The Orchard Newsletter

Friday 9th October 2026



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been an enjoyable, varied and productive week this week.

Reception

Elmer collage models
Smartie the penguin and e-safety
Making amounts and writing matching numerals

Year 1

Fossil hunter Mary Anning
Comparing: Longer/shorter heavier/lighter
What we are thankful for
Choices and Consequences

Year 2

Writing letters to story characters
Visit from Reverand Alex
Developing co-ordination and jumps in PE

Additionally, this week we all had the wonderful opportunity to take part in a djembe drumming workshop. The children were led by Kay and her large djembe drum that she calls Luna. It was a wonderful experience to learn about bass and tone hand movements, rhythms, call and response and performance techniques. Thank you to Mrs Smart and Oak class who performed at the end of the day to the whole school and thank you to our PTA for providing us with this lovely opportunity.

Next Tuesday we have a Reception Parents' Phonic Workshop and on Friday we will be collecting donations for the Elmbridge Foodbank to celebrate Harvest and to reflect on being thankful for all that we have. You can find out more details about these later on in the newsletter.

Please can I request that if you need to make contact with your child's class teacher via email that you direct your emails through to the school office first. It will then be passed on to the class teachers who will get back to you as soon as they are able.
office@orchard.surrey.sch.uk

See you on Monday.
Sally Cary

Helping Our Planet, One Litter Pick at a Time

Last April, we celebrated **Earth Day** by learning about ways we can help our planet and live more sustainably. One of the highlights was a litter-picking activity in our local area, which the children embraced with great enthusiasm.

We would love to make this a regular event and give more children the opportunity to take part.

If you can spare some time to support this initiative, please speak to **Mrs Smart in Oak Class** or leave your details at the school office.

Please note: a DBS check is required.

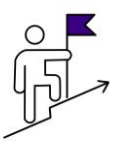
Thank you for helping us make a positive difference in our community.



Our Value Award Winners are…

Ash **George**	Elm **Tommy**	Holly **Ellie**
Willow **Ela**	Maple **Amilah**	Rowan **Maddie**
Beech **Noah**	Oak **Nathan**	Sycamore **Lorelei**

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



"You can, you should, and if you're brave enough to start, you will." -Stephen King

Reception Parents' Phonic Workshop

Tuesday 13th October
9:15 – 9:45am

You are warmly invited to join us on Tuesday morning for a Reception Parents Phonics Workshop. During this short session, some of our Reception team will explain how we teach phonics using the **Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised** programme, demonstrate some of the strategies and resources we use in school, and share practical ways you can support your child's reading and phonics development at home.



Attention Autism Bucket Time Sessions

As part of our Reception curriculum, all children take part in **Attention Autism Bucket Time** sessions. These fun, highly engaging activities help children to develop their attention, listening and communication skills, as well as encouraging turn-taking, focus and shared enjoyment with others. The sessions use exciting and motivating resources to capture children's interest and support their learning.

We are currently looking for donations of **small toys or objects that spin, flash, move or are visually exciting** to use during our Bucket Time sessions. If you have anything suitable that you no longer need, we would be very grateful for your support.

Please send any donations to **Mrs Thornton**, who teaches in **Holly Class**.
Thank you for your support!







Harvest Festival Donations
Friday 16th October

This year we will again be collecting food for the **East Elmbridge Food Bank**.

Our local food bank works with referral agencies to issue food vouchers to those in need of emergency food in times of crisis. Our School Councillors have created some wonderful posters, which you will see displayed around the school, reminding everyone about our collection.

Things we urgently need:

- Toddler pouches (meals, veggie and fruit)
- Crisps
- Children's snacks (raisins etc)
- Washing up liquid
- Ladies deodorant (spray)
- Cleaning spray (general purpose)
- UHT milk - semi skimmed if possible!

We already have lots of alternative milk, pasta, baked beans, pulses, cereal and tinned fish at the moment - thank you so much for your generosity

We will gratefully receive collections at the school office on **Friday 16th October.**
Thank you for anything you can share.



Please note that all school disco tickets must be ordered by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.
Click on the picture above which will take you straight to the PTA website.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept any late requests, issue tickets after the deadline, or provide tickets on the day of the disco. This is to ensure we can finalise numbers and make the necessary arrangements for the event.
Thank you for your understanding and support.
We look forward to a fantastic disco!

