



**ORCHARD COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
*To Treasure Our Past and Invest in Our Future*

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Dear Parents

**Balmoral Show/ Assessments**

Just a reminder that our vitally important assessment period runs between **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**. We appreciate that this week clashes with the Balmoral Show. We fully recognise and respect the fact that we are located in the heart of a rural and farming community, so we have again adjusted our assessment time-table to ensure that families can still enjoy the opportunity of attending the show.

Teachers will ensure that all assessments take place before **12.10pm** each day on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday 17<sup>th</sup>**. This will allow anyone wanting to attend the show, to leave at lunchtime. Children who attend in the morning on these days will be given a full present mark. Children who are absent for longer than this **cannot** be given a full mark. Therefore, we would strongly urge you to ensure that your child is in school for the assessments and plan to visit the show on one of the afternoons/evenings. Please remember that the show now runs for four days, so it can also be visited on the Saturday.

Remember:

- This is a vitally important period for the children.
- If a child is absent during an assessment, it is impossible for a teacher to duplicate the level of preparation and support given on the planned assessment day.
- Any planned absence should be requested in writing to the class teacher.

**Best Kept School Award**

We have again entered the Best Kept School Awards and we are having judges coming to school on the **21st May**. Our Eco Committee have been busy planning various projects and will require some parental support. We are going to plan some 'working parties' for parent volunteers on **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday** of this week. Obviously it will not suit everyone but if you are available on either of these days for an hour or more we would very much appreciate your help.

We have a list of jobs that need done around the main school and nursery, please call into the office and you will be pointed in the right direction and shown the list of jobs needed done. We have picnic tables to build, sand and paint, flower beds to tidy, weeding, planting, general DIY and a tidy up around the school. If you have any **spare paint, varnish, paint brushes, polythene, painting sheets, flowers/plants, compost, manure, bark, planters**, bring them along and we will put them to good use. Come in your working clothes and bring any tools with you. We couldn't do this without you, your support is very much appreciated.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours faithfully

**J McMillan**

Principal