

Chenies School Newsletter

Friday 27th November 2020

Headteacher's News

Thank you to everyone for your messages of support during the Monet Bubble closure. It has been reassuring to know that our careful planning for such an event has resulted in a positive experience of remote learning for those affected and ensured that the majority of the school could attend as normal. I would particularly like to thank Mrs Tillyer and Mrs Sahotay for the additional work they took on to keep the school running smoothly in my absence.

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 9th December

Please can I remind you that if you are booking a Christmas lunch for your child, you need to book on ParentPay specifying their choice of meal no later than 1st December. This is the date when we have to inform the caterers of our numbers.



Happy Birthday

Mia – 29th November

Otilie – 1st December

Evie-May – 2nd December



Christmas Cards

We will be putting the post box out to enable children to send Christmas cards to their friends. Please can you ensure your child posts their cards by Monday 14th December. The cards will then be left in quarantine and will be delivered on Thursday 17th December. Please address the envelopes with the child's surname (If there is more than one child of the same name in the class) and their class.

MD DrumLab

I am delighted that so many children are showing an interest in music lessons. Starting in January drum lessons will be taking place on a Monday and Tuesday. This has created a few more slots, if your child is interested in having lessons please contact the office for more information.

Winter Mini Challenge 2020

Please encourage your child to participate in the Reading Agency's [Mini Winter Challenge 2020](#) that begins on Tuesday 1st December. Reading for pleasure really will make a difference to your child's academic attainment, vocabulary knowledge, self-esteem and mental well-being. Children love a challenge and this one will have the added benefit of helping them to develop their love of reading.

School Lunches Next Term

I said at the start of the year that we would review whether it was possible to reintroduce a hot lunch option in the new year. I regret to say that after much debate we have concluded that whilst we are required to operate a school bubble system we do not have the staff or the space to facilitate hot lunches and will need to continue with the packed lunch option.

Our reasoning for this is as follows: We cannot use the hall for lunches because there is not sufficient time to enable us to ensure that the room could be thoroughly cleaned between classes. In addition we are also having to use the hall as a staff room to ensure the safety of our staff. Bubbles require additional staff and we have redeployed the kitchen staff that would usually serve lunches to supervise children in their classes. We have considered the option of serving hot lunches in the classroom but that creates an additional complication of having to plate meals up and then transport them to the main building, whilst ensuring they remain hot and compliant with food hygiene regulations. Again we do not have the staff or the time to facilitate that. I am sorry that this will be a disappointment for many of you but please be assured that as soon as it is safe to do so we will return to hot lunches.

Our ability to provide the Christmas lunch is because as a staff we did not want to deprive the children of something many of them really enjoy. For this reason staff have volunteered to help and put in additional hours. All our staff will be involved in serving food and supervising children and whilst we can do this as a special occasion it is not sustainable every day.

PTA News – Keeping our fundraising going

For obvious reasons, unfortunately we cannot hold a Christmas Fair this year, but please remember there are many other ways you can support the PTA to raise funds for the school. Please stick the attached flyer on your fridge or on a noticeboard as a reminder of some of our ongoing fundraisers, including the voucher scheme and Easy Fundraising, as well as some special Christmas fundraisers including a raffle.

Thank you for all of the support you have given the PTA during this difficult year and remember every penny we raise goes towards making Chenies an even better place to learn!

I wish you all a good weekend and look forward to seeing you all again on Monday.

Suzanne Powell

INDIVIDUAL CLASS NEWS

Van Gogh

It has been an eventful week, but the children have taken it all in their stride.

Phonics: We will continue to focus on rhyming and oral segmenting and blending and would encourage parents to help their children by sharing books with rhymes and playing games to help them learn to orally segment and blend simple words.

Even though we have worked through Phase 2 in phonics and would appreciate if you could continue working with your child to consolidate these sounds. This week the children have been working on **ar, or, oo** (as in moon). The children have found these quite tricky so we will be re-vising them next week. Digraphs and trigraphs are tricky sounds, so please continue to learn and reinforce them. The children will continue to also work in their ability groups on their specific sounds/targets.

Reading: Please continue to share books your children as well as hearing them read and learning the tricky word sets highlighted in their reading record. If you have not read the books and would like to keep them a bit longer, please put a note in the wallet. Please could you ensure that wallets are bought into school on Friday together with reading books so that we can change the books for the following week.

Math: We are will continue to consolidate one, two and three and next week meet FOUR!

Mind Up: This week we looked at mindful listening and the importance of having a key focus. Next week we will be looking at mindful seeing, when we will look at something and talk about what we see, before taking a closer look.

Topic: The children have great fun dressing up in the role play area and learning all about the Hindu religion. Even though we will continue with this topic over the next few weeks, we are going into December and will start learning all about advent too.

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.

SHOW & TELL DATES: Yellow House – Friday 4th November 2020

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

I can't wait to see Monet Class back at school on Monday. They have been brilliant over the last week and I have been sent some super home learning. It has been lovely to see so many of them during our Google Meets each day.

Next week will be continuing with poetry in English, performing poems, writing our own and using rhyme.

In Maths we will be partitioning numbers, focusing on addition and addressing any areas that the children need to go over.

In Topic we will be continuing with our work on the seasons by painting seasonal trees and finding out how some animals adapt in the winter. We will also be finding out about St Andrew's day and using an atlas to locate places in the UK.

We will also be thinking about our kindness advent calendar throughout December!

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Blakeley

Hockney

Next week in Maths the children of Hockney will start looking at times tables and mental methods of multiplication.

In English, they will continue their poetry topic, reading and discussing poetry, looking at shape poetry.

In Science the children will be using what they have learnt about magnets to create their own magnetic board game.

In Geography, the children will look at transport and settlements.

For History, the children will continue to take what they have learned so far, and explore history through art and DT projects.

For their DT projects, could I ask that you send in with your child a cereal box (or similar material) by Friday?

Thank you.

Hepworth

We can't quite believe that next week we will be writing December when we put the date on the board!

We hope that you are all doing well at home - the children are generally so happy in school and with good focus on their learning which is great to see.

English

Next week is our final week on Greek Myths. We will be planning, writing and editing our own Greek Myth using all the skills we have learnt already in this unit. Our grammar work includes adjectives and descriptive work. Our spelling rule is words with the /s/ sound spelt sc (Latin origin).

Maths

In Maths we will be tackling division. The children have worked so hard on the other operations over this term and we hope that they are able to continue challenging themselves to apply these skills.

Being able to recall times tables is key to the children succeeding at an increasing rate - please encourage your child to keep up their learning of these.

Other subjects

In PSHE we will be looking more at relationships. Our Science unit takes us onto refraction of light and exploring investigations around this. In PE the children have been doing well with their fitness circuits on a Friday and this will continue over the next few weeks.

Our topic work will focus on Ancient Greek democracy and how the systems worked. We will also be revising our counting to 30 in Spanish and learning the months of year.

As always, do contact us with any questions or queries. We hope you have a wonderful weekend.

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 @ 1.30pm

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