

Chenies School Newsletter

11th March 2022

Headteacher's News

The highlight of this week was on Thursday when the children planted native British fruit trees to make an orchard in the school garden as one of our Eco-schools projects. We applied for and received 2 apple, 2 pear and a plum tree from The Tree Council. Each class will take care of one of the trees and, if they remember to water them, we will have fruit in about 3 years!

In celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we also planted a green beech tree as part of the Queen's Green Canopy tree planting initiative. This will eventually grow up to 40 metres high. You will notice that the tree is under an upturned pallet at the moment to try and offer protection against footballs and rabbits!

Well done to all the children who helped and huge thanks to Mrs Walker for organising the day and Mr Jennings for giving his time to guide us.



Electrical Safety

Staff attended Fire Safety training yesterday and I have to be honest and say we did enjoy the opportunity to practise using fire extinguishers but on a serious note it also reminded us about a lot of things we can do to ensure our homes as well as school are safe. The trainer recommended considering installing smoke detectors in children's bedrooms, as the number of electrical appliances being used in them is increasing. She also recommended taking a look at the website [Electrical Safety First](https://www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/) which has detailed advice on how you can take precautions to keep your home safe. It is so easy for us all to become complacent and forget things so I hope this little prompt may encourage you to spend 10 minutes thinking about whether there is anything extra you can do to make your home safer.

Update on COVID Vaccinations for Children

Children aged 5 to 11 years who are in a clinical risk group or who live with someone who is immunosuppressed can get the COVID-19 vaccine, in line with advice set out by the [Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation \(JCVI\)](#). Eligible children include those with diabetes, immunosuppression, learning disabilities, and other conditions as outlined by the [UK Health Security Agency \(UKHSA\) in the Green Book](#).

Vaccinations help to increase protection against COVID-19, which is particularly important for those with underlying health conditions.

Further information is available in the [guide for parents of children aged 5 to 11 years](#) published by UKHSA. We have published some [frequently asked questions](#) on the vaccination programme including information on eligibility, accessibility and advice for parents of children at high risk from COVID-19. Following [advice](#) from the JCVI, healthy 5 to 11 year old children will also be offered two 10 microgram doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. The NHS will prepare to extend this non-urgent offer to all children during April.

Please remember:

- To sign up for the PTA Quiz night on Friday 18th March –the staff do not want to win without any competition!
- Save the date Saturday 11th June to participate in Chesham Carnival

Have a lovely weekend.

Suzanne Powell



Happy Birthday

Lily B – 15th March

Tanish – 15th March



STARS of the week

Van Gogh	Aiyanna	Arlo
Monet	Arran	Lola B
Hockney	Olivia M	Renee
Hepworth	Anika	Eshaan

Class News

Van Gogh

The week has flown by with the children growing in confidence across all areas of learning. We had a games day on Thursday where the children worked in pairs to play Snakes and Ladders, Connect Four, Operation, Slug in the Jug, Tummy Ache, and Ten Green Bottles. A variety of games that building on the children's personal, social and emotional skills, communication and language, fine motor skills, rhyming and number skills.

Phonics

Week 3	Introducing... - ir (twirl) er (letter) ur (purse) wh (whisk)
Week 4	Introducing... - ew (chew) ue (glue) u-e (cube) ph (photo)

Please continue to consolidate all Phase 2/3 sounds especially the digraphs and trigraphs as it is important the children are able to identify these in words and apply them in their writing.

Reading

It has been great to see the children's confidence grow as they start to read more challenging books. One of our key focus over the next few weeks is going to be Non – Fiction books, we will be comparing them to Fiction books and looking at the key features for example, contents page, index page etc.

Please take note of the children's personal targets in their reading records and continue to share fiction and nonfiction books.

Writing

The children are making great progress in their writing. The children have been independently writing sentences about pictures and their amazing constructions. They have been busy in the Chinese Restaurant taking orders to eat in and takeaway.

