



CHENIES SCHOOL

Chenies Rickmansworth Herts WD3 6ER

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Friday 9th December 2016

Dear Parents & Carers

Monday 5th December to Friday 9th December 2016

Class	Title	Details
All		
Sprites		
Phoenix		
Pegasus		
Griffin	Year 6 Reading	

Please check the website if you have not received any of the above.

Highlights of the Week

- Mrs Pulfreman taught all the children about Christingles on Monday and provided the children with the materials to make their own.
- We met with class teachers on Wednesday for our pupil progress meetings. During these meetings we discussed the attainment and progress of each child in reading, writing and maths. We identified the interventions and support which will be implemented next term for individuals and groups of children, as well as celebrating the achievements from this term.
- Year 6 have been busy sorting and delivering the Chenies Christmas post.
- James Dalkin and Ella Thonberry invited Elena Adams and Jamie Fuchs as their guests to the Super Star Tea party with us on Wednesday.
- Our guitarists entertained us with their show pieces in our assembly on Thursday. Please visit our website to see videos of them playing.
- Mr Hook has completed his transition meetings with us, met staff and children, and is very prepared for his start in January.



Attendance			Target = 96% 👍
Well done to Phoenix for achieving the best attendance last week!			
Sprite: 94.6% 📉	Phoenix: 99.3% 📈	Pegasus: 97.7% 📈	Griffin: 96.9% 📈

Stars of the Week	Y1: Laycie Henderson	Y3: Amber Schulein	Y5: Olivia Ince
YR: Edward Flood	Y2: Akram Khafagi	Y4: Oliver Alexander	Y6: Samson Ray

Maths Whizzer: Jayesh Board



Silver Star Chart Certificate

James Alexander

Cassia Williams

Gold Star Chart Certificate

Oliver Harris

Star Learners

Anna Powell – *for fantastic writing about Rama and Sita following the visit to the Hindu Temple*

Samson Ray – *for demonstrating understanding of modal verbs*

Club

Please be aware that all clubs, including morning club, have now finished. There will be none next week.

Clubs for the Spring term

We have had a very disappointing response for up take for the Spring term clubs. We can confirm due to the number of children planning to attend the morning activity club, it is unable to continue from January. We are very disappointed about this but it is no longer financially viable for First Touch Football to provide this service. It is unlikely with the suggested numbers that the Ceramics, Science and Bollywood clubs will proceed but we are currently negotiating with the providers. Confirmation of clubs which will be on offer for the Spring term will follow soon.

Thank you

A massive thank you to Mr Simpson for putting up the temporary fence around the perimeter and across the gate.

Christmas Post Box

Our school Christmas post box is in the hall. Children are invited to post their Christmas cards to one another. Post will be collected and delivered on Tuesday and Thursday lunch time.

Reflection & Celebration

As we come to the end of our time at Chenies, we have reflected on the many positive changes that we have made since the Co-Headship began in September 2015. Here are just a few:

- **New Behaviour policy** – *all children now have individual star charts with rewards and are issued specific and appropriate sanctions to their negative behaviour. The children also have new attitude to learning targets each half-term.*
- **Updated vision statement** – *new vision and values reflect current expectations.*
- **New assessment system: Learning Ladders** – *teachers have a deeper understanding of what pupils have achieved and what they need to do to progress further.*
- **Introduced one longer playtime rather than 2 shorter ones** – *this has improved the structure of the day and provide a better playtime experience for the children.*
- **Moved library from old School House to middle room** – *books are now in a central area for all pupils to access and the environment is more aesthetically pleasing.*
- **Additional and improved display boards** – *additional display boards in the hall and more children's work is now displayed throughout the school. All classrooms now have working walls for English and Maths which support children's learning.*
- **Introduced Chenies Achievers Board** – *pupils' achievements outside of school are celebrated in the school's main corridor.*
- **Restructured Friday letter** – *pupils' achievements are now recognised in the Friday letter, including class attendance figures, Maths Whizzer, Star Learners, Star Chart Certificate achievers and Stars of the Week. Highlights of the week show what has been achieved.*
- **Introduced Star Learners book** – *pupils who have excelled in their learning have their names entered into the Co-head's book and are celebrated in assembly and in the Friday letter.*
- **Invested in a keypad entry system** – *ensuring we are in line with current safeguarding expectations. Changes were made to timings of the unlocking of gates following parental feedback.*
- **Refurbishment of toilets** – *much needed refurbishment is underway and due to be completed very soon.*

