

**Welcome Back!** I hope you all had a good summer break and are ready for this new academic year at Orchard. Orchard has seen a few changes over the summer break; the hall has been redesigned - with a new stage and lighting system, a new food technology room and better provision for our SENCo. We now have automatic car park gates to improve the safety and security for our children, parents and staff.

I would like to invite you all to an **Information Evening** on **Tuesday 20th September at 7pm**, where you will hear about the school's new vision, priorities for this year and have an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher for an introductory talk about the procedures, practicalities and curriculum. Due to space this is for parents only. I do hope to see you all there.



*Paul Sutton*



Tuesday 13th September will see the biggest ever global celebration of Roald Dahl's birthday! To celebrate this the children can come dressed up as one of their favourite Roald Dahl characters. During the day they will learn about Roald Dahl and his 'marvellous' stories. The Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity was set up to help to make life better for seriously ill children in the UK. We are asking for a £1 donation which will go towards making a difference. We hope the children really enjoy learning about the world's No.1's storyteller!

## Children coming into school

Please do not accompany your child into the school buildings in the mornings or afternoons. If you need to speak with a teacher, either arrange an appointment with the office or speak to them whilst they are outside of their classrooms. This is to safeguard our children - there should not be parents wondering around the school buildings without permission.

## School Meals Catering

All children in Reception and KS1 will have a free school meal funded via the government's Universal Infant Free School Meal programme. **KS2 payments for meals need to be made in advance** direct to Caterlink. They use their own online payment system which enables you to have email alerts when your lunchtime credit is running out or can you can send money into the school.



## Watford's Big Sports Day

One day, six hours, sports galore: football with Watford FC, tennis, athletics – even the sack race, BMXing, a climbing wall, exercise classes, and more. Come to Watford's Big Sports Day in The Parade on Saturday 10 September from 11am to 5pm to try something new, get fit and have lots of fun. More information at [www.watfordbigevents.co.uk](http://www.watfordbigevents.co.uk).

## Pupil Premium Funding

Your child may qualify for additional funding for the school if you are in receipt of certain benefits.

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, (providing you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit



The school office can help you with how to apply for this funding. Every penny helps!

## Parking

The 'single yellow line' on Gammons Lane outside of the main entrance is enforced between the hours of 8.30 - 9.30 and 2.30 - 3.30. Please **DO NOT** park on this line during these times as you may get a parking ticket and you would be hindering the safety of a school crossing patrol and children. If you have a blue disabled badge please display as usual. When parking please **DO NOT** block our neighbours driveways and always park considerately and appropriately.



## Moving On 2017 (or 2018)

Local secondary schools will be holding their annual open evenings / events throughout September and October. I recommend that if your child is in Year 5 or 6 you consider looking around all the secondary schools in the area. More information about secondary transfer can be found at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/admissions/links/infobooks/>