Autism Outreach for Schools

BARNARDO'S Changing childhoods. Changing lives.

Cygnet Autism Support

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

Cygnet in Surrey

A 6-session support programme for parents and carers of children and young people, aged 5 - 18 who have autism or suspected autism.

Where is it being delivered?

A mixture of online and in-person courses are taking place across Surrey.

Who can attend?

Parents, carers or other family members who have responsibility for your child. Your child must be aged between 5-18 and live in Surrey. They may have a diagnosis of autism or be waiting for one.

What does Cygnet involve?

The programme is delivered over six 2 ½ - 3 hour sessions which include:

- Introductory session
- Overview of autism with parent and carer experience
- Thinking & sensory
- Social interaction & communication
- Understanding & supporting behaviour
- Analysing behaviour

Who will deliver the course?

Surrey's Cygnet offer is coordinated through the Autism Outreach team but our team of trainers are made up from professionals working across Surrey in education, health and charity organisations.

Can I ask some questions?

Email us on SurreyParentworkshops@freemantles.surrey.sch.uk

How do I join a course?

Please register your interest by completing the electronic expression of interest form (accessed through the below link or by scanning the above QR code). You will then be added to our mailing list and contacted each time new courses are available on TryBooking.

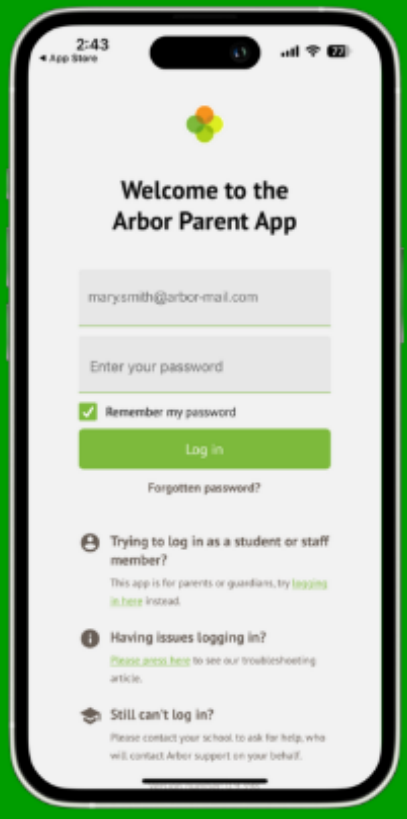
https://forms.office.com/e/wZ82LGt6rC

Surrey Parent Training Programmes

Arbor

We're using the Arbor Parent App!

See and manage your child's day-to-day school information. Understand their progress, make payments and bookings, and receive in-app messages - all from one app



Log in in seconds with Face ID

Receive in-app messages and reminders on your phone

Make payments, sign up for clubs, and book parents evenings

See your child's progress, attendance, behaviour points, report cards and more

Check your child's calendar, it's always up-to-date

Scan the QR code to download the Arbor Parent App, and use your email address to log in

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

Meet our KS1 School Councillors



Top (left to right): Marlies, Darcie, Albie and Sami
Bottom (left to right): Olivia, Isla, Eva, Melissa and Finn

We are delighted to introduce our **Key Stage 1 School Councillors**.
Each councillor has been chosen by their class to represent the views, ideas and interests of their classmates.
The School Council meets regularly with Mrs Smart to discuss ways to improve school life, share pupil views, celebrate successes and contribute to decisions that help shape our school community. Councillors play an important role in ensuring that every child has the opportunity to be heard and contribute to positive change.
Our Reception children will have the opportunity to elect their own School Councillors later in the school year and will then join the team.
We are very proud of all our councillors and look forward to seeing the positive difference they make across the school.

Musical Artist of the Week



Andrew Lloyd Webber

Composer and theatrical producer. Andrew Lloyd Webber began playing the violin and piano at the age of 3.

https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3vH0CjBejQ4mEQzIpUJ9PU

Dates for your Diary

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

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

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



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



Friday 16th October
Harvest Celebration and Collection for Elmbridge Food Bank



19th - 30th October
HALF TERM



Monday 2nd November
Parent Governor Nominations



Wednesday 4th November
6pm
Deadline for Disco Ticket purchases



Monday 9th November
'Let it Glow' Disco



Wednesday 11th November
Remembrance Day



Wednesday 11th November
Individual School Photos



Friday 13th November
Children in Need & World Kindness Day



Thursday 19th November
Full Governors Meeting
6pm



Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th November
Parents Evening



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.