- **Close monitoring of attendance** – Attendance concerns are addressed with individuals which has resulted in improvements in pupils' attendance. Termly certificates are given to 100% attendees.
- **Introduced Open Start throughout the school** – pupils can engage with morning activities with a maths challenge focus and be ready for the school day promptly which provides children with opportunities to complete additional maths challenges.
- **Changes to guided reading** – sessions are now daily rather than weekly, teachers now hear every child read each week.
- **Introduction of English carousel activities** – children are now completing handwriting, grammar, guided reading and spelling activities daily
- **Re-Introduction of handwriting policy & competitions (National and internal)** – handwriting now has a higher priority and there is now a consistently applied style throughout the school with the children now having improved handwriting.
- **Changes to phonics** – a newly appointed phonics lead has improved provision and structure of phonics sessions. New resources have been purchased through PTA funds to support pupils' learning.
- **Launched Morning Activity Club** – supports parents' childcare arrangements in line with parental feedback.
- **Organised Chenies Challenge Days** – an opportunity to further develop children's problem solving skills and reasoning in Maths
- **Changes to home learning** – as a response to parental feedback, we have reviewed and made changes throughout the past 16 months to the provision of home learning eg. added a weekly writing task, reduced half-termly tasks, provided children with the option to develop their own tasks etc.
- **Implementing external support** – through detailed and effective monitoring and evaluation of Teaching & Learning as well as Behaviour and Expectations, we have identified areas of development and proactively sought support from external providers which has resulted in further improvement and development.
- **Organised Show Racism The Red Card initiative** – we have been concerned about an increase to the number of racist incidents which have occurred this term in KS2. The children will be experiencing the Show Racism The Red Card workshops in the spring term to address their understanding and attitudes.

We would like the opportunity to say thank you and farewell to the children, parents and carers; please join us at our end of term celebration and farewell assembly on Friday 16th December at 9am.

Dates to the end of term:

Monday 12th December:	KS1 & EYFS Christmas production dress rehearsal School Hall 1.45pm – parents/carers/relatives with small children welcome
Tuesday 13th December:	KS1 & EYFS Christmas Production School Hall 9.30am – parents & carers welcome
Wednesday 14th December:	Christmas Lunch – pre-ordered. Children may wear a Christmas top with their school uniform
Thursday 15th December:	KS2 Christmas Service dress rehearsal St Michael's Church 2pm – parents/carers/relatives with small children welcome KS2 Christmas Service dress St Michael's Church 7pm – parents & carers welcome
Friday 16th December:	End of Term Celebration and Farewell from Mrs Burnett & Mrs Gobby assembly School Hall 9am – parents & carers welcome Christmas Craft Day
Monday 19th December:	Christmas Parties – no hot lunch provision (bring and share party food)
Tuesday 20th December:	Celebration Assembly (Mrs Bull's Leaving assembly & PTA raffle) School Hall 9am – parents & carers welcome School closes at 1.30

Yours sincerely
Hannah Burnett & Kay Gobby
Co-Headteachers

We are delighted to welcome Keren Fuchs to the Governing Body as your new parent Governor. Thank you, Keren, for volunteering to serve the school in this way.

Hindu Temple visit

I was delighted to accompany the school last week to the Hindu Temple on the outskirts of Watford, situated on the house and grounds formerly owned by George Harrison.

We had such a warm welcome and were given a very informative and structured visit.

We visited the farm to see the cows, being transported there and back in a cart pulled by oxen. They use the milk and make butter, cream and yogurt too. We also visited a garden area. In the house we removed our shoes, then were told about the main characters in Hinduism. The children had done preparation work in school so were able to reinforce their learning through this. Some were dressed in Indian dress as the main characters and their wives. Then they all had an opportunity to dress and have face paints.

We visited the temple area towards the end of their formal prayers, so sat quietly to observe.

The room was then prepared for lunch and we shared a delicious vegetarian lunch of rice, a mild curry, flat bread and chips, a great hit.

We were looked after throughout by a very caring team of people with great experience in handling school groups. The children were very excited to take part in all the activities but were very well behaved throughout. Well done, Chenies!

Judith Pulfreman

If you have any questions, please contact Libby Wilson, Chairman of the Governing Body:

email: governors@chenies.bucks.sch.uk

Check out our website for additional photos of the things we have been up to.

www.chenies.bucks.sch.uk