



Newsletter Friday 10th July 2020



We would like to introduce our new caretaker to you all. Mr Farmer (pictured above) started with us on Monday 6th July and he has got straight on with the preparations for the new year – even the rain hasn't deterred him. If you see him around school, please do say hello.

Last week we had some very special wall art installed in our school. The first is a map of Lichfield (pictured). Children can find our school and other important places in our community. The next is a timeline that spans the whole of the corridor leading up to Yellow Wing (Birch class) along 2 walls. The timeline covers all periods of history from pre-historic to present day. We have included all the history themes we teach throughout a child's time at Chadsmead, and it is intended that all the children regularly use this as a resource in their learning. It is fascinating to look at and we often find ourselves spending quite a while in the corridor, noticing new bits of information each time. A picture would not do this justice, so we look forward to all children having a good look in the new academic year.

Academic Year 2020/21

On Monday 13th July you will receive a letter detailing your child's class teacher next year. Although it is not possible to hold face to face transitions for the pupils, due to current guidelines, all teachers have prepared a short video message for you. You will find these videos from Monday on our school website under the 'Our School' tab, 'Academic Year 2020 – 2021'. Alongside these videos each phase has a 'getting to know you' activity to complete in the summer and bring back to school in the new year. This is also available on the website. Should you need a printed copy of this, please get in touch before Thursday 16th July.



Summer Food Vouchers

The Government's recent decision to launch a 'Covid Summer Food Fund' will mean that our families who are currently eligible for free school meals will receive food vouchers worth £15 per week per child over the summer holidays. This will replace the weekly hampers currently being provided. If you think you might be eligible, please make contact – your circumstances may have changed recently, and you may qualify. Please make contact before the end of the year.

Attendance – September 2020

As of September, the usual rules on school attendance will apply. It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, well-being and wider development. Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. **School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the Autumn term.**

Early Years

In Early Years this week, we have done LOTS of exercise! As this week would have been sports day, we have all completed different sports day activities such as the egg and spoon race and the agility race. The children were all excellent sports and cheered each other on throughout each activity. We've also enjoyed learning new dances by joining in with videos by 'Jumpstart Jonny'. The children have really enjoyed this - they have so much energy! Mrs Mullen also introduced us to lots of different animals using the Google Augmented Reality (AR) tool. It looked like the animals were actually in our classroom! It was so exciting! We had our photos taken with a leopard, brown bear and even a lion.

Years 1 & 2

Apple bubble have been writing poetry this week. We wrote poems about a rainbow, using similes to describe the colours as well as adding adjectives for extra information. We have been halving and doubling in maths, and practising our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. This regular practise is really helping us recall our times tables facts. During the afternoons we have played some memory and listening games - some of us were surprised at how tricky these skills can be! We also followed some step-by-step instructions on how to draw animals; elephants, fishes and bumble bees.

Years 1, 2, 3 & 4

This week in Elm bubble we have been creating our own poems based on one we have read called 'Eye Spy with My Rainbow Eye'. We used oil pastels to create our own fantastic rainbow eyes! We have also had lots of fun getting involved with Sports Day events (when it hasn't been raining!) In RE, we have been learning about Buddhist Temples and Hindu Mandirs and comparing their similarities and differences.

Year 5 & 6

This week we have completed our class text of 'Street Child'. The most pleasing comment I had was 'where do I get the next book from because I want to find out about the sisters?' This book has been enthralling and has kept us all wanting to read on constantly. It was based on a true story related to the beginning of the Barnardo's charity and has initiated a lot of interesting and thought provoking discussions.

We have focused on fractions, percentages and decimals this week in maths, specifically converting between the three to solve problems. We have also completed a variety of sporting activities for our virtual sports day and looked at crimes and punishments from the Victorian era and how they compare with those of today.

Year 6

Year 6 Maple bubble have been competing for our virtual sports day and we thoroughly enjoyed it! In maths we've been converting fractions, decimals and percentages. In writing, we have continued our 'monsters' descriptions. We have also come to the end of our class text 'Street Child' - we recommend this text if you enjoy historical narratives. A super week!

Key Worker Children

This week we have hardly had to water the plants, but we can confirm there are flowers growing nicely. The lovely summer weather has meant that virtual sports day has happened over the week rather than in one attempt. In literacy, we have been using Eye Spy with my Rainbow Eye as a structure to write our own poems. The work has been highly creative. Together we explore the Lyfta website looking at the cultural diversity in Awra Amba in Ethiopia. We have discussed the terms equality and how the society in Awra Amba supports this idea.



Term Dates 2020

Autumn Term 2020

Opens	Thursday 3 rd September 2020
Closes	Thursday 22 nd October 2020
Opens	Monday 2 nd November 2020
Closes	Friday 18 th December 2020