



**ORCHARD C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL BROUGHTON
ASTLEY**



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope that you have all had a good summer and have managed to have some time on holiday or some exciting days out! It was a pleasure to see all of the children back in school today and all looking so smart in their school uniforms – thank you!

We would like to say a big Orchard welcome all of the children who have joined Orchard this term, especially our new Foundation Stage children who are starting school for the very first time over the next few weeks.

We also welcome Miss Miller as our new year 4 class teacher alongside our new lunchtime supervisors – Miss Boneham and Mrs Campbell.

Our topics this term are “Time Travellers” (history based) and “Materials Matter” (science based). Parents will have an opportunity to look at the children’s work and displays around the school on the two parents evenings in October and on Friday 30th November.

Our Christian values that we will be focussing on this term are Endurance and Peace. You can find further details of what your child will be learning about on the class page of our website

www.orchardcofe.leics.sch.uk

Please keep up to date with all the events that happen at school by looking at our website. We update our calendar weekly and this is the best way to ensure that you have the most up to date information about events taking place in school. The APP which you can download onto you mobile phone will also give you regular reminders of upcoming events. This can be set up by downloading the “school jotter” APP. You can select our school by typing Orchard into the browser and selecting the APP.

LOROS Fitness in Schools.

A huge thank you for all the sponsorship money raised for our LOROS day. The children had a fantastic day learning about staying fit and healthy which was always great fun! We raised a massive £957 of which half will go to school to improve equipment for our playtimes and lunchtimes.

Coffee Morning

We will be having our annual Macmillan World’s Biggest Coffee Morning on Friday 28th September. We will be asking for donations of cakes and biscuits and ask you to join us for cake and a coffee. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

Harvest Festival

On Friday 5th October – our Harvest assembly will take place once again at St. Mary’s Church in the village at 9.30 am. All welcome! Please bring any Harvest produce into school from Wednesday 3rd October onwards. Further details will be sent out nearer the event.

Absence from school

If your child is absent from school due to illness, please inform the school and keep them up to date on a daily basis. This should be done by telephone with the school office. The office staff will contact parents if no such contact is made. This is to ensure each child’s safety. *If the school is unable to make contact and no reason is provided, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised (O).*

In the event of absence for a dentist or doctor’s appointment, parents must inform school by means of a letter or a phone call to the office, *in advance*, so that the absence can be coded as ‘Medical’. In the absence of such information the absence will be recorded as ‘Unauthorised’ (O). *Please remember to inform your child’s teacher if a school dinner is still required.*

Holidays / Leave of Absence

Can I please remind everyone that if parents choose to take their child/ren out of school for a family holiday, they must ensure that they inform the school in writing and **in advance**, as ANY absence needs to be recorded by school for safeguarding purposes.

If you would like leave of absence for “exceptional circumstances” such as a funeral or participation in sporting/music events etc, then a ‘Leave of Absence Form’ **must** be completed and handed in to the school office **prior** to the event to be considered.

Parking

We would like to continue to draw your attention to the parking issue around our school. We continue to receive complaints from local residents, parents and visitors relating to inconsiderate parking, dangerous driving, speeding etc. We would therefore like to ask you again to work with us to help resolve these problems and to ensure the safety of your children. Please try and use the entrances on both Blenheim Crescent and Glebe Road to collect your children and park accordingly. Cars must not park on yellow lines including zigzags or on the school turning circle or pavements. Try and encourage your child to walk to school or Park and Stride - where you park at the Co-op car park and allow your child to walk from there to school. There is a school crossing patrol person who will help your child cross the road. Thank you for your support.

School Dinners

School dinners remain at **£2.20** per day for children in KS2 and remain free for all children in FS2 and Years 1 and 2. All dinners must be paid for in advance using +Pay on PMX. Please see our School Meal Debt Policy which is available on our school website. If you would like your child to have a hot dinner simply top up their account and ensure your child informs the teacher when the dinner register is taken every morning.

Allergies

We would like to remind parents that due to pupils with nut allergies we would ask parents not to send their children with any packed lunches or snacks that contain nuts. Thank you.

OPA

The Orchard Parents Association work very hard to support the school and raise money for the school to buy things that the school would struggle to buy. If you would like to give some of your time – no matter how little – please leave your name and contact details in the school office and the OPA will then get in touch.

Children due to start school or transfer to secondary school.

Our ‘Open Morning’ for children starting in Foundation Stage 2 - Twiglets in September 2019 is on the morning of Friday 26th October. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

The deadline for applications for September 2019 New Intake is 15th January 2019.

Secondary school applications are now open with a deadline of 31st October 2018 for September 2019 intake.

Please see attached our diary dates for the Autumn term. You can also visit our website www.orchardcofe.leics.sch.uk which is updated regularly with any changes or updates.

Look out for the Annual Information and Consent Form pack due to go out this week. This will need to be returned by 17th September 2018 together with your Data Collection Sheet to ensure our records are up-to-date.

Ms. Fieldsend