



# ORCHARD NEWSLETTER

September 2017

## Welcome Back!

This is the first newsletter of session 2017-2018 at Orchard Primary School. All the staff at Orchard hope that despite the not very sunny weather you had a good summer. For those families with older children who are returning to the school this session it has been great to see them already settle back into school life and routines. Their confidence in the school is amazing to see.

All of our new families, it has been a pleasure to welcome you to Orchard, all of our induction visits were of benefit to the children as our youngest children in P1, L1/2 and L1/2/3 have settled well into school life and classroom experiences.

My first day back was just as busy as theirs as I was going round the school taking some first day selfies. I was spotted in the playground, every classbase, in corridors with staff and I even made breakfast club. All of these were shared on Twitter.

We have been delighted to welcome the new members of staff to our team. They have already become an active part of our team, working hard to deliver the best for all our children!

Mrs Bowden and Miss Gibb are our acting Principal Teachers of Equity. They will in partnership with me be delivering targeted support in literacy and numeracy as well as increasing our family learning opportunities. We will give you more information through the year as we strive to deliver excellence and equity in education.

*Jill Woodward*  
**Head Teacher**



Selfie Snaps !!

## Classes & Contact

This session we have 16 classes across our language and communication centre and the mainstream primary. To easily identify these the classes in language and communication we will identify with L and in the mainstream with a P. If you wish to speak to a teacher please pop a note into your child's diary or call the school and we can arrange a convenient time.

## Uniform Bank

We now have a reasonable number of clothes in our uniform bank. Its made up of polo shirts, sweatshirts, ties and some P7 blazers. All of these items are available at no cost to you. If you wish to browse come to the office and a member of staff will take you to our clothes rail and leave you to have a wee look. If you wish to donate items they will be gratefully received.

# Our Play Areas



In March the Parent Council and LCSC Parent Support Group unveiled their plans to develop the play areas across the school. This is a significant piece of work for the whole campus and with some ground works still being done to the new campus this means that parts will not be completed as quickly as others.

During the summer we were able to install the planned play equipment into the large playground, mostly used by mainstream classes. This was funded through a £10000 grant from awards for all and £3000 raised by the parent council.

The LCSC parent support group have also been hard at work securing substantial grants to complete the significant project in the area mostly used by LCSC. We have also received fantastic support from parents and partners in this fundraising. Parent council events will now also go towards this project until its complete.

Once these two play areas are completed we will begin fundraising for development of the nursery grounds. The school has also purchased additional seating for our courtyard area. Enabling even our largest classes to all do learning out there..

## Playground Plans

## Celebrating Success

This year we will have whole school assemblies on a Friday afternoon. These will be from 12.30 until approximately 1.15pm. Our assemblies will give us a chance to come together as a whole school and sing the Fischy Music songs we love, develop our school charter and celebrate learning successes of our children.

Staff will choose up to 2 children from their class each week who have excelled themselves that week in one of the four capacities of : successful learners, effective communicators, responsible citizens and confident individuals. This learning will be celebrated at assembly and on Twitter.

Mrs Woodward also likes to celebrate wider learning with the children. Please bring in certificates, trophies to school or share on Twitter.



## Home Learning

Our home learning at Orchard Primary takes different forms, all of these allow you to share some of the learning experience with your child, allows them extra practice on what we are doing in school and time to develop their wider learning and experiences of clubs, groups and family time.

In the homework diary every week there will be spelling/phonics words and some maths facts. These can be practiced in any form you like through the week. We have reading home learning every night and we ask that the children bring their book every day.

Every term you will be issued a Shared Learning sheet. This will give you information on the classes main learning experiences that term and some suggested activities you can do at home to further extend learning.

Children will also have access to Active Learn and Sumdog. We will be developing use of these online resources throughout the session. Lookout for login details in your child's diary.

Monthly you will be sent home our snapshot jotter. This will be used at least once a month for every area of the curriculum. It will show the teacher's assessments and will be evaluated by your child. When it comes home there will also be an evaluation sheet for you to complete and return with the jotter!



## Car Park

Both of the car parks in the campus are for use by parents and staff. We would ask that you make use of both the large and smaller car parks when collecting children.

The two front rows of spaces in the smaller car park are reserved for the taxis who pick up and drop off children in our language and communication support centre. Please do not park here at the start/end of the day.

We have two drop off areas, one leading up from the main doors and one wrapped round the smaller car park. Please use these as intended, drop off. These are not parking spaces!

Help us to keep our campus safe!!

# Breakfast Club & Lunches

The school continues its breakfast club this session. The service is open from 8am every day. Children come in through the main doors into the assembly hall. Mrs Chisholm is there every day and she supports children to get breakfast. She has a range of games and activities set up for children to do after their breakfast. Twice a week we have a sports coach coming in to work with the children. Breakfast costs 20p.