It is important the children are confidently applying their digraphs when writing words/sentences. Please continue to encourage the children to write at home, reminding them to use their whooshes in and out to form cursive letters, use finger spaces, a capital letter at the start of their sentence and a full stop at the end. Remember writing does not always mean sitting at a desk, they can write lists, recipes, make tickets, label things etc, it's all about then having a go.

Maths

We will continue to recognise/order numbers, understand and apply them in different contexts and to solve problems. This week we are introducing number 13 and 14. We will look at how the TEN block holds its place for example 13 is one TEN and 3 more... 14 is one TEN and four more. We will re-visit number bonds of 5 and start working on number bonds of ten.

The children will continue to look for 3D shapes in the environment, for example a sphere has one curved face, it is round and can be rolled on the floor. A globe, ball, marble are all spheres. Other shapes we will be learning about over the next few weeks are cylinder, cube and cuboid.

We will be re-visiting doubling and introducing how halving is the opposite for example, double four is eight. Half of eight is four. We will also look at how halving means to share between two.

Our snack shop continues to be a success with the children paying for their snack using 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins and starting to compare different values by identifying things that are worth more/less.

Topic

We will continue to compare seasons. Look at changes in the environment overtime and learning about the life cycle of a plant.

REMINDERS:

SHOW & TELL: The next one is on Thursday 18th March 2022 – Green House

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 class have had a great week working on researching chalk streams and finding out more about the animals that live in this rare habitat.

Next week in English we will be using this information to create our very own chalk stream information books focusing on punctuation and the features of a non-fiction text (headings, diagrams, labels, captions).

In maths we will be estimating, measuring and comparing capacities. The weather next week looks great so hopefully we will go outside to do this. We will then be creating and interpreting block graphs and pictograms.

We will be linking our science next week to English and thinking about how an animal is suited to its habitat and in geography we will be revising the countries of the UK, capital cities and surrounding seas and finding out about key features of each country.

In DT we will be continuing with our weavings linked to science. We have used inspiration from chalk streams and thought about the colours and features of these habitats that we can represent in our weavings. Next week will add details and special features then carefully take them off the looms when they are finished.

In RE we are continuing to look at special stories and interpreting the meanings or morals, relating these to our own lives.

Homework will be on Google classroom.

Have a lovely weekend. Miss Blakeley

Hockney

What another busy and exciting week we have had in Hockney class! We have made an excellent start with our new music and science topics and the year 4 children are really throwing themselves into learning all about the Anglo-Saxons. I've never seen children so enthusiastic about learning the origins of the names of towns and cities!

The children have also been reading a book written entirely in Spanish about the adventures of a mischievous rat called Raoul. We have been so pleased to see their enthusiasm for languages and really impressed that they can read and understand a book written only in Spanish!

Next week, we are introducing a new English topic to the children all about the Shang Dynasty of China. This will be a non-fiction unit focusing on reading to retrieve information and then using this information for really specific purposes. We will start with mainly comprehension work surrounding this non-fiction text before moving on to better understand the features of non-fiction writing and how we can create our own non-fiction pieces.

In our SPaG lessons we shall move on from our study of homophones to focus on how we can use suffixes to change nouns and adjectives into verbs. An example of this would be changing the word drama to dramatically. We shall investigate the spelling patterns that enable us to do this and look at the rules that govern these spelling patterns.

In maths we are continuing our work on fractions but developing this beyond finding fractions of shape and number to understand how fractions relate to decimals and percentages. We will be looking at fractions and their decimal equivalents and understanding how to count in tenths.

The children really enjoyed their first lesson studying the genre of gospel music and their introduction to Bill Withers 'Lean on Me'. We talked about how music can be very hopeful, thinking about how music and hardship are often intertwined and how this song became synonymous with some of the images and adverts of the pandemic. Please do take a moment if you can, to discuss some of your favourite music with your child and the different genres of music that your family enjoy.

