friday 13th November 2026

NEWSLETTER

Chesterton Primary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What another fabulous week of learning, growing and flourishing together! Having seen it first-hand at several of our sporting events, heard positive feedback from colleagues at other schools, and received lovely messages from the venues and organisations hosting our educational visits, I am incredibly proud of the mature, respectful and enthusiastic way our children conduct themselves.

The pride with which they represent both themselves and our school at every external event is wonderful to see. They are excellent ambassadors for Chesterton, and their behaviour is a real testament to the strength of our school values and the positive impact these have on their development.

As you will see throughout this newsletter, we have some exciting events and opportunities coming up. I look forward to seeing all the wonderful things our children will learn, experience and achieve throughout what promises to be a busy and rewarding term.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Upcoming Events

16/11 - Start of Maths week + - =
16/11 - SA Bake Sale Maple/Beech/ Ash
17/11 - SA - Christmas Jumper Exchange
18/11 - Beech - Warwick Castle trip
19/11 - Rowan - Greek day at school
20/11 - Hawthorn - Black Country Museum
25/11 - Maple Stay and Learn Session 1
26/11 - Yr 1 Dance/Cheer Showcase
27/11 - Hawthorn Sharing Worship - 9:00am

04/12 - Elfridges - Dress down day for Donations
04/12 - KS2 Cross country Finals
07/12 - 08/12 -SA - Elfridges Sale
08-09/12 - KS1 Nativity 2:15
10/12 - Maple class Nativity 2:15
10/12 - Oak - Trip to Bletchley Park
11/12 - Singing around the tree and Cosy Christmas Evening- SA - 2:45
14/12 - Christmas Service at the Church - KS1 9:30/ KS2 10:30 - Parents Welcome
15/12 - School Christmas Dinner
17/12 - Christmas Jumper Day
18/12 - Last Day of Term

Families Survey

The survey is LIVE! Have your say!

This year, we are partnering with The Engagement Platform (TEP) to help us better understand your experiences as parents and carers and gather valuable feedback to help us continue to improve.

Just 16 responses so far!

Last year, 38 parents completed the survey. This year, we want to beat that number! So far, only 16 parents and carers have responded, and we'd love to hear from many more of you.

Whether your experiences have been positive or you feel there are areas where we could do better, your honest feedback really matters. Every voice helps us understand what we're doing well and where we can improve.
It takes just 10 minutes!

- *The survey is completely anonymous.*
- *It can be completed on your phone, tablet or computer.*
- *Your responses will also contribute to a national study of parent and carer experiences.*

The link is live now! Please take 10 minutes to complete the survey and share your views.
Let's beat last year's response rate! Thank you for your continued support.

Click the link to access the survey:

https://questions.tep.uk/chesterton

Before you begin:

- **You can complete this in your own language.** There will be an option to select your language when you start the survey.
- **You don't have to do this survey.** It's your choice. We encourage you to participate, because hearing from many different families helps us support everyone better.
- **More than one person can take part.** Each parent or carer in your home can answer the survey – we encourage feedback from everyone who wants to share their views.
- **No one at school sees your individual answers** - only overall patterns from all families together. There's no way for us to track who has said what.
- **This won't affect your child in any way** - positive or negative
- **You can be honest** - there are no right or wrong answers

Staffing Changes

I wanted to make the community aware of some upcoming staffing changes and say goodbye to some important people...

Suzi Fewings has made the decision to move on from Chesterton. During her brief time with us, Suzi has quickly become a valued member of our team, consistently putting the needs of children at the heart of her work. Her care and support for our pupils have been greatly appreciated and we are extremely grateful for everything she has contributed to our school community. We wish her every success and happiness for the future.

Rebecca Midgley will also be leaving Chesterton. Rebecca has made a positive contribution to the life of our school for the short time she has worked with us as well as the lives of the children she has worked with. Her hard work, professionalism and commitment have been appreciated by all those who have worked alongside her. We thank her for her contribution to the school and wish her every success in her next chapter.