Every child was issued a lunch menu last term. I also post the weeks menu on Twitter and we ask that you discuss this with your child. If your child pays for their lunch they must have money on their card . All children will need money on their card for tuck. If cards come home accidentally please ensure these are returned to school.



## Literacy Learning

At Orchard Primary the main focus of our literacy comes from the North Lanarkshire Active Literacy approach. We are also developing other approaches to support and enhance this and will have more information through the session. Children start by using a Banded approach to reading. Where they will have a wide range of texts which progress in challenge and length of text. These books develop to children using novels and texts to develop their literacy skills. Once using the novels the children develop their comprehension and prediction skills to use the literacy strategies of summarising, metalinguistics, visualisation, prior knowledge, inference and main ideas. We always look to enhance the children's experience of texts by adding to the novels in the NL approach. This session we are doing this through the modelling block being done in classes using the novels. This allows children and staff to revisit the strategies and the approach the class will use this session. It also gives children the chance to work together. Developing and extending their own skills and knowledge.

We also use additional methods such as Rapid Reading and Rainbow reading to support children's learning .

## Stay & Learn

Our first Stay and Learn session of this year is on Wednesday 20th September. We would like to welcome you into the school to observe and engage with your child during their learning. Children will not be allowed to leave classes with you, however we are asking you to come into class with them and share the learning experience. Mrs Bowden will have on display rapid and rainbow reading for you to see these further as well as some of our core texts. Miss Gibb will have sumdog and active learn for you to try these resources. Parents of children in language and Communication support centre will be able to see children engaging in their morning programme of activities and experiences. In mainstream parents will be able to see children taking part in literacy activities.

You will be able to visit LSCS between 9.30-10.00am and mainstream between 9.15-10.15am. Mrs Bowden and Miss Gibb will have activities available from 9.15-10.15am and will be asking what parents in learning workshops/opportunities you would like this year.

## Class Charters

Every mainstream class is creating their own charter. These reflect the Rights of the child that they would like to focus on in their class and how they will work to respect these rights. In Language and Communication classes we have also had talks around rights and emotions to support the children's development.

The first task for our Rights Respecting pupil voice will be to collect and analyse the rights that every has chosen and create our Orchard Primary School Charter. Classes will be rewarded for respecting these rights in class and around the wider life of the school. More information to come soon! Or follow our group on Twitter @OPS\_RRSAjourney



## Dates & Events

***Below are dates that you will need for term three.***

Tuesday 5th Sept	Parent Council AGM 7-9pm
Wednesday 6th Sept	JRSO going on initial course
Friday 8th Sept	Gospel Hall Assembly
Thursday 14th Sept	P7 begin work on Youth Music Initiative Project with NLC
Monday 18th Sept	Road Safety Roadshow P1-3 & Nursery
Wednesday 20th Sept	Stay and Learn Morning
Thursday 21st Sept	Football Festival
	Rights of the child Roadshow
<b>Friday 22nd &amp; Monday 25th Sept</b>	<b>Holiday Weekend School Closed</b>
Thursday 28th Sept	P4 at Sports Festival
Friday 29th Sept	Snapshot Jotters Home
	P4 & P5 Awful Aunty Performance
Friday 6th Oct	Gospel Hall Assembly
	Pupil Voice starts
Thursday 12th Oct	Football festival
	Harvest Service assembly hall 9.30am
<b>Friday 13th Oct</b>	<b>Schools closes at 3pm for Oct Week</b>
<b>Monday 23rd Oct</b>	<b>School reopens following holiday week</b>
Tuesday 24th Oct	Flu Immunisations
	Tree of Knowledge workshop P7
Friday 27th Oct	Parent Council Meeting 6.45pm
Week beg 30th Oct	Snapshot Jotters home
Thursday 2nd Nov	Bookfair in school
	School Photographs
	Parent's Night



# PE Days & Times

All children will be bringing home their first shared learning sheet this week. This will list their PE days and Times. If there are any changes to these there will be a note in the homework diary. See below for what children need on the pitches.

P1	Inside Wednesday	Outside Tuesday	L1/2	Inside Wednesday	Outside Tuesday
P2	Inside Wednesday	Outside Thursday	L1/2/3	Inside Wednesday	Outside Tuesday
P3	Inside Tuesday	Outside Thursday	L3/4	Inside Friday	Outside Monday
P4	Inside Thursday	Outside Monday	L3/4/5a	Inside Monday	Outside Wednesday
P5	Inside Monday	Outside Friday	L3/4/5b	Inside Friday	Outside Monday
P6	Inside Thursday	Outside Tuesday	L4/5a	Inside Friday	Outside Monday
P7	Inside Tuesday	Outside Friday	L4/5b	Inside Friday	Outside Wednesday
			L5/6/7a	Inside Wednesday	Outside Thursday
			L5/6/7b	Inside Monday	Outside Wednesday

## Pitches

