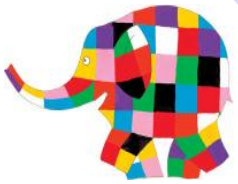
The Orchard Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Patterns, Patterns Everywhere!

What a wonderful week we have had at The Orchard! Our whole-school Pattern Week has seen children exploring patterns through maths, art, music and even cooking. It has been fantastic to see such creativity and enthusiasm across the school, with patterns quite literally appearing everywhere!

Our Reception children have begun their first *Inside Out* book, **Elmer**, and have thoroughly enjoyed learning alongside this colourful character. They have also been busy in PE, exploring different body parts and the many ways they can move.

In Year 1, the children have been taking a fascinating journey into the past, learning about toys and television programmes enjoyed by children in previous generations and comparing them with those they enjoy today. In music, they have been developing their understanding of pulse through the song *Hey You*.

Meanwhile, Year 2 have impressed us with their learning about tessellating and radiating patterns, creating some beautiful examples of their own. They have also been exploring the physical and human features of London and discussing the Christian understanding of God in their RE lessons.

I was fortunate enough to visit every class this week and see the wonderful learning taking place. It has been lovely to see how settled the children are in their new year groups and how focused they are on their learning. I was also delighted to show prospective parents around our school this week. They were incredibly impressed by the calm atmosphere, the children's positive attitudes and the warm, welcoming environment that makes
The Orchard such a special place to learn.

Parking Reminder

Please could I ask families not to park in the residential car park on Hansler Grove. We have received a number of concerns from local residents regarding this issue. I completely understand how busy drop-off and pick-up times can be and appreciate that finding a convenient parking space can sometimes be challenging. However, there are alternative options nearby, including Walton Road Car Park which is a short walk away and the surrounding roads.

Thank you for your support in helping us maintain positive relationships with our neighbours and for showing respect to our local community.

Have a wonderful weekend.
See you on Monday.
Sally Cary












Can you make a pattern?



HAPPY NATIONAL TEACHING ASSISTANTS DAY!

Today, we would like to recognise and thank our wonderful Teaching & Learning Assistants for the incredible contribution they make to life at The Orchard School. Their care, patience, expertise and dedication help our children to learn, grow and thrive every day. Whether supporting learning in the classroom, providing encouragement when it is needed most, or helping children to achieve their very best, they truly make all the difference.

Sadly, **Mrs Denton,** one of our TLAs, will be leaving us at the end of next week. After more than 20 years of dedicated service to our school community, Mrs Denton has touched the lives of countless children and families through her kindness, commitment and unwavering support. She will be greatly missed by pupils, staff and parents alike, and we thank her for everything she has given to The Orchard School over the years.

We wish her every happiness and success for the future.



A polite reminder to parents and carers:

We have recently found a number of half-full cups of hot chocolate left near the Reception entrance. Unattended drinks can pose a health and safety risk, particularly if children were to pick them up, spill them or drink from them. They may also contain allergens which could potentially be incredibly dangerous.

As a school that places a strong emphasis on respect, we also ask everyone to show respect for our environment by taking litter and drinks away with them rather than leaving them on the school site. If this becomes an ongoing issue, we may need to ask that hot drinks and takeaway beverages are not brought onto the school grounds at all. Thank you for your support.

Join Our Orchard Team!

Do you know someone who would love to make a difference in the lives of young children?

We are currently seeking a **Teaching & Learning Assistant (TLA)** to join our wonderful team at **The Orchard School**. This is a fantastic opportunity to work alongside our dedicated staff, support our amazing children, and become part of our caring school community.

If you, a family member, or a friend would be interested in finding out more, please take a look at the vacancy and application details using the link below:

👉 **Teaching & Learning Assistant Vacancy:**
https://www.eteach.com/careers/orchard-surrey/job/teaching--and--learning-assisant-tla-1572459

We would be very grateful if you could help spread the word amongst friends, family and the local community.

Come and be part of The Orchard family!

What to do if your child is unable to attend school

📞 **Contact the School Before 9:05am**
Let us know on the **first day of absence.**
so we know your child is safe.
Call the school office **02089792945**
Leave a message with your child's name, class and the reason for absence.

🗓️ **Absent for More Than One Day?**
Please contact the school **each day** your child is absent.
Let us know when they are well enough to return.

⏰ **Running Late?**
School starts promptly at **8:40am**.
If you arrive after this time, please come to the school office with your child so we can record the reason for lateness.

📞 **Haven't Contacted Us?**
If we haven't heard from you by **9:05am**, a member of staff will contact you to check on your child's whereabouts.

🌞 **Every Day Counts!**
Regular & punctual attendance helps children:
Enjoy learning
Build friendships
Feel confident and settled
Achieve their best

Thank you for your support!

Christmas card designs have been sent home this week. The children could continue to add to their creativity at home to make them even more personalised.

Please make sure that any Christmas card orders are sent into school by **Friday 2nd October**.



