



Orchard Manor School News

The Apple Press Orchard Manor School Updates and Communications



14 November 2025

*The sun did not shine. It was too wet to play.
So we sat in the house. All that cold, cold wet day. Dr Seuss*

Hello Everyone!

As we are all probably feeling a bit damp in the middle of the amber weather warning from the Met Office, I just wanted to let you know that we are all very warm and dry in school! As usual we have had a very busy two weeks since we have been back from the half term holiday - lots of things have been going on, but first of all can I just say how incredibly proud I am of our students who came to school in their scout and army cadet uniforms, who took part in Remembrance Parades over the weekend, and of all those who took part in the minute's silence we had in school on 11 November— Remembrance Day. It was very moving to see all heads bowed at 11am, all of our students showing respect for the lives lost during the conflicts in the past. To make this moment, even more special, the lower site classes had prepared a beautiful backdrop, creating one of the best Remembrance Day displays yet.

Another of our news items is our Year 10 Trip to London! The group left us on Tuesday to travel up by bus to "The Big City". They managed to pack in an extraordinary amount of sightseeing - AND see a football match AND go to the theatre. They stopped off at Stone Henge on the way, and stayed in a Scout hut in South London, using it as their base. They even managed to find an Exeter man in the Tower of London - He was a tour guide dressed as a monk! The photos from their trip so far have been uploaded to social media - and judging by the looks on the boys faces, although the trip has been a total success, I think the football may have been the top highlight!



Back to school news now, last Friday we hosted a collaborative Sports event, organised by Catherine, with Devon County Council aimed at children with physical disabilities. As always it was fantastic to see our Sports Leaders doing such a fantastic job making children from across the county feel so welcome, and helping them with the activities. We are still waiting for photographs from DCC but as soon as we have them, again we will post them all to social media with a more detailed account.

Finally, this is a reminder that on the 27th of November 9.30-12.30, we are holding a free online information session and workshop "Toileting for Children with Additional Needs", so if you are looking for advice or support around your child's bladder and bowel needs please sign up. Debbie Richards will be running the session. She is an experienced Bladder and Bowel Care Specialist Nursery nurse and she will be sharing practical tips, information and guidance. Click here to book <https://forms.office.com/e/uf1846VWUT> If you have any questions at all please give Paige a call or email: pbuckingham@orchard-manor.org and she will be happy to help you!

Last but not least I have to say a HUGE thank you to all of you, for your patience and support when we had to close the school for the day after the power cut (no, we didn't run out of 50ps!). It was a very hard decision to take, but we needed to ensure that our children were safe, so that's what ultimately forced our decision. I am extremely happy to say that the generator has now been returned to the electricity company, and we are reconnected to the mains!

Right, I think that's it! Have a great week everyone—and stay dry! *Nicola Jones, Headteacher*