

Chenies School Newsletter

21st January 2022

Headteacher's News

It was International Winnie the Pooh day on Tuesday and so this week we have been focussing on the different personality traits of each of the characters. We have spent a lot of time discussing Piglet's optimism and talking about how we can all help each other to look for and see the positive side of things if we notice someone having an 'Eyore' moment. I am pleased to say that I have seen many more examples this week of happy and optimistic children than gloomy ones! Other positives this week have included Monet class welcoming Mrs Silverstone and Mrs Groves to introduce them to the River Chess trout project which we will be involved in and Van Gogh enjoyed a dance festival at The Chalfonts Community College. I have also shown a number of visitors around the school this week who have all been very complimentary about our school and the way the children were engaged in their learning.

Cooking Volunteers Wanted

We would very much like to resume our Friday cooking afternoons so that all the children get the opportunity to cook once each half term. In order for us to do that I am looking for some volunteers (parents or grandparents) to help. I would be happy to organise a rota of help so if you are able to help weekly, fortnightly or monthly please do express your interest by speaking to me or emailing the school office.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Last week's newsletter contained details of the parent governor vacancy on the governing body. If you are considering taking on this role please return your nomination form to the school office by Friday 28th January.

World Book Day

As part of our World Book day celebrations we will be asking children to come to school dressed as a book character on Friday 4th March. I am providing this information in plenty of time for those of you who would like to be creative and help your children make costumes over the next few weeks or half term.

Artist of the Week

This week's artist was Megan Coyle chosen by Olivia. If you would like to see our previous artists of the week and talk to your children about them, they are now on our [school website](#).

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

Suzanne Powell



Happy Birthday
Anika – 21st January
Dylan – 24th January



STARS of the week

Van Gogh	Philippa	Srihan
Monet	Caelan	Lola B
Hockney	Philip	Arthur
Hepworth	Vihaan	Cassie

Class News

Van Gogh

It's has been an eventful week, with the Dance Festival being at the top of the list. The children boogied to 'You Will Never Have a Friend Like Me' from Aladdin. They were SUPERSTARS and did Chenies PROUD!

Phonics

This week has been a bit tricky as we changed the order the digraphs are taught. The children covered alternative sounds to the digraph 'ai' and have already started to apply them in their reading and writing. Please continue to reinforce these sounds so that the children are confidently applying their phonic knowledge to reading and writing words/sentences. The children also need to consolidate and be able to read the tricky words sets by sight.

	Please consolidate Phase 2 Set 1-6 Tricky words.	
Week 1	ch sh th	she he we me be was
Week 2	ng nk ai (rain) ay (play) a-e (cake)	that this then them they
Week 3	ee (feet) ea (tea) e – e (trapeze)	see for now down look too
Week 4	igh oa (coat) oo (pool) oo (look)	all are my by her went

It is also important that you continue to consolidate Phase 2 sounds and work on segmenting and blending, hearing initial/middle/end sounds and rhyme.

Reading

The Guided Reading sessions have gone really well and given the children confidence and the opportunity to work in a group to discuss the text. Please note it is important to continue reading and sharing books with your child daily. All reading books should be returned on a Thursday so that they can be changed and returned on Friday.

Writing

The children continue to make good progress in their writing, they are discovering that they can segment and blend to write simple words and sentences. Please continue to encourage them to write at home, remember they will use their phonic knowledge to spell words and should be praised for having a go.

Maths

This week we have had a big focus on number bonds. The children have been using different strategies to find number bonds (different ways of making numbers). We have continued to work on mathematical vocabulary related to addition, learning how to read/write simple number sentences and make up stories using objects and drawings.

This week we will be chanting numbers to 10/20 and will be learning about number 8:

Conservation of a number: Number of objects in a set does not change even when they are moved around.

Composition of a number: Number are made of two or more other smaller numbers involving a 'part' and a 'whole'. Learning to 'see' a whole number and its parts at the same time.

Subitise: Look at a group of objects and realise how many there are without counting.

We will introduce 8, 2D shape with 8 sides (octagon) and look at patterns when describing the properties, for example the number of sides and corner are the same. Our snack shop has been a huge success, the children are growing in confidence when paying for their snack using 1p 2p and 5p coins. Please continue to consolidate this at home.

Topic

Our topic this term is: Chinese New Year - Food from Around the World

This week we will start to talk about how symbolism is important in different countries and religions symbolism. Our key focus will be the Chinese Dragon. The children will design and build their own Chinese Dragon using different mediums.

We will also continue to talk about different celebrations and looking at similarities and differences, comparing Harvest, Bonfire, Diwali, and Christmas. This will lead us into introducing Chinese New Year... 2022 The Year of the Tiger.

REMINDERS:

SHOW & TELL: The next one is on Thursday 20th January 2022 - Red and House

STAY & READ: Wednesday 26th January 2022 – Please note this is subject to the Covid restrictions at the time.

Thank you for your ongoing support! Should you have any further queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Sahotay 😊

Monet

The children in Monet have had a creative week completing their Fire of London diaries, making 2D houses for a London scene and making their 3D Tudor houses using recycled materials. They are looking great so far. Thank you to everyone who has contributed with boxes, sweet wrappers and to Freya for bringing in a big bag of hay for our thatched roofs.

Next week we will be recapping the events of the fire and drafting a newspaper report about it. We will even be making our newspaper look hundreds of years old!

In Maths we will be continuing with subtraction, comparing weights and looking at units of time (seconds and minutes). Year 1 will be making their own spring balance in maths so if you are still collecting small cardboard boxes, please send them in to school where they will be put to good use.

