

**To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.**

*"Hallowed Ground" by Thomas Campbell*

Hello! Its been a week of good things here in Orchard Manor - much like any other I hear you say! However, this week we are excited to say that we have chosen our **new prefects** for the year. After a rigorous application process, we have got the "crème de la crème" of the school. We have 9 new prefects. Each of them had to fill out an application form stating why they would be the perfect candidate for the position. Then they were asked to a formal interview with our governor - Mary May, our Deputy Head for Upper Campus Adele Thomas and me, Nicola. They dealt with our interview panel extremely well. After being chosen, they signed a contract stating expectations and promising to be positive role models around the whole school. They all showed maturity and responsibility - perfect attributes for these young people who will wear the Prefect badge with pride. Today we celebrated their achievement in assembly. We are so proud of them!



This week we were able to reflect on **Armistice Day** at school. During the week the Upper Campus has been learning about war, its consequences and the way we pay tribute to services and those who serve us today. Today we took time to think and reflect at 11am in the classrooms with a 2 minute silence. We had our Remembrance Assembly on Monday. In the remembrance assembly Molly was able to share how important it is to pay tribute to the animals who work alongside our servicemen and women. The symbol of animals lost in service and those who work with us today is a purple poppy which Molly has been wearing today.

Its **Anti-Bullying Week** next week. We will be learning about online bullying, keeping safe online and the theme will be [Reach Out](#). We will also be issuing merits for support, kindness and anti-bullying actions. At the end of the week we will have a raffle with (new!) odd socks and we will be giving out three prizes to students nominated by staff as being anti-bullying ambassadors over the week.

Our **Children in Need** fundraising will be taking place on Friday 18th. We will be encouraging pupils to wear odd socks ALL WEEK continuing with our anti-bullying theme. We will have Pudsy Ears, Rubiks Cubes (both £2) and wristbands (£1) for sale on Friday, so please send in money if your child would like to buy anything or donate to the charity.

There have been lots of **sporting events** over the last two weeks where OMS has been totally fantastic - our young people have been involved in football and sports tournaments all over Devon. All feedback has been extremely positive about the behaviour of our young people which, although expected, is just lovely to hear. You can catch up with everything on our [Social Media](#) pages

Christmas is always an important time of year, and we are putting together a list of **important dates** in the run up to the big day - lots of lovely activities will be going on including classroom decorating and of course our Christmas Lunch. Look out for that soon.

Other news: Our Interim Designated Safeguarding Lead is [Rachel Addison](#), previously our Deputy DSL, who will be in this position until our new Head of Care and Safeguarding lead, Esther Craddock joins us at the end of January. We wish her well in her new role.

Finally, We have our first exam of this academic year taking place on 22 November for Functional Skills Maths. Good luck to everyone taking it! Have a good weekend. **Nicola Jones, Headteacher**