Please also note that we have noticed a bit of a problem with children not having the correct equipment within their pencil cases. In particular we have a real lack of pens, rulers and glue sticks. Mrs Whittingham and I have handed out a few pens in the past and they have all gone missing. It is really important that all children have a blue pen, their own glue stick and a ruler in school at all times, alongside their colouring pencils, rubbers, sharpeners etc. We only mention the pens, rulers and glue sticks because we seem to have so few children who have them in school. If we have to share equipment it really slows down the pace of the lesson as we have to take it in turns to use the equipment and ensure it gets back to the rightful person. Please do just check that your child has a full pencil case so they do not need to borrow anything.

Homework as ever will be on Google Classrooms.

We hope you all have an enjoyable and restful weekend,

Mrs Whittingham & Miss Groves

Hepworth

It's been another busy week in Hepworth. In Maths, the children studied measurement and how to convert different units of measure in length, mass, and capacity. They will continue with this by looking at area, perimeter, and volume. We will also work on circles - understanding the properties and terminology relating to these and using compasses to draw them accurately.

In English they continued to work on our non-fiction text, *Animals on the Move*, finding information to use in a fact file on animal migration. Next week the class will be focusing on using relative clauses to develop succinct and more interesting sentences to write about animal migration. Towards the end of the week we will be doing some focussed comprehension work on evaluation questions, a punctuation focus on hyphens and our spelling words which start with -pro.

In Topic we recreated Maya foods which involved making guacamole and the dough for a blue maize tortilla. They also ground flour from dried maize, which took a lot of effort from everyone, and demonstrated how hard they Maya had to work for their food. Sadly, the 100% pure chocolate didn't arrive in time for the lesson, but they will be making hot chocolate, Mayan style, next week.

Other activities have included a cricket session for Year 5 on Monday, swimming, and the Year 5/6 netball club. Chenies will have its first match next Tuesday after school, and all club members will have the opportunity to participate.

In Science this week we had a fantastic introduction to our new topic 'Inheritance and Evolution' through a workshop run by the Natural History Museum on Thursday which we all enjoyed. Next week we will be identifying inherited characteristics in living things and learning that variation occurs within offspring as well as across a species. In PSHE we will continue our work on jobs and careers and what can influence these.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend.
Mrs Wilson and Mrs Jones

Diary Dates

Friday 18th March	PTA Cake Sale PTA Quiz Night
Tuesday 22 nd March	Hepworth Dodgeball Event @ The Amersham School 1.30pm – 3pm
Friday 25 th March	Bikeability – Hockney Mother's Day Event
Friday 1 st April	EYFS Spring Walk 9am PTA Easter Disco
Monday 4 th April	Mid-Year Reports will be sent home to parents
Wednesday 6 th April	Hockney – Tri Golf @ The Misbourne 1pm-3pm
Thursday 7th April	PTA Own Clothes day (return for a bring a bottle or chocolate)
Friday 8th April	Easter Egg Hunt Term Ends at 1.30pm
Monday 25th April	Children Return to School
Thursday 28 th April	Hepworth – Rounders @ The Chalfonts Community College 12.30pm – 2pm
Monday 2nd May	Early May Bank Holiday – School Closed
Wednesday 4 th May	Monet Athletics @ The Misbourne 1pm-3pm
Thursday 5 th May	Hepworth Parents Sex Education and PGL Information Evening 5pm
Thursday 12 th May	Hockney – Cricket @ The Chalfont Community College 12.30pm – 2pm
Monday 16 th May	EYFS Stay & Get Physical 9am
Thursday 19 th May	Hockney – Tennis @ Dr Challoner's High School 9.30am-11.30am 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
Saturday 11 th June	Chesham Carnival
Monday 13 th June	Class photos
Tuesday 28 th June	Hepworth – Games @ Dr Challoners High School 9.30am – 12.30pm
Thursday 30 th June	Hepworth – Athletics @ Dr Challoners High School 9.30am – 12pm
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