

Chenies School Newsletter

Friday 11 September 2020

Headteacher's News

I would like to start this newsletter by thanking all of the staff in school who have worked hard to ensure that our new routines have run smoothly and ensured a positive start to the school year for all our children and also to you as parents for cooperating fully with our new ways of working. It has been a pleasure this week to welcome our new children to Van-Gogh. They have all settled incredibly well and enjoyed playing with new friends as they get to know each other. There has been a calm and purposeful atmosphere throughout school this week and I am very proud of how the children have responded to completing their assessments. They have all been expected to do a lot of work, much of which has been completing paper-based questions, rather than the motivating and inspirational collaborative learning that we usually like to provide!

Staggered Start and Collection Times

The staggered start is working really well in the mornings and we will continue that without any changes.

We would however like to trial making a slight adjustment to collection times next week to try and ease the initial build-up of traffic that has been created between 3.00pm and 3.10 pm

Please collect your children as follows:

All Van Gogh children and Monet Children without older Siblings **3.00-3.10**

Monet Children with older Siblings and Hockney Children without Siblings **3.10-3.20**

Hockney Children with older siblings and Hepworth Children **3.20-3.30**

Not everyone will see a change to their collection time but if the change does affect you and it will cause a difficulty, due to any existing arrangements you have in place please contact the office and we will arrange for you to collect your child at the original time. This is due to the fact that if I find the system does not improve or indeed makes it worse we may need to change it back again and I recognise the difficulties caused by constantly having to change arrangements.

Library and School Reading Books

I would like to thank the PTA for paying for us to upgrade the school library system. This will mean that children will have access to the catalogue from home and during the next half term we will be developing how we use it to support your child's reading. Mrs Wilson has informed me that currently we have over 200 library books overdue and a significant number of reading scheme books outstanding as well. I should be grateful if over the next week you can please search at home and return any books to school next Friday.

Homework

Class teachers will not be setting specific home learning tasks this week but we would like the children to read every day. They can read their reading scheme book if they have one, or a book of their own choosing. Why not start a family reading time and all sit down together and read as a family. It is important that your children see you as positive role models when it comes to reading.

Nature Holiday Club

Mrs Silverstone is organising a Nature club during the October Half term, which I am sure many children would enjoy. We have sent out the details along with this newsletter.

I am sure that many of the children will be quite tired having completed their first full week back at school in after such a long time at home so I do hope you all have a restful weekend and enjoy the sunshine.

Suzanne Powell

INDIVIDUAL CLASS NEWS

Van Gogh Class News

We have had a great start to the year, the children have settled in well and have been busy making new friendships and becoming familiar with the learning environment. This week the key focus has been to familiarise the children with school rules and routines. We have also been learning about the importance of washing hands and personal hygiene.

Our topic over the next few weeks is 'ALL ABOUT ME'. During this time, we will be encouraging the children to talk about their families, interests, likes, and dislikes. We will also be looking at what makes us unique and how, even though we are different we have lots of similarities.

EYFS Workshops:

We would like to invite you to attend the EYFS workshops on Thursday 24th September 2020 or Thursday 1st October 2020. There would normally be three workshops (EYFS Curriculum & Writing – Reading & Phonics – Maths), however, under the circumstances we will be consolidating the three workshops into one morning session. Due to the current situation, we are limiting the number of adults to six (one parent per child) for each session and even though we would like to see you all. We are requesting that priority is given to parents who are new to the school or did not get the opportunity to attend in the past with previous siblings. Just to reassure you there has not been any changes in the curriculum but please if you require any information or clarification, we are always here to support you. Please could you let the office or myself know, if you are interested in attending.

Autumn Timetable:

Autumn Timetable: Please note that this is a general overview of the week, activities may vary due to the topic and interests of the children.									
		9.15 – 10.15			10.30 – 11.45			1.30 – 2.30	
Monday	Register and Brain Break	Phonics Handwriting	Daily Mile & Brain Break	Snack	Focused Activities Child Initiated Play	Lunchtime	Register and Brain Break	Focused Activities Child Initiated Play Dance	Story & Home
Tuesday		Phonics Handwriting			Focused Activities Child Initiated Play			Focused Activities Child Initiated Play	
Wednesday		PE Mr Malik			Phonics Handwriting			Focused Activities Child Initiated Play	
Thursday		Phonics Handwriting			Focused Activities Child Initiated Play			Focused Activities Child Initiated Play	
Friday		Phonics Handwriting			Focused Activities Child Initiated Play			Show & Tell Child Initiated Play	

PE:

The children will be having a PE on Wednesdays. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their PE kit. They do not need a PE kit for Monday's dance lesson.

Walks:

Please ensure that your child has a pair of wellies (to be left in school) and a coat, as we do often go for walks and spend a lot of our day outside.

Reminders:

The children will be staying for lunch on Thursday 17th September 2020 and Friday 18th September 2020.

Your child's first full week at school will commence on Monday 21st September 2020

Thank you to all of you who have sent in your Summer Holiday project. We are still awaiting on a few more, if you require another worksheet please let me know.

SHOW & TELL DATES:

AUTUMN TERM			
Red House	Yellow How	Blue House	Green House
Friday 25 th September 2020	Friday 2 nd October 2020	Friday 9 th October 2020	Friday 16 th October 2020
Friday 23 rd October 2020	Friday 6 th November 2020	Friday 13 th November 2020	Friday 20 th November 2020
Friday 27 th September 2020	Friday 4 th December 2020	x	x

SPRING TERM			
Red House	Yellow How	Blue House	Green House
x	x	Friday 8 th January 2021	Friday 15 th January 2021
Friday 22 nd January 2021	Friday 29 th January 2021	Friday 5 th February 2021	Friday 26 th February 2021
Friday 5 th March 2021	Friday 12 th March 2021	Friday 19 th March 2021	x

SUMMER TERM			
Red House	Yellow How	Blue House	Green House
x	x	x	Friday 23 rd April 2021
Friday 30 th April 2021	Friday 7 th May 2021	Friday 14 th May 2021	Friday 21 st May 2021
Friday 11 th June 2021	Friday 18 th June 2021	Friday 25 th June 2021	Friday 2 nd July 2021

STAY AND PLAY SESSION DATES:

Over the year you are invited to come and spend time with your child in their learning environment. Siblings are not allowed to attend these sessions, as we believe this is an opportunity for your child to share their experiences of school with you. The picnic is a family event and a good opportunity for us all to celebrate the end of the year and the children's achievements. Under the circumstances, please note that these dates are subject to change depending on government guidance on social gatherings. I will keep you updated on if these events will be going ahead.	
Wednesday 14 th October 2020 9.15 – 10.30	STAY AND COME FOR AN AUTUMN WALK
Tuesday 24 th November 2020 9.15 – 10.30	STAY AND PLAY
Friday 5 th February 2021 1.30 – 2.45	STAY AND READ
Wednesday 24 th March 2021 9.15 – 10.30	STAY AND COME FOR A SPRING WALK
Tuesday 25 th May 2021 9.15 – 10.30	STAY AND GET PHYSICAL
Monday 5 th July 2021 8.15 – 10.00	STAY FOR A BREAKFAST PICNIC WITH SIBLINGS

I know with the current situation things are different, but please if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Sahotay ☺

Monet

Monet class have had a super start to the new term and are settling in to their new class beautifully.

English

In English we will be sharing, reading and retelling our favourite fairy tales focusing on 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs'. We will be thinking about the characteristics of the months of the year and working hard to punctuate our sentences correctly.

Maths

We will be ordering and comparing numbers to 100, estimating and counting objects by grouping into 10s and counting on and back in 5s and 10s.

Topic

We will be finding out more about the artist Claude Monet (when he was born, where he lived, important events in his life, etc.) and begin artwork based on our waterlily sketches. We will be finding out about how humans change as they grow, how to be a good friend and think about people who are special to us. We will continue to learn our song, 'A Little Bit of Kindness'.

Hockney

The children of Hockney have made a fantastic start to the year and have settled in nicely.

English

In English, the children will start their fiction unit, focusing on the book Ottoline and the Yellow Cat. In this they will be practicing their reading and comprehension, as well as working towards writing a mystery. Next week the children will be focussing on comprehension as well as looking at the different types of clauses.

Maths

In Maths, we are starting by looking at numbers and place value. The children will learn to find the value of a digit in a number, as well as using their place value knowledge to order and compare numbers.

Topic

Our topic work this half term will be looking at Britain's history between the Stone Age and the Iron Age. The children will start by looking at timelines and understanding where we get our information about this era from.

Science

In science the children have started and will continue looking at rock. So far the children have learned that rocks can be categories as igneous, metamorphic, sedimentary and man-made. Next week they will have a go at group rocks based off of their properties.

Hepworth

We are really impressed with all the children in Hepworth Class.

They have all joined us with a fantastic attitude, looking smart and ready for life this school year, as a Year 5 or 6 child.

They have sensibly approached the assessments we have set this week, which we have assured all children were being used to help us know where to begin our teaching - they are not a reflection of the children and their work during the past few months!

Next week we will begin our curriculum properly.

English

We are beginning a non-fiction unit next week, where we will be exploring written reports and learning about the features they have. Our work next week will be based around comprehension; retrieving information and drawing out key ideas and facts.

Maths

We start the year in maths focusing on Number and Place Value, which will be our focus for the first few weeks of term. The area of this topic we will be working on next week is reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers. For year 5 we will look at up to 6 digit numbers, year 6 will work on numbers with up to 7 digit numbers.

Other subjects

We will begin our topic next week by learning about Greece. We will be locating the country and where it lies in relation to other European countries and we will explore other geographical features in Greece.

In Spanish we will be learning different greetings that we can use - maybe your children will say good morning or goodnight in Spanish to you next week.

In Science we are learning about Earth and Space and we will be starting to look closely at the solar system.

PE will include our sports skills with Mr Malik on Wednesday and a session doing fitness development with Mrs Wilson on Friday. Please remember your child will need to wear their PE kit to school on these days.

In PSHE we will be finding out more about how to discuss issues respectfully, how to listen to and respect other points of view and how to constructively challenge points of view they disagree with.

Our RE lessons are about pilgrimages this term and we will be discussing their own journeys in life as well as religious journeys that different people take.

Reminders

Year 6 will have Forest School on Monday afternoon. They need to be wearing trousers and may get a bit messy!

The only set homework at the moment is to read daily - we expect at least 5 entries in reading records each Friday - and to learn any times tables they are unsure of.

Have a wonderful weekend and enjoy the nice weather forecast!

Mrs Tillyer and Mrs Wilson

TERM DATES FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2020 / 2021

Autumn Term 2020

Inset Day	Tuesday 1 st September
Inset Day	Wednesday 2 nd September
Terms Starts	Thursday 3 rd September
Half Term	26 th – 30 th October
Inset Day	Monday 2 nd November
Term Ends	Friday 18 th December

Spring Term 2021

Inset Day	Monday 4 th January
Term Starts	Tuesday 5 th January
Half Term	15 th – 19 th February
Term Ends	Thursday 1 st April @ 1.30pm

Summer Term 2021

Inset Day	Monday 19 th April
Term Starts	Tuesday 20 th April
Half Term	31 st May – 4 th June
Term Ends	Wednesday 21 st July @ 1.30pm