

Chesterfield Primary School Newsletter

February 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

This half term has been short, but we have still been very busy with our learning here at Chesterfield. As you will see from this edition of our newsletter, we are working hard in class and we are also supporting children with their wider development through our extra-curricular activities, school visits and workshops. Year 4 recently enjoyed a visit to the National Gallery and were inspired to create their own artwork based on their favourite paintings. Year 1 went on a local area walk to support their learning in science, geography and RE and our Reception and Nursery children enjoyed learning about the animals when the farm visited our school.

We are proud of our Chesterfield values of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility and our children embody these in their learning and at playtimes. In addition, we have been exploring the value of Kindness and through stories, assemblies, acts of kindness and work in PSHE and circle time. Every Wednesday, we hold an assembly where we celebrate together and recognise children who show our values in class and around the school. It is always a lovely moment for children and staff alike. Furthermore, we also celebrate children's efforts in their learning, for example, Star Writer, Oracy Star and TTRS champions. Attendance is also rewarded and the class with the highest attendance for the week gets extra playtime!

As you can see from the 'Dates for Your Diary' section opposite, we have many events and activities planned for children and also for families next half term. These are an opportunity for families to come into school and share in their children's learning. Our 'bring your adult to school' day is a chance to share in a reading or phonics lesson, families can choose books together at our Book Fair and our children will be performing in a variety of end-of-term concerts and performances. Furthermore, our parent/carer consultation evenings on Wednesday 20 March (for YN, YR, Y1, Y2 and Olympus) and Thursday 21 March (for Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 and Everest) are a vital part of our school calendar and allow parents and carers to discuss their child's learning with their class teacher and ask any questions they may have. Our online booking system will go live after half term - further information will be sent out when we return after the February half term break.

Finally, I just wanted to say thank you again to all of our parents and carers for your continued and unwavering support for our school and your child/s' learning. Please remember that myself and the senior staff are available in the playgrounds at the start and end of the school day if you have any questions or queries, or even if you just want to say hello.

I wish you all a lovely half term break and look forward to seeing you all again when we return to school on Monday 19 February at 8:45am.

Sarah Roberts
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

February 2024

Wednesday 28 February

Bring Your Adult to School
2:30pm in classrooms

March 2024

Friday 1 — Weds 6 March

Book Fair in Main Hall

Thursday 7 March

World Book Day

Come to school dressed as your favourite book character

Friday 15 March

Red Nose Day

Wear red to school and bring £1 for charity

Wednesday 20 March

Dance Festival at Millfield Theatre

Parents Evening in Main Hall

for: Nursery | Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Olympus

Thursday 21 March

Young Voices concert for parents/carers Main Hall

Parents Evening in Chesters/ Millennium

Hall for: Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5

Year 6 | Everest

Friday 22 March

Year 4 ukulele performance Main Hall

Monday 25 March

Spring concerts Year 2: 9:15am

Year 3: 2:30pm

Tuesday 26 March

Chesterfield Choir music festival at Millfield Theatre

Wednesday 27 March

Poetry assemblies:

Year 1: 9:10am, Year 5 and 6: 2:30pm

Thursday 28 March

Last Day of Term

1:30pm finish

April 2024

Monday 15 April

Back to school 8:45am

Year 4 trip to the National Gallery

Our Year 4 pupils visited the National Gallery to support their learning about the artist Paul Cezanne. Children enjoyed a tour of the galleries and were able to recreate their favourite works of art. All the children really enjoyed the visit, with many saying it was the best school trip ever!



Sports Event at Lee Valley

Students from year 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part in a range of sports including New Age Kurling, Boccia and Javelin at Lee Valley Athletics Centre