



Orchard Manor School News

The Apple Press Orchard Manor School Updates and Communications

22 November 2024



"You are never too old to play in the leaves"

Unknown

Hello Everyone!

First of all, thank you for all your cooperation when we had to close the school due to adverse weather conditions. It was a difficult decision to make, but we went with closing because a lot of our children and staff live a long way from school and there were reports of heavy snow across the county. Thankfully we are open as usual today and there is bright sunshine! What a difference a day makes!



Once again we have had a busy two weeks. I am very proud of our School Council for deciding to fundraise for the Devon Air Ambulance. They will be hosting a weekly "healthy" tuckshop every Friday— so don't forget to send in pocket money with your children at the end of the week! Our Student Council is composed of elected representatives from each class who meet regularly, guided by staff members, and they discuss ideas, solve issues, and bring forward questions and suggestions from their peers. They are a fantastic group of youngsters and they are helping to improve all aspects of school life.

The PE team have also been very busy and have held two Inclusion Festival for other schools here at OMS. We had a number of other special schools and children with SEN from mainstream schools who joined in with pupils from Yellow, Red, Purple and Teal Class. First of all our sports leaders did some extra preparation and training and then they delivered activities to the children. All of them did extremely well and should be very proud of what they achieved. Daisey said: "The event was really exciting, seeing everyone take part in the activities and seeing everyone happy and enjoying it very much. This is my first time, and I was quite nervous, but when you've done it a couple of times it's actually quite exciting." The PE team's commitment to inclusive PE is creating a lasting impact — for educators, students, and the wider community — establishing a model that can inspire inclusive practice amongst the county. True Ambassadors for Sport and OMS! [Orchard Manor School - Orchard Manor School's Inclusion Festivals](#)

You may have seen on Devon Live that Sam Hill our Assistant Head gave an interview a few weeks ago. She is spearheading a petition to parliament to change the way non verbal children are assessed in the curriculum. We are incredibly proud of her—if you would like to support the cause [Please click here to sign the petition.](#) and share it too! And if you missed the interview, [please click here!](#)



Every year we send out three surveys— one a term—which are sent out in the Autumn term to Parents, then Staff and then to our Pupils in the Summer term. You should have already received a link to this year's Parent Survey in your inbox. Please take a little time to give your opinion - we use the results to try to make our school even better and it is a good for us to find out and compare what you think year on year. The results will be shared with you once they have been analysed.

Some of you may have been waiting for updates from our students who went to Gran Canaria with the Turin Project. We have been inundated with photos which will be shared with you on social media soon. Looks like they have been having a fantastic time and have fully immersed themselves in the experience.

On the 6th of December we will have our Christmas Cracker Craft Market and Concert. It is one of our biggest fundraisers and is run by the PFSA. We are still looking for stallholders, if you would like to have a table please contact us! We have also had confirmation that the fabulous local band [The Crazy Foot Tappers](#) will be playing for us on the night!

Finally our Assistant Heads Sam Hill and Pete Smith will be trading places for the next few months in an exciting Continuous Professional Development (CPD) opportunity. Sam will be based on the Upper Campus and Pete on the Lower. Both are excited about working with different students and age groups and are looking forward to new experiences.

Right, I think that's it! All that's left to say is have a great week everyone! *Nicola Jones, Headteacher*