

Friday 9th
September 2022

Scotch Orchard Newsletter



Welcome back, Scotch Orchard!

A very warm welcome to you all at the start of our new academic year!

I am delighted to be back at the helm and feel very excited to be taking back the reins following my period of illness before the Summer. I am in great debt to my wonderful ATLP colleagues, Helen Hastilow and Suzie Norton, who stepped in to lead Scotch Orchard through that final, busy half-term of the year. Thank you both.

Also, special thanks to our very own Miss Sturch. Who, only days after her appointment as Assistant Headteacher, rose admirably to the challenges of the new situation. Dependable, driven and passionate about doing the very best for our Scotch Orchard children. Thank you, Mel.

We have a wonderful year ahead - exciting learning experiences including a full programme of educational visits to enhance your children's learning, coffee mornings and community assemblies to celebrate your child's achievements; alongside workshops and presentations to share school developments and new initiatives.

I am looking forward to welcoming you personally into school over the coming weeks.

Mrs J Bishop

Drop-off and collection

	<u>Reception</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Years 1 & 2</u>	<u>Years 3,4,5 & 6</u>
Drop-off	8.45am via EYFS Side Door	9:00am via EYFS Side Door	8.45am via Top Playground	8.45am via Top Playground
Collection	3.15pm via EYFS Side Door	3:00pm via EYFS Side Door	3.15pm via Top Playground	3.20pm via Top Playground

Thank you for your co-operation during the first few days with our new drop-off and collection arrangements. Please can I remind you that you are welcome to bring your children up to the top playground in the morning to drop them off, rather than waiting by the gate.

Behaviour Policy & Parent Voice

We have launched a new behaviour policy with staff and students this week and are keen to share it with you. The new policy is built around emotion coaching which involves supporting children to help them to identify and develop their ability to reflect when difficulties arise. Staff assist children to reflect on their emotions, helping them identify their feelings and recognise the effects they have, not only on themselves, but also their peers. Wellbeing is at the core of this policy.

I will share the new policy with you next week, but in the meantime if you are keen to find out more and have the opportunity to have your say, why not register to join our new 'Parent Voice' team. Meeting every half term, it is a chance for the Leadership Team to share our vision and plans for the forthcoming year. We will share the developments we have planned and explain why we have chosen to do them. More importantly, however, **you** will be able to give your views, ask questions and help shape the future of Scotch Orchard for all children.

The first Parent Voice is scheduled for **9am on Tuesday 20th September**. If you have time to join our new and exciting team of parents, please register your interest using this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/SX8Duj8hAr>

Changes to school over the Summer holidays

As well as construction work, we have also had IT updates completed over the Summer holidays including new wifi and improved servers. Please continue to bear with us over the coming days as there appear to still be a few gremlins in the system! We are experiencing some issues that have affected our communication with you but the IT team are working hard behind the scenes and we aim to be fully restored next week.

Communication with school

As you may have read in our newsletter last academic year, we are no longer using the Class Dojo direct messaging system, although we will continue to use the platform for sharing whole school and class information. We prefer to meet you in person or speak with you directly so if you do need to contact your class teacher or a member of the Leadership Team, please ring or email the office to make arrangements by calling **01543 227400** or emailing: office@scotchorchard.staffs.sch.uk

Diary Dates

Parent Voice: Tuesday 20th September 9:00-10:00a.

Reception Reading & Phonics workshop: Monday 26th September 9:00-10:30am

Year 1 Reading & Phonics workshop: Monday 3rd October 9:00-10:30am

Year 2 Reading & Phonics workshop: Monday 10th October 9:00-10:30am

Reception Open Evening for parents: Tuesday 11th October

Reception Stay & Play (2023 intake): Friday 14th October and Monday 17th October 1-3:00pm

Harvest Week: Donations to be sent into school by Wednesday 19th October

Year 2 Parent Harvest Lunch & Assembly: Wednesday 19th October 12:30pm

Parents' Evenings: Thursday 20th October 4-6:30pm

INSET DAY: Friday 21st October

Half Term: Monday 24th—Friday 28th October

Children return to school: Monday 31st October

Parents' Evenings: Thursday 3rd November 4-6:30pm

Punctuality Reminder

Please note that children should arrive at school promptly, in time for an 8:55am start.

Reporting Absence

Parents are required to inform the school office by 8.45am if their child is absent by voicemail or email to: **01543227400 option 1** or **office@scotchorchard.staffs.sch.uk**

Polite Reminder

Please do not reverse onto residents' drives during drop-off and pick-up times or park on the yellow lines outside school. This causes congestion which is unsafe for the children walking to and from school. Thank you.

Food Allergies

We have some children in school who have severe allergies to anything that contains nuts. Therefore, we politely remind you and request that children do not bring food items into school that contain nuts (including any 'Nutella' based products).