



Orchard Manor School News

# The Apple Press Orchard Manor School Updates and Communications



14 February 2025

***“Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive.” —Dalai Lama***

Hello Everyone and Happy Valentine’s Day!

This Valentine Friday has been the end of a great week here. We started off this morning with an assembly where we gave out certificates for being brilliant at Maths and English, being super well behaved, for showing our values throughout the term— Respect and Relationships, Kindness and Community, and Health and Happiness. We also had the presentation of a HUGE cheque to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) after the amazing fundraising swim that the Year 10s and 11s took part in. They swam 10 Km between them—that’s 400 lengths of the swimming pool at Lady’s Mile. I am extremely proud to say that they raised a superb £800 for this fantastic cause. What an achievement!



Other fundraising efforts this half term saw the School Council making an amazing £165.25 for the Devon Air Ambulance with their Upper and Lower Campus cake sales— A big thanks to the parents who donated cakes— and well done to the School Council for organising it all. Everyone did a fantastic job!



Councillor Martin Wrigley, MP for Newton Abbot and member of the Liberal Democrats party, visited our school yesterday to meet me, Samantha Hill (Assistant Headteacher) and Josie Parkin (Speech and Language Therapist). We had a very interesting time talking about how we support pre-verbal children within the curriculum and how we are campaigning for the phonics screening, and the KS1/2 curriculum, to be adapted to meet the communication needs of non-verbal children. Cllr Wrigley has pledged to support SEND education which is great news.

If you are interested in signing the petition set up by Samantha Hill to change the KS1/2 Curriculum for non-verbal children, please click the link here: [Adapt EYFS and KS1 Literacy Curriculums to be inclusive for Non-Verbal children - Petitions](#)

I hope you all have fantastic week off for half term and we will see you back on TUESDAY 25 February at 9:10am! **Nicola Jones, Headteacher**

**REMINDER!**  
**HALF TERM**  
starts this Friday at  
school pick-up!  
**BACK TO SCHOOL**  
**TUESDAY 25**  
**February!!!**