Finally, Vicki Tuffrey has made the decision to move into a more administrative role at a local secondary school. As one of the key people behind the school's sporting success, Vicki has been an incredibly valued member of our community. She has worked tirelessly to support our children, families and staff. Whether leading sensory circuits or standing on the sidelines of a freezing football pitch, Vicki epitomises the very best of our staff: committed, caring and resilient. Her dedication, warmth and willingness to go above and beyond have made a significant difference to so many within our community. We are incredibly grateful for all she has given to Chesterton and wish her every success and happiness in the future.

I am sure you will join me in thanking Suzi, Rebecca and Vicki for everything they have contributed to Chesterton and in wishing them all the very best for the future.



School Association updates:

For all our school association updates and news of upcoming events, please follow the Chesterton School Association on Instagram and facebook.

Chesterton School Association

Chesterton CE School Association

Attendance

Maple: 94.2%
Beech: 97.9%
Ash: 97.5%
Chestnut: 95.3%
Hawthorn: 98.6%
Rowan: 95.8%
Oak: 98.1%

Parents' Evening

Thank you to all those who manage to attend our parents meetings.

I would like to personally thank all our teachers for their work in preparing and facilitating these meetings.

We see communication with parent essential in building strong bonds between home and school and our staff's professionalism and knowledge is a real credit to them as individual practitioners.

A big thank you to them for their hard work.

Mr Gratwohl

Lost Property

Lost property will be displayed on tables at the end of each school day. As unclaimed items quickly build up, any remaining belongings are regularly donated to local charity shops.

Please continue ensure all items are clearly labelled and speak to your child's teacher if something has been misplaced.

We are also seeing an increase of packed lunch containers also being left around school which are also un-labelled.

The reading raffle

Our reading raffle was won by...
Gus in Rowan and he is walking away with a brand new copy of Skandar and the Unicorn Thief.
Keep reading to be in with a chance of receiving a free, new book from the reading raffle from Coles Books in Bicester!

Focus on Maple:

We have had another fun (and busy!) week in Maple class, full of exciting learning and exploring!

In Phonics, we learnt the sounds 'h' and 'b' and blended these sounds in some words. We also learnt the tricky words, 'the' and 'no' and practised reading and writing them.

In Maths, we have been comparing numbers using the words 'more than', 'fewer than' and 'equal'. We use soft toys, tens frames and loose parts to support our learning.

For Drawing Club this week, we read the gorgeous story 'Ella's Night Lights' by Lucy Fleming. We loved the story and we thought carefully about what food Ella and her friends would enjoy at an Autumn feast. We had some wonderful ideas like, pancakes, strawberries and chicken nuggets!

We learnt all about the importance of Remembrance Day and learnt a song about why we wear a poppy. We also marked Remembrance Day by engaging in some craft activities. We made our own tissue paper poppies and our own poppy wreaths. They looked so beautiful on display!

We had great fun turning the wendy hut into a shadow hut! We used torches and shadow creators to explore how shadows are formed. We enjoyed investigating how when we moved the torch, the shadow got larger and smaller.

We also continued rehearsing for our Nativity performance - it's looking and sounding fabulous!











Safeguarding team

Just a reminder who our safeguarding team are - if you have any concerns, please come and speak to us:





Mrs Salter ***Mr Gratwohl***

Miss Norman

Focus on Rowan:

Rowan Class have been having a fantastic time at Forest School recently! They have been enjoying the opportunity to explore, work together and develop new skills through a range of exciting activities. The children have been busy making rope ladders and swings, creating imaginative fairy cities and building a variety of dens, including the impressive Sky Fort and Rock Shop. It has been wonderful to see their creativity, teamwork and problem-solving skills develop as they put their ideas into action and make the most of their outdoor learning experiences.

In PE, Year 5 have been exploring a unit based on Paralympic events, learning about different adapted sports and developing an understanding of the skills involved. Over the last two lessons, the children have been focusing on sitting volleyball. They have been practising the key skills needed to play the game, including controlling and passing the ball, working as a team and communicating effectively. The sessions have been great fun and have provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their coordination, teamwork and understanding of inclusive sport.





