



# The Orchard School

## Weekly Bulletin

Week commencing: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### Dates for your diary

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent/Carer Support Group – Makaton Workshop
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Mothering Sunday Parent Activity Morning
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Easter celebrations for children
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holiday
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Pupils return to school Parent/Carer Support Group

### Parent Governor

I am pleased to inform you that Natalie Hulse is our new parent governor. She writes:

*'My daughter Hope started attending The Orchard in September 2023. In just a few short months with the support of her class team (Spiders) and the school she has blossomed.*

*I would like to become a Parent Governor and become fully involved in supporting such a wonderful school. I am passionate about education and the importance it plays in developing and impacting our future. Having a child with Autism and additional needs really highlighted as a parent the strong need for our specialist schools and support.*

*I believe that my knowledge and previous career experiences are transferable to a parent governor role. I hold a Human Psychology BSc degree obtained at Aston University which included aspects of child psychology and learning difficulties. Prior to having children, I was a Police Officer within the West Midlands Force. This gave vast experience of working within diverse communities and in sometimes very challenging situations.*

*I wish to use my knowledge and experience to encourage and maybe challenge others to ensure our pupils constantly receive the best education possible. I am always willing to learn and work with new people and develop new skills. I would be extremely appreciative if you would consider me for this role.'*

We are very much looking forward to welcoming Natalie to the Governing Board and working with her.

I hope you all had a good half term despite the miserable weather. We have an action packed half term coming up with a range of different opportunities for pupils. Below is a selection of the activities the pupils will be taking part in.

## World Book Day

On World Book Day (Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March) pupils and staff can come to school in something magical and sparkly to go with the theme of the day 'Sparkle While you Read'.

As part of this we are asking families, if possible, to donate a book to school which will add to the variety of books the pupils have access to in school. I look forward to seeing lots of sparkles on this day!



## Mothering Sunday Activity Morning

A reminder that we are holding our next parent activity morning on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. You will have the opportunity to work with your child in class between 9:30 and 10:30 followed by an opportunity for refreshments afterwards.



## More information to follow on...

Red Nose Day – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Celebration Day for pupils – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Healthy Schools Week – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April

These days will be an opportunity for the pupils to participate in activities with their classes and across school, based on these themes. You will be able to see examples of these activities through the Evidence for Learning app and on the school website.