2025-2026. This document outlines our shared responsibilities in supporting your child's educational journey. Please submit the agreement by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we work together to ensure the best possible experience for your child at The Orchard.

Please click on the link to access the agreement or scan the QR code: [🌐 Please fill out this form](#)

The Orchard School Home-School Agreement 2025-2026



## Transport

Unfortunately there has been a delay in the organisation of transport for some of our pupils, the office staff are chasing this daily for you and I would ask that you also contact transport yourselves. Due to this the start and end of day has been busier with additional parents dropping and collecting their children and also additional buses. Thank you for your patience during this time. Can I ask that you follow the directions of the staff on the carpark (you can't miss them in their high-vis coats) and if there are no available parking spaces when you arrive you join the queue until there is a space available.

## Site Safety

For the safety of all can I request the following:

- You keep to the speed limit of 5mph on the car park.
- You always use, whether with your child or not the allocated crossings and pathways when moving to and from vehicles and do not cross between vehicles
- You park in the central area of the car park which has been allocated for families rather than on the perimeter so you are not having to cross where there are no crossings.

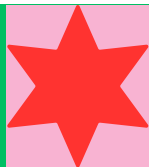
## Water flush

We have been informed by the Community Nursing team that due to guidelines which have changed, when administering feeds in school we can only administer tap water and not cool boiled water sent from home or any other products for the flush.

## Wipes

Can I ask all parents ensure they send in enough nappies and wipes if your child requires changing at school. As with all schools budgets are tight and we are unable to keep providing wipes for personal care needs.

# Attendance Matters



The Orchard School's attendance target is 92%

**The whole school attendance for this academic year is 89.4%**

**The whole school attendance for last week was 91.3%**

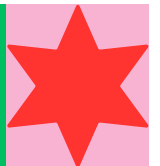
# Key Dates



Below are the key dates for this term. More information will follow.  
Please note dates are subject to change.

Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Day of Sign Language (pupils only)
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Doodle Day (pupils only)
October	Black History Month
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Tell a Story Day (pupils only)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Year 6 Coffee Morning
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Training Day - School closed to pupils
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Coffee Morning - Curriculum Overview
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Mental Health Day (pupils only)
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest assembly (pupils only)
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Activity Morning
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Coffee Morning - Evidence for Learning
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Parents evening
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half Term

# Safeguarding Update



## Salt and Ice Challenge

### 🔥⚠️ Parent & Carer Alert: The "Salt & Ice Challenge"

A dangerous online trend is resurfacing where children put salt on their skin and press ice on top.

- ☞ This causes serious cold burns (like frostbite).
- ☞ Injuries can need hospital treatment and even skin grafts.
- ☞ Young people may not realise the damage until it's too late.

First Aid:

- ✅ Cool under lukewarm water 10+ mins

✓ Cover with cling film

✓ Seek medical help

✗ Do NOT use ice, creams, or fluffy dressings.

**Don't let a trend leave permanent scars.**

# Parent Council



## We need you!

# PARENT COUNCIL

A platform for parents to voice their opinions and concerns



9.30 - 11AM

**7TH**

**OCTOBER**

The aim of the Orchard School Parent Council is to provide a direct link between parents/carers and the school in the hope that we can help The Orchard develop and grow together.

- ✓ Provide a forum for the sharing of suggestions for improvement / development.
- ✓ Help influence important decisions made for our children .
- ✓ Our Parent Council represents all the parents /carers of children at our school.



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**Everyone welcome.**



**First meeting agenda:  
communication  
between School and  
home.**