In Science we will be experimenting with how materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. We will be making our own salt dough objects/food to put into our paper boats, thinking about what we would take with us if we were escaping the Great Fire.

In PSHE we will be thinking about how and why people use the internet and the benefits.

Homework will be on Google classroom.

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Blakeley

Hockney

This week we have made an excellent start looking at how legends captivate us with their powerful and sometimes exaggerated language. The children have really enjoyed starting to think about the legends they may know and learning about Saint George and the Dragon. Next week, we will start thinking about how we can use powerful adjectival phrases to describe a mythical beast and how using more than one adjective is very typical of legends and helps to draw the reader or listener into the story.

In maths next week both year groups are going to be focusing on division. The Year 3s will be focusing on dividing with remainders within written calculations and word problems. The Year 4 children will be focusing on dividing 3-digits by 1-digit, working out which method is most efficient to use depending upon the question being asked.

The children will continue their work on learning about life in an Anglo-Saxon village next week, building up to create their own model settlements. Alongside this work they will be designing and making Anglo-Saxon pottery using tools to give their pots a very distinctive and typical Anglo-Saxon design.

In computing next week we will continue our work on coding, familiarising ourselves with some of the language used when coding and designing a series of simple codes to control a given image. The children have been very keen to show us their coding skills and have enjoyed these lessons enormously. Please talk to your child about what they have been learning and allow them to explain to you some of the language we have been learning.

Forest school for the year 4 children is on Monday as normal. The children must come to school wearing their school uniform on top and wearing warm leggings or trousers with a waterproof coat and sturdy footwear that you do not mind getting dirty.

As ever, homework will be on Google Classrooms this week. Please do support your child in completing their homework, it links directly to the work we have been doing in class and is checked each week by the both of us.

We hope you have an enjoyable and restful weekend.

Mrs Whittingham & Miss Groves

Hepworth

We've had another week with lots of hard work in Hepworth in the classroom and out. The children went swimming on Wednesday and were all praised for their efforts and exceptional behaviour, well done Hepworth! Keep it up! Unfortunately our Maya workshop was cancelled due to one of the teaching team having Covid. We have luckily been able to reschedule this for the 8th February which isn't too far away.

English

Next week in English we will be rewriting our graphic novel, Salamander Dream, in a traditional story format. Towards the end of the week, we will be working on uplevelling sentences in our Thursday writing session and focussing on indicating degrees of possibility using adverbs or modal verbs in our SPAG session on Friday. Our spelling rule will be adverbs to link with this.

Maths

In maths our focus is on multiplying and dividing fractions. We will be working through this alongside practising some of the other skills related to fractions, such as simplifying them and understanding mixed numbers and proper/improper fractions.

It is very evident in our lessons at the moment which children know their tables - their working is noticeably quicker and they find the work easier. Please do take the time to ensure your child is practising their tables - there are so many apps and games online to aid this. There are also songs on music apps such as Spotify to help too. Children should know their tables up to 12x12 by now.

Other subjects

In Topic we will look at the physical geography in the Mayan lands, and how this impacted on their culture. In science we will be doing some practical investigations into reversible and irreversible changes. In RE we will be finding out more about Gandhi as a leader and how he stood up for his beliefs. Our PSHE lesson focuses on knowing how to assess online search results and how to know which are reliable.

Homework

Just a reminder of days:

	Set on	Due in on
English (including spellings)	Friday	Wednesday
Maths	Wednesday	Monday
Reading Record		Friday

Maths homework is set and marked by Mrs Jones and English homework is set and marked by Mrs Wilson.

Spellings are tested on a Friday and Mrs Wilson checks reading records for 5 or more entries each Friday. Please ensure that reading records are in school each day and being filled in at home by your child when they are doing their 20 minutes of daily reading.

Thank you for your support. Do contact us if there is anything we can help with.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Wilson and Mrs Jones

Diary Dates

Wednesday 26 th January	EYFS Stay & Read @ 9am
Friday 28th January	PTA Film Club
Friday 4th February	After School Tuck Shop PTA Quiz Night
Wednesday 9 th February	DoodleLearning Workshop – Parents Y1, 2 & 3 @ 9am
Thursday 10 th February	DoodleLearning Workshop (Repeated) – Parents Y1, 2 & 3 @ 2pm
Friday 11th February	PTA Valentine Disco
Thursday 17 th February	Work Share Evening @ 3.30pm-5pm
Friday 18th February	Break the Rules Day
Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February	Half Term
Friday 4 th March	World Book Day
Friday 1 st April	EYFS Spring Walk 9am
Monday 4 th April	Mid-Year Reports will be sent home to parents
Friday 8th April	Term Ends at @ 1.30pm
Monday 25 th April	Children Return to School
Monday 2nd May	Early May Bank Holiday – School Closed
Thursday 5 th May	Hepworth Parents Sex Education and PGL Information Evening 5pm
Monday 16 th May	EYFS Stay & Get Physical 9am
Thursday 19 th May	Work Share Evening @ 3.30pm - 5pm
Monday 23 rd May - Friday 27 th May	Y5/6 PGL Residential Trip
Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June	Half Term
Monday 6th June	Inset Day
Monday 13 th June	Class photos
Tuesday 28 th June	Sports Day @ 1pm
Tuesday 12 th July	Reserve Sports Day @ 1pm
Wednesday 13 th July	KS2 Summer Production @ 7pm
Thursday 14 th July	KS2 Summer Production @ 2pm & 7pm
Friday 15 th July	EYFS Stay for Breakfast @ 8.15am End of Year Attainment Reports will be sent home
Wednesday 20 th July	Leaver's Assembly @ 11am School Picnic @ 12.15pm-1.15pm Term Ends for Children @ 1.30pm