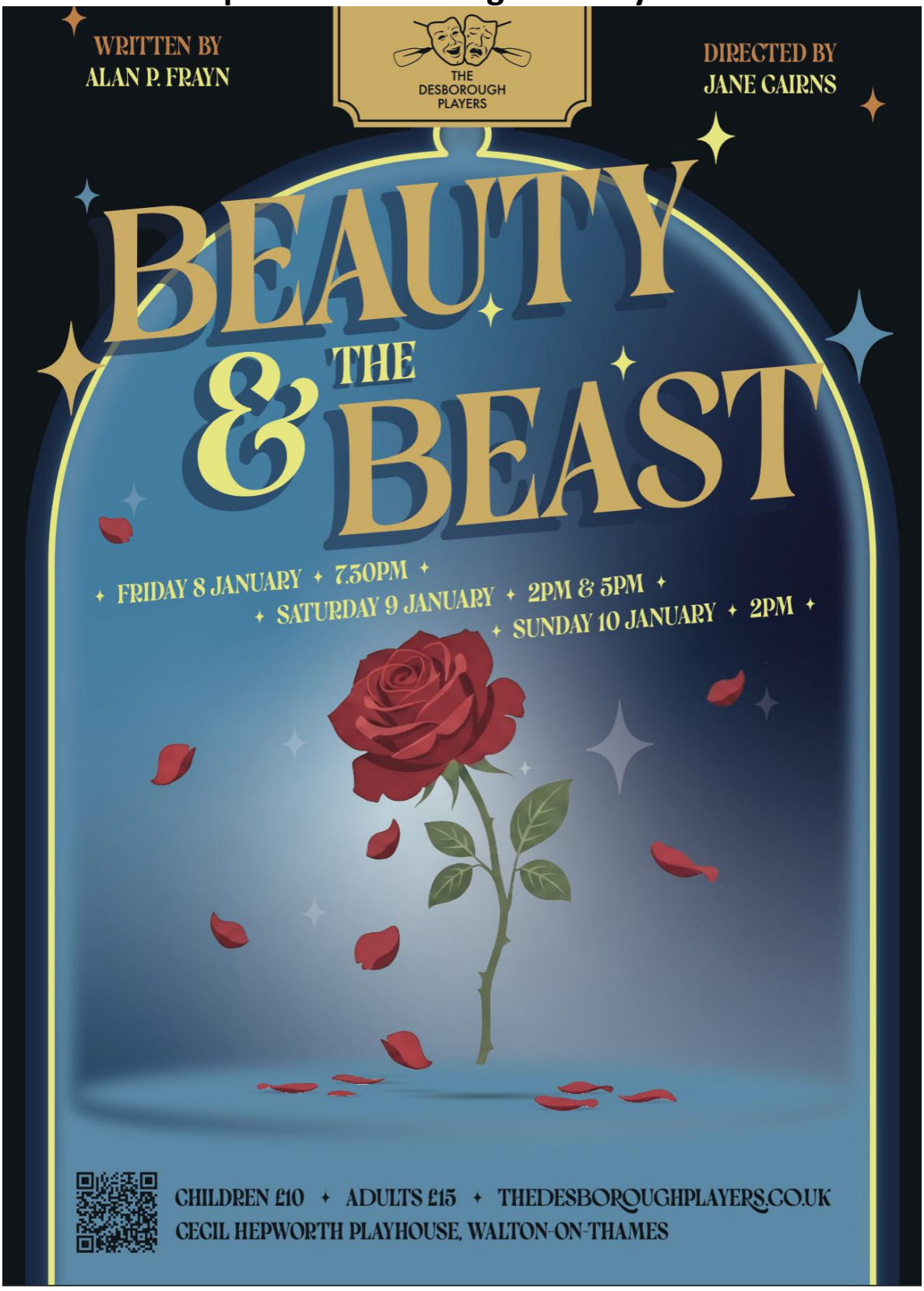
15 DEC

Christmas Plays

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

Our very own Mrs Thornton is starring as Belle in this January's Desborough Players Pantomime. Book your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Click on the picture below to go directly to the website.





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

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.

4th November 2026
8th December 2026
7th January 2027

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