Our Value Award Winners are…

Ash **Rupert**	Elm **Felix**	Holly **Emily**
Willow **Levi**	Maple **Bella**	Rowan **Leo**
Beech **Harper**	Oak **Noemi**	Sycamore **Eilidh**

Courage **Determination** **Respect** **Kindness**

In valuing others, we paint a brighter world. ~ Frida Kahlo

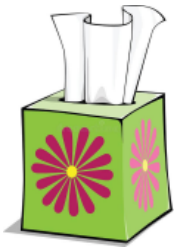
Tissue Request



The sniffles are starting, the sneezes are too,
And tissues are disappearing faster than glue!

If you can spare a box, we'd be grateful indeed,
To help little noses in their time of need.

As coughs and colds begin to appear,
A tissue donation would bring us good cheer!



"Aitchoo!" say the children throughout the day,
So a box of tissues would help us on our way!

Thank you for helping us stay stocked up for the sneezy season!

Ofsted & CQC SEND Inspection Survey

As part of the current inspection of SEND services in Surrey, **Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC)** would like to hear directly from children and young people with additional needs and disabilities, their parents and carers, and professionals who work with them.

If your child has SEND, we would encourage you to complete the short anonymous survey and share your experiences of SEND support in Surrey. Your feedback will help inspectors understand what is working well and where improvements may be needed.

The survey is confidential and responses go directly to Ofsted. The survey closes at 9:00am on Wednesday 30 September 2026.

🔗 Complete the survey here:
https://ofsted.smartsurvey.co.uk/p/AreaSend/10436548

If you are unable to complete the survey online, printed copies are available from **Family Voice Surrey** on **01372 705708** or via **contact@familyvoicesurrey.org**.

Thank you for taking the time to share your views. Your feedback is invaluable in helping to shape SEND provision across Surrey.

Young Carers

At The Orchard School, we recognise that some children may help to care for a family member who has a disability, long-term illness, mental health difficulty, or struggles with alcohol or substance misuse. These children are known as ***young carers***.

If you feel your child may have caring responsibilities at home, support is available through Action for Carers, which offers advice, activities, opportunities to meet other young carers and support to help children thrive both in and out of school. Children can access support from Year 1 onwards. If you think your child may be a young carer and would like to discuss how we can support them, please contact the school office.

Further information can be found from Action for Carers on 0303 040 1234 or at www.actionforcarers.org.uk .

Action for Carers Surrey

Musical Artist of the Week



ABBA

Get ready to say "Thank You for the Music"! See if your child can recognise any of their famous songs.

https://open.spotify.com/playlist/5vWBFidQWyZIrbgZbjocBz

Dates for your Diary

https://orchard.surrey.sch.uk/Calendar/

Click on the *'subscribe'* button to sync your device to it.

Thursday 8th and
Friday 9th October
PTA: African Drumming Workshop



Friday 2nd October
Deadline for Personalised Christmas Card Orders



Tuesday 13th October
Reception Parent Phonic Workshop
9:15 – 9:45



Thursday 15th and
Friday 16th October
Year 2 Bake Sale



Friday 24th October
Harvest Celebration and Collection for Elmbridge Food Bank



19th - 30th October
HALF TERM



Thursday 16th October
6pm
Deadline for Disco Ticket purchases



Monday 9th November
'Let it Glow' Disco



Wednesday 11th November
Remembrance Day



Wednesday 11th November
Individual School Photos



Reminders

Earrings should not be worn in school	Hair that falls below the shoulder should be tied back (boys & girls)	Wear PE Kit on PE Days
		

UPCOMING EVENTS AUTUMN

THE ORCHARD SCHOOL · PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION ·

2 OCT

Christmas Art Deadline

Order personalised Christmas cards, wraps, mugs and other merchandise through our project with Cauliflower Artwork.

15/16 OCT

Year 2 Bake Sale

Volunteers will sell baked goods after school on the Thu & Fri to raise funds for Year Two enrichment

9 NOV

"Let it Glow Disco"

Tickets must be pre-booked. Reception is 3-4pm, Year 1 is 4-5pm and Year 2 is 5-6pm. Volunteers needed with DBS check.

25 NOV

Wreath Workshop

Create a lovely festive wreath for your front door. This event is open to the community. Pre-booking essential.

4 DEC

Christmas tree pickup

Pre-order and buy your Christmas Tree via PTA Events for pick up on 4 Dec from a local address.

5 DEC

Christmas Fair

Santa's grotto, games, raffle, bar and much more. This is a key fundraiser in the year. Volunteers needed to run the stalls.

15 DEC

Christmas Plays

The children will be treated to a Christmas show from a theatre company - funded by the PTA due to your contributions.



Click on the picture above to take you to our website.



Flying Start PRESCHOOL

West Molesey preschool for children aged 2-4

- Term time
- 09.00 - 12.30/ 14.30
- Fantastic outside space
- Forest School Leader





REGISTER NOW

info@flyingstartmolesey.com

www.flyingstartmolesey.com

Parent Tours

As many of our children move on to

St Lawrence Junior School,

parents may be interested to know that the school is hosting a number of parent tours. These visits provide an opportunity to see the school during the learning day, giving parents a real insight into school life. Visitors will be able to observe learning in action and enjoy a guided tour of the school and its facilities.

If your child will be transferring to junior school next year, this is a great chance to find out more about what St Lawrence has to offer. Please contact St Lawrence Junior School directly for further information and booking details.

1st October 2026
7th October 2026
4th November 2026
8th December 2026
7th January 2027

https://www.stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk/