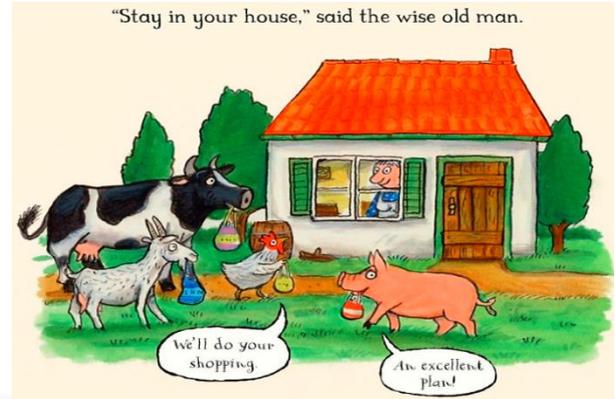


"All right," said the Gruffalo, bursting with laughter.
"You go ahead and I'll follow two metres after."



"Stay in your house," said the wise old man.

Welcome back to the Summer Term.

Even though we have only missed 15 days of schooling, it feels a lot longer because of the circumstances. As far as schooling is concerned, it may feel difficult to stay connected. Please look through our website to see photos and videos sent into us. Our favoured form of contact is through the MyEd app. This is monitored every week day and messages get passed and returned promptly. You can also use the e-mail address: office@chadsmead.staffs.sch.uk. to send photos, videos, messages and ask for help and support. We may not be able to solve all problems but we will try our very best. Staff love to hear from you. Remember they are also isolated away from others and having to find a new normal. We miss seeing you all every day!

Over the coming weeks, children will be spending more time online to play, create, learn and connect. So it is important to know how to keep them safe. I would like to signpost you to Net Aware. It provides you with simple, practical advice.

From the latest viral apps, like Houseparty, Zoom and Netflix Party, to the popular mainstays like TikTok and Snapchat, Net Aware have got helpful tips for you.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

If staff are not in school, they are working remotely from home. Whilst this includes setting tasks for home learning and making videos for the website, in the main it centres around keeping Chadsmead at the forefront of educational changes in order to provide the best educational experience for our pupils. Over the coming weeks we will share with you some of things we have been working on. This week we will start with changes to the curriculum, with Mr Budge.

An Amazing Curriculum

The job of a teacher extends way beyond actual classroom teaching. One thing we have all been working on both before the closure of schools and since, is the redesigning of our school curriculum.

For many years' schools across the country have focused greatly on the 'core subjects' of reading, writing and maths. These have been prioritised for obvious reasons and schools have been 'judged' for many years on how they achieve in these subjects; Early Years Good Level of Development, Year 1 Phonics screening test, SATs in Years 2 and 6 are all used as key indicators for a school's performance.

Ofsted issued a new Inspection framework in September 2019 which directed schools to give more priority to other subjects in the curriculum as well as just reading, writing and maths. This is something teachers have felt important for a long time!

Here at Chadsmead, we have always recognised the importance of the wider curriculum and given time and careful thought into what is involved in each theme we teach. Each theme has received or IS receiving a complete overhaul as teachers spend huge amounts of time carefully mapping every single lesson that is taught.

The subjects we are focussing on are:

Science, Geography, History, Art, DT, RE, PE, Music, Modern Foreign Languages (French), PSHE. Each subject is specified in the National Curriculum with lots of different sections for each Year group.

Updating our curriculum is a huge task but one we are extremely confident will be better than ever when we return to school!