



Orchard Manor School News

The Apple Press Orchard Manor School Updates and Communications

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“The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.” Dolly Parton

Hello Everyone!

I hope this finds everyone dry and warm after this extraordinary weather we have been having over the last few months - floods, snow, hail and wind from Storms Ashleigh, Bert, Connal, Darragh and most recently Éowyn. Did you know that in the UK, a storm is only named when it has the potential to cause disruption or damage which could result in an amber or red warning? We seem to have had months of it— But we are loving the Spring sunshine which has come out today! Long may it last!

Whilst it has been raining outside, we have all been enjoying being in school. As usual there have been lots of things happening here:.

Firstly, can I say, we are extremely proud of our Year 10s and 11s who took part in a Swimathon in aid of the RNLI last Friday. Their initial target of £100 was smashed and they are still pulling in donations and have reached £275 to date ([if you would like to donate, please click here](#)) On the day they swam 400 lengths of the pool—that is a massive 10 Kilometres! What a superb effort! Well done all!



There have been Sports SEND festivals which our youngsters have enjoyed over the past couple of weeks, hosted by other schools and run by Dartmoor SSP, and we have had extremely good feedback as to our students behaviour and sporting spirit. Well done to our OMS Teams.



Talking of more sport, we are super proud of 10HD who won GOLD in the Devon County Boccia Finals against lots of other local secondary schools! They are now the County Champions! Amazing! Well done everyone!



The PE Department also organised a visit from [Jays Aim](#) who taught our Year 9s how to do the lifesaving manoeuvre CPR. They were taught in various workshops which were very practical and hands on. The students really engaged with the activities and certainly learnt a lot about CPR training on the day. Well done everyone! A very useful thing to know!

The [Year 11 exam timetable](#) has just been published on our website. We are sending out an information booklet and a personalised timetable to each of our students involved. There are a few other important dates before half term which you may want to put in your diaries:

Cake Sale by the School Council in aid of the Devon Air Ambulance—Breaktime on **Thursday 6 February** - if you would like to donate cakes, it is essential that there are **NO NUTS PLEASE!** And, if they are homemade, please let us know the ingredients. Thank you!

Parents Evening will be on **1 April between 4:30pm and 6:30pm**. You will be advised when the bookings open to make appointments.

Coffee Morning with Paige our new Family Liaison Officer will be held on **6 February at 10am**—everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you! This will be a monthly fixture, so come and have a chat, coffee and meet other parents.



Finally, we are noticing that some of our children are coming to school in non-uniform clothes and shoes. We do expect all children to be in school uniform. [Please have a look here if you are unsure as to what this is for your child.](#) Thank you for your support in this.

I hope you all have another fantastic week and enjoy the weekend. **Nicola Jones, Headteacher**