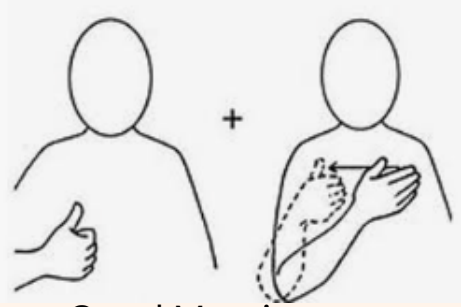






Makaton Sign of the week

Makaton is a sign language which is often used with chidlren with learning or speech difficulties. Most famously used by the rockstar that is Mr Tumble. Every week we will be beginning to teach the children a different Makaton hand gesture to help support children in our school feel more included and recognised. This week's sign of the week is...



Good Morning

T1 Rugby Competition at TBS:

Year 5 had a fantastic time yesterday at the T1 Rugby Tournament at The Bicester School, demonstrating our school value of respect while continuing to develop their rugby skills. They played four games, showing great determination, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout. It was wonderful to see how their confidence grew with each game and by the final match they were playing with real confidence and scoring some fantastic tries! All of the children were incredibly respectful towards their teammates, opponents and organisers. A special mention goes to Rowan and Olivia, who were excellent team players, constantly encouraging and supporting others to be the very best they could be. Everyone had a brilliant time and I am so proud of the way Year 5 represented our school!

School Logo

Our competition to design a new logo for Chesterton CE Primary School is now underway, and we would love our whole school community to get involved!

We are looking for a fresh, simple and memorable design that reflects who we are, our Christian vision of "Building Firm Foundations for Life", our values, history and strong sense of community.

The competition is open to everyone – pupils, parents, grandparents, former pupils, local residents and friends of the school. We would love to see your creative ideas!

The winning design will help shape our new school branding, including our logo, signage, uniforms and communications.

Please send your designs or ideas to the school office by the end of November. Paper, photographs and online submissions are all welcome.

For more information, please speak to Mr Gratwohl, Miss Salter or a member of the office team. Good luck and happy designing!

S4A - Themes next week



ARCh
Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire

Want to work part-time for a local charity, term-time only?

ARCh is an award winning charity which recruits, trains and supports volunteer reading helpers to work with primary school children throughout Oxfordshire to encourage a love of books and reading.



We have the following position available for someone living in the Bicester area.

Field Worker (Bicester and Thame area) home based

A confident 'people person', with a passion for books and education, you will provide support to ARCh Reading Helpers. The role involves visiting primary schools in the Bicester/Thame and surrounding areas, liaising with school staff and ensuring everything runs smoothly.

Enthusiasm and good communication skills are vital!

12 hours per week (to be worked across the week) **term-time only**.
Starting pay £12.71 per hour
Use of computer and own car essential (travel expenses paid).

Contact info@archoxfordshire.org.uk for an application form.

ARCh, Suite E, Gobles Court, 7, Market Square, Bicester, Oxon OX26 6AA
www.archoxfordshire.org.uk

Charity number 1146276

NODA

Launton Village Players present their 40th pantomime

LAUNTON VILLAGE PLAYERS

PUSS IN BOOTS

A traditional family pantomime

Written and directed by Julia West
Music by Steve Webber and Ash Foster

Wed 17th to Sat 20th Feb 2027

*Relaxed Performance Thursday at 10:30am

Date	Performance Times			Adult (18+)	Child (1-17)
Weds 17th Feb			7:30pm	£12	£7
Thurs 18th Feb	10:30am*	2:30pm		£12	£7
Fri 19th Feb		2:30pm	7:30pm	£14	£8
Sat 20th Feb		2:30pm	7:30pm	£14	£8

Cooper School Performance Hall, Bicester, OX26 4RS

Tickets available from
www.ticketsource.co.uk/lvp
(or call 07864 715708 for assistance)





Family Discounts available for all shows!

Scan here for tickets!

Book by 30th November and use the code EARLYBIRD to save 10%

All profits donated to the Fire Fighters Charity

www.launtonvillageplayers.org.uk