Orchard Manor School Newsletter July 2019



Dear Parents and Carers

The end of the last term of our first school year as Orchard Manor School has arrived far quicker than we all thought possible.

Looking back over the year, and what we have achieved, makes me extremely proud of the students and staff we have at our school.

Collectively we have embraced changes, overcome challenges and are moving from strength to strength, working together to develop our new school. We are all looking to the future with anticipation and enthusiasm.

Some of the highlights this year, to name just a few, have been our involvement with Ten Tors, the 27 different types of accreditation taken by our young people, the



Midsummer Festival 2019 Our amazing Midsummer Festival was filled with live music, classic

Results Day and Exam News

A massive 'Well Done' to all the pupils who took part in the Summer Exam Season!

Also congratulations to the pupils who have achieved accreditation with the introduction of the OCR Life & Living Skills qualifications.

development of our library, the development of our Youth Club, and the investment we have made in ICT with our Surface Go's.

stopping there however, as we have plans over the summer to relocate and improve our lower school dining space, develop and refurbish two classrooms and open our new Post 16 centre, all enabling us to increase our roll to 180 pupils from September.

success of our Horticulture and Forest School, developing the school grounds to create zones within our woodland for activities such as low ropes, den building, a zip slide and a "Mile a Day" walking and learning trail.

This term we have welcomed parents and carers to a number of

vinyl, smooth dance moves, home made cakes, sizzling burgers, fairground games, bargains galore, an amazing Grand Prize Draw and glorious Devon sunshine - a fantastic afternoon was had by all.

The PSFA, the pupils and the staff of our school would like to thank

It's been a big year for AQA Unit awards - I have claimed over 300 units. Keep up the good work! Jo Potts – Exams Co-ordinator



events, and it was great to see so many of you supporting our Sports Day, our Parents Evening and our annual fete.

Work on improving the school is not As I write, our Enrichment Week is in full swing and our young people are out experiencing new activities and interests. I am looking forward to hearing all about them at the end of the week.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all you, our parents and carers, our staff and of course our We will be continuing to build on the amazing children who make Orchard Manor School such a great place to live and learn together.

> We wish you a relaxing Summer break and we look forward to seeing you at the beginning of our Second Year as Orchard Manor School.

Mark Rose — Executive Principal

everyone for coming, making contributions and working so hard to make the day a huge success. Thank you! **Graham Tolliday - Chairman of the PSFA**

Thank you! You are Amazing! We raised £2,054!

Good Luck to all our Year 11's! See you in the **School Reception** on 22nd August between 11 and 12 o'clock to receive your results (uncollected results will be posted)

Orchard Manor School, John Nash Drive, Dawlish EX7 9SF

SENtient Trust Forest School Day



On the 5th June we hosted a Forest School day for the other schools in our SENtient Trust. We had 35 pupils visiting from various schools all over Devon to experience a carousel of woodland activities for the day.

There were five stations run by five different forest school practitioners offering

activities including fire lighting, den building, wood work and crafts. The pupils spent 40 minutes at each station, creating lots of great items to take away with them.

We were blessed with good weather so we enjoyed our lunch out on the grass. The pupils all made new friends and shared some really positive experiences.

Each school was given a Rowan tree to take back to their schools to plant.

This was the first SENtient Forest School day that we have hosted but I am sure it will not be our last.



James Houghton—Forest School

Rural Skills Update

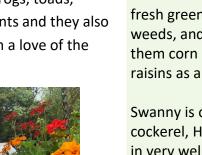
We have had a really full term and the crops we planted earlier are growing well. Our crops this year include: Potatoes, Turnips, Carrots, Tomatoes, Rocket, Herbs, Beans and Sweetcorn. We have spent a lot of time tending the allotment, our raised beds, the plants in the poly-tunnel and our new secret garden and everything is coming along nicely.

We have sown lots of wild flowers for the butterflies and bees like poppies, cornflowers, larkspur, daisies and marigolds.

Our bird population is thriving with thrushes, jays, wrens, magpies, owls and gulls, and our mini beasts are doing extremely well in this lovely sunshine. We have all kinds of insects plus frogs, toads, newts. The children really enjoy the mini-beast hunts and they also take part in Naturewatch activities which give them a love of the nature around us. Its been a great year.



Johnston—Rural Skills



in very well and is even after such a short time. He believes he is brave and beautiful, and he has started crowing every morning.

Catherine Johnston — Rural Skills

Fresh Eggs from our 6 New Hens!

We introduced 6 Brown Lohmann Hens



after Easter. They lay one egg each, every day.

They are now tame, and are handled regularly by the

children. They eat a diet of mash, pellets, fresh greens and weeds, and we give them corn and raisins as a treat.

Swanny is our rescue cockerel, He has fitted looking much better

Library News



Our Library Monitors have been busy this half term. They have been listening to the younger children read, sharing great books and enjoying the library on Upper Site.

They have really impressed their teachers Nik and Gemma with how

they have modelled good reading and helped the younger pupils to find books that help to develop their love of reading. Keep it up guys! Well done!

Berlin and Barry and Berlin and Ber



Kia Ora from Aotearoa! or Hello from the Land of the Long White Cloud (aka New Zealand)

Earlier this term, Pine class enjoyed working on a project about Maori culture.

We found out the history of the Maori people and made Maori warriors and mask.



Niki Phillips and Gemma Culverhouse Chave—Teachers

We tried a few Maori dances but they were very tricky but we did have a good try at doing the Haka!



There is a lovely Maori story about how the Kiwi lost his wings and how brave he was. We acted out the story and made model Kiwis. They are fabulous! Haere Ra! (Goodbye!) Janet Haley—Pine Class

Pirate Day!



Captain Jack Sparrow and his crew came to OMS and spent time teaching sword -fighting, answering a Pirate Q&A

session, dabbling in art, showing us pirate doubloons and just generally having a swashbuckling time. We hope he comes





The Joanna Besley Cup



Congratulations to Freddie who received the trophy for the most overall progress over this academic year in Lower School.

The trophy was donated by Joanna's family and presented by her sister Caroline Phillips.

Joanna was a resident here many years ago and her family wanted to show gratitude to the school for making her so happy whilst she was here.

Well done to you Freddie! You deserve it!

Orchard Manor School, John Nash Drive, Dawlish EX7 9SF

Summer Sports News 2019

It's been another busy Term and finally the sunshine has appeared which is always nice for outdoor PE activities.



Both schools have enjoyed Exeter City Football coaching and the Lower School site has had golf sessions with Andy Fox from Bovey Tracey Golf Club providing expert tuition. Pupils have worked hard in these sessions and shown really good skills.

We also had teams from both sites entered in the Special Schools Cricket Festival which was held at Bovey Tracey Cricket Club.



Both schools had glorious sunshine for their Sports Day events.

Upper Site pupils enjoyed a range of athletic activities with pupils winning medals for good sporting behaviour and trying really hard, as well as athletic ability.

Pupils from the Upper Site were

entered into a more competitive tournament style event. Pupils from the Lower School site enjoyed more of a skills based activity day



On the Lower Site we enjoyed the usual range of activities including sprint races, standing long jump, turbo javelin and a variety of games on the playground and in the hall.

Well done to all who took part. I am really pleased to report that all pupils thoroughly enjoyed the day.





Bracken Bashing A group of children visited Ideford Common to participate in some conservation of a historic bronze age settlement.

The pupils were tasked with bashing the bracken, which is an invasive plant, to clear a way for other plants to grow.

Whilst on the common we saw many different species of wild flowers and found some edible bilberries that were delicious. This activity was part of the conservation of this heathland which is the largest that Teignbridge Park Rangers manage.



The pupils worked extremely hard in the hot weather and were thanked hugely by Jon the Heathland Manager. James Houghton—Forest School

Tree Bumble Bees (Bombus Hypnorum)

Our big compost machine was luckily chosen as a nest for Tree Bumble Bees. Tree bumble bees have only lived in this country for 18 years, and they usually nest in bird boxes, roof spaces and holes in trees. They don't like their nest being moved and even vibrations can upset them, so we to



temporarily fenced off the area to protect the bees nest and to ensure that nobody was stung. The fence will be removed later on in the summer when the bees have left this nest.



If you want to find out some more about Bumble Bees please click on the Bumblebee Conservation Trust logo.

Catherine Johnson— Horticultural Specialist

Volunteering at Dawlish Countryside Park



Pupils from Chestnut class and Post 16 have been working with Teignbridge Council at the Dawlish Countryside Park. The pupils have been erecting wooden structures to surround newly planted apple trees. The local population of Roe Deer enjoy eating the shoots so these wooden structures will keep them out.

The pupils learnt how to use various tools including a post rammer, saws, hammers and spirit levels. The orchard currently has 75 trees but this will increase to 250 eventually.



There are a variety of cooking apples and cider apples being grown which will benefit a large number of other species. The apple trees are particularly good for bees.

The rangers were very thankful for the work that the pupils had put in.

James Houghton — Forest School



Fun Fact There are over 7,500 varieties of apple trees throughout the world!





Tree Bumble Bee Facts

The common bumblebees can be identified from the colour patterns (banding) of their fur. The Tree Bumblebee is unique amongst the UK species. The thorax is tawny to reddish brown, the abdomen is black and tail is white. Queens, workers and males (drones) all have a similar colour pattern. Drones are chunky, about twice the size of a honey bee, have blunter ends to their abdomens and longer antennae. Fresh drones have a patch of yellowish facial fur, but this wears off with time. As is normal in bumblebees, queens, workers and drones can all vary significantly in body size.

Roe Deer Facts

The Roe is one of the truly native deer of the British Isles. They vary in coat colour throughout the year, being most distinguishable in the summer when their coats are bright rusty red. In winter, their coats turn a dull, slate grey colour. Both sexes of Roe deer make dog-like barking noises when startled or alarmed. They are dainty creatures and leave small hoof prints (slots) about 4cm long in soft ground.



Double Spread Photo from the Teignmouth News Wednesday July 3



Grand day out for kids from Orchard Manor

CHILDEEN from Orchard Manor School in Dawlish were the special guests at a Teignmenth Rostery Cheh weak hold at Undy's Mis in Dwitch Warres. "Mich Ord' is a national event organized and set up by Rost Witch Teignmenth Rostery Children and Hein Bitrivida school and the second school and the second school and weak and the first year is strated. "The school has been remaining for 23 years, and we have use in solved states the first year is strated. "The school and the children hold a fabric strate and the school of the school and the school of the As wal an entry has been true the children endpoyed a there and singing and dancing from the believe park's entertainscent team. The school of the school of the school of the school of the Kitt O et ergenisation which provides entertainment and food on the second Wedenschool of the school occule of the school of the school of the school of the school occule of the school of the school of the school of the school occule of the school occule of the school of the school occule of the school

hanch.' Helen added: 'Thanks to the fabulous job done by Lady Mile, the day was a great success!'



-Rotary Club Members and children from Dawlish and Teignmouth have fun at Lady's Mile.

(Taken from Teignmouth News Wednesday, July 3, 2019)

CHILDREN from Orchard manor School in Dawlish were the special guests at a Teignmouth Rotary Club event held at Lady's Mile in Dawlish Warren.

"Kids Out" is a national event organized and set up by Rotary UK. Teignmouth Rotary Club spokesman Helen Birtwistle said: "The scheme has been running for 29 years, and we have been involved since the first year it started.

"This was the first time we held it at Lady's Mile. The staff were fantastic and the children had a fabulous time." As well as freshly-baked pizzas the children enjoyed a disco and singing and dancing from the holiday park's entertainments team. Helen said: Funding came from Teignmouth Council and the Kids Out organization which provides entertainment and food on the second Wednesday of every June to children with special needs and disabilities. This year more than 250,000 children across the country were involved.

"Seventy children from Orchard Manor School in Dawlish were invited to the event and we also invited a small number of primary school students from Our Lady and St Patrick's primary school to join them for a couple of hours after lunch" Helen added: Thanks to the fabulous job done by Lady's Mile, the day was a great success"

May Day Bank Holiday to Celebrate 75 Year Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day

Remember the date in your diaries:

The early **May bank holiday in 2020 will move from Monday 4 May to Friday 8 May** to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day to enable people to pay tribute to those who served in one of the most significant events in our country's history.



Orchard Manor School, John Nash Drive, Dawlish EX7 9SF





















Impact Week Camping Trip Here are a small selection of photos from our fantastic week at Roadford Lake in Lifton.

The students very much enjoyed the fishing and the surfing lessons that we had in Newquay on the Thursday, as well as spending time in, on or around

the lake on various craft. It was great to see so many staff and pupils forming great memories from the week, even if this involved a little sea sickness!

I would like to mention the staff involved, these being Cathy, James, Janice, Emma, John and Jude, all who gave up a week of their time as well as countless hours organizing, in order for this residential to take place, it was a great team effort and everyone had an amazing time.

Danny Turner—Outdoor Education



Purple Class Snails



Purple Class did an amazing job over this last half term hatching over 120 baby snails to raise and release back into the wild.

They are California Snails (our brown common British snail) and White Lipped Banded snails (our green banded snail) all indigenous to Orchard Manor!



The guys learnt about how baby snails need calcium to grow their shells and the best place to find that is crushed eggshells. They learned about hermaphrodites (as snails can change sex if they feel the need to reproduce), how to keep the eggs insulated, and how to nurture the baby snails.

As you can tell by the amount of offspring produced our adult snails Coco and Gary thoroughly enjoyed being in Purple class and felt right at home in the habitat the class had made for them.

Purple class even attempted an experiment to see

which foodstuffs Coco and Garv liked the best. After trying Dandelion leaves, brambles, laurels, wild garlic, peppers, sweetcorn and lettuce, it turns out that their favourite was Cucumber.

Purple class also learnt to push their own boundaries and some pupils who did not want to get to close to the snails at the beginning of the term were assisting with feeding and cleaning of the habitat and holding the little snails. Amazing!

As there were so many babies a pupil suggested that we call one batch Luna and the rest Michelle in honour of their new Teaching Assistant.

Coco and Gary have gone into retirement now, but the Luna and Michelle Clans are roaming free in our little forest ready to teach our the next generation of young folk about nature.

Lyndsey Jackson—SaLT Assistant







Devon FA Football Tournament Winners 2019

7/8 football team who were the winners of this year's Devon FA Football tournament which took place in Newton Abbott at the

Devon FA football ground just before half term. It was a really special day out with the sun shining and the team ready to take on any competitors.

Orchard Manor had five games in their initial group round playing against Tiverton High School 1 and 2, Okehampton College 1 and 2 and Southbrook.

Congratulations must go to our Year Astoundingly the team won all five games keeping a 'clean Sheet' (no goals scored against us) and scored an unbelievable 19 goals in total. With spirits high and the excitement

building we went on to play Tiverton 1 in the final which we again won convincingly. A massive well done goes to all the team players.

Fran Fox—PE Teacher



Residential News

Gladstone House

We have had a busy half term in Gladstone doing lots exciting activities. We have been to the beach, paddled in the sea, celebrated birthdays, we have been out for meals and visited Kaspas for ice cream, we



have been on walks to parks, we have had BBQs and Pizza nights at home with other houses, we have been to the cinema, gone swimming, been bowling, cooked special dinners, made cakes, had DVD nights, been out shopping, played on the games machines, had water fights, we had a leaver and achievements party where we all got certificates, we played outside in the summer evenings, been looking after our flowers and hanging baskets and generally just having a fantastic time. Now

we are going home for a rest! We wish you all a fantastic summer and we are looking forward to seeing you in September for even more fun stuff!

Pam Matson—Senior Child Care Officer



Gala House

New sofas are in at Gala as we continue to make improvements to the house. Still Clip n Climbing! A favourite for many of our children. Stock car/ banger racing

at Smeatharpe was a smashing time! Chris Heard— Senior Child Care Officer

Jubilee House



We said goodbye and good luck to some of our residents who had completed their exams and we wish them the best of luck for the future.

We celebrated this and the achievements of all our young people with a party where everyone received an award. We then welcomed our newest house member who has settled in so well and loves jubilee and all the things we do in the evening.

We have enjoyed the sunshine and continue to get out and about, but the children especially enjoy going for an ice cream.

We hope you have a lovely summer break and we look forward to hearing about your holiday.

Helen Stone—Senior Child Care Officer

Residential Staffing Update

Pam, the Team Leader in Gladstone house has decided to step down to the role of Senior Care Officer. I know Pam has not taken this decision lightly and I would like to express my gratitude to her for her dedication to the care team.

Pam has been instrumental in getting Gladstone to the excellent provision that it is today. Pam has also gone above and beyond for the young people in her care.

Parents have always been full of praise for Pam's support not only in

Orchard Manor but her positive impact on the young peoples lives outside of school. Whilst I will miss Pam's input as a team leader, I am very happy that she will remain as a valuable member of the care team.

After a rigorous recruitment process, a strong selection of candidates and much deliberating, I am very pleased to announce that Sam Poole has been chosen as our new Senior Care Officer in Gladstone.

Thank you again Pam and congratulations to you Sam. James Watson—Head of Care

Spartan House

This term we have said goodbye and good luck to three of our year 11s, all of whom will go onto further education placements.

Over half of the house have just had an amazing week camping for Impact week and this has ended a term full of activities, including mountain biking, fishing, swimming, cinema trips and meals out.

We hope you all have a great summer and come back recharged. *Tom Davis—Senior Child Care Officer*

Orchard Manor School Achieves Wellbeing Award



Orchard Manor School's Wellbeing Team receiving the 'You Inspire' award from Karen Coburn from Early help for Mental Health (EH4MH)

Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing is a very high priority for the pupils and staff at Orchard Manor School. Pupils are encouraged to look after their own and other's mental health using the 10-a-day strategy and activities developed by Devon's Early Help for Mental Health (EH4MH) team.

Wellbeing, life skills and preparing for adulthood are all intrinsic parts of the Orchard Manor curriculum, with timetabled lessons, activities, visitors and trips offsite



The One Minute Guide to Sexting: What is 'Sexting'?

'Sexting' is when someone shares sexual, naked or semi-naked images or

videos of themselves or others. It is often described as the new flirting for children – but it is illegal for anyone under the age of 18.

How is Sexting passed on?

These images can be sent using mobiles, tablets, smartphones, laptops, and any device that allows someone to share electronic media and messages. Photos and videos can be shared as text messages, emails, posted on social media or increasingly via mobile messaging apps, such as Snapchat, WhatsApp or Facebook Messenger.

Is it illegal?

Sexting can be seen as harmless but creating or sharing explicit images of a child is illegal, even if the person doing it is a child.

Did you know a young person is breaking the law if they:

all part of developing each individual pupil and increasing their ability to become independent, confident and happy young people.



Staff and pupils work together to set up and engage in a range of fun activities during 'wellbeing days' where the understanding of mental health is promoted, alongside different ways to increase positive mental health and wellbeing and ways to minimise negative thoughts and actions.

Orchard Manor enjoys large beautiful grounds, with woodland, forest school and horticulture area's which provide some ideal areas for outside learning and developing positive wellbeing. Staff work very hard to promote positive mental health and wellbeing at Orchard Manor, with a team of staff that contribute to curriculum development and wellbeing days and always find ways to include pupils and staff together, to mutually develop wellbeing.

The school is immensely proud to have received the 'you inspire' award from EH4MH in recognition of the school's commitment to mental health and wellbeing development and for the great range of activities, initiatives and attitude to supporting pupils and staff. Bryan Webster—Assistant Principal and DSL (Mental Health and Wellbeing)

- take an explicit photo or video of themselves or a friend
- share an explicit image or video of a child, even if it's shared between children of the same age
- possess, download or store an explicit image or video of a child, even if the child gave their permission for it to be created.

What can Parents do?

Be informed about what is going on and how you can help. There is lots of information on line to help parents deal with this issue - but here are some useful links:

A Parent's Guide to Dealing with Sexting

Advice from the NCPCC on <u>Sexting</u>—How to talk to children about the risks of texting and what you can do to protect them.

Advice for children on Sexting from Childline.org: What is Sexting?

Information from Stomp Out Bullying—<u>Sexting</u> The NSPCC is working with O2 and you can book an Online Safety session with O2 for free. <u>Find out more by clicking</u> <u>here</u> . James Watson — Safeguarding Lead

Orchard Manor School, John Nash Drive, Dawlish EX7 9SF

Queen Geraldine and her Entourage at the OMS Hive

Since the last report a lot of exciting things have happened in the school apiary.

At the end of April, Queen Geraldine was visited and inspected to check for disease and to look at her general well-being. She was passed as free from disease although she was quite a young queen (only a year old), there were signs that she was thinking about swarming.

We marked the frames where possible queen cells were being made and, like all big decisions, went home to have a cup of tea and a ponder. This is good practice in beekeeping, as in life!

In May, we carried out a pre-emptive Once born, the virgin queen has a split, thus eliminating Queen Geraldine's swarming instinct. So, we home, then she flies off to a nearby now have two hives, their flight paths aligned in different directions.

The smaller one, with Queen Geraldine, had a few frames of honey, sealed worker brood and two blank brood frames for her bees to work on.

The old hive carried on with the job of creating a new queen.



All bee larvae are fed some royal jelly for the first few days after hatching but only queen larvae are fed the jelly exclusively.



As a result of the difference in diet, the queen will develop into a sexually mature female, unlike the worker bees. Queens are raised in specially constructed queen cells which are a lot larger than normal. As there were several possibilities, we chose the best looking queen cell and removed the others.

few days getting used to her new Drone Congregation Area (along with an escort of worker bees), where she mates with several drones from different hives, returns, and within three weeks should start to lay eggs. She does not leave the hive again unless it's the swarming season. A queens life span is approximately three years.

Over the next few weeks, we kept an eye on Queen Geraldine in her new hive, making sure she had enough food. Honey frames from the parent colony were given to her, along with some fondant, in the "chill-out" space at the top of the hive. She

made use of this especially during the long, rainy spell of weather as bees don't fly in the rain!

We carried on

feeding Queen Geraldine as we won't be harvesting any honey from her



this year—she will need whatever she gathers to take her through the coming winter.

The bees in the parent colony, meanwhile, have been very busy and we have already taken off four sealed frames of honey ready for extraction in August. A super of "pulled-out" foundation has been added to Queen Geraldine on top of a Queen Excluder for her bees to work on.

On 1 July, Cathy Johnston and I carried out a full inspection on the parent colony going right down into the brood box. We saw larvae and lots of worker brood about to be born — proof that the old hive with Queen Harriet is up and running again! Hurray! The bees temperament was excellent, considering we were undoing their home!

All we need to do now is to carry on making sure Queen Geraldine has enough food to get her through the winter and that both her and Queen Harriet have access to clean water.

Here's to a good honey harvest from Queen Harriet in late August! Have a lovely summer!

Teresa Dudman – OMS Bee Keeper



Orchard Manor School, John Nash Drive, Dawlish EX7 9SF

Please note, although we pass on information, we are not associated with the





Food Poverty Support over the Summer Holidays

foodbank There are over 8.82 million pupils in schools in England. Roughly 1.4 million of these children are in

receipt of Free School Meals and millions more are living in poverty. What happens to these children during the long summer school holidays? Some may not receive enough food, or the nutrition they need to live healthily. Food high in fat, salt and sugar are often cheaper, but are detrimental to health. A poor diet over the holidays is likely to influence a child's learning, health and opportunities when they return to school.

Whilst the Government recognise this issue of 'Holiday Hunger' and the Department for Education has allocated £9.1 million to help to tackle the issue in some of the most deprived areas of England, there is currently no allocation for the Devon County Council footprint. Click here for a list of free or low-cost food providers in Devon which families can be signposted to for support over the summer

Brigade Clothing Ltd

BRIGRDE SUMMER ORDERING DEADLINES

Dear Parent, the deadline for ordering vour child's uniform for the new school year is fast approaching. We know from experience that these last few weeks can fly by.

We advise all parents to order as soon as possible. Please see our ordering deadline below:

SERVICE ORDER BY Direct to Parents > 7/8/19 > Before start of new term

FOR DELIVERY

THE

HAS

BEGUN!

COUNTDOWN

ORDER NOW

Important!

Please order as early as possible to allow sufficient time to reorder if required.

You may need to return an item if it doesn't fit...

Orchard Manor School, John Nash Drive, Dawlish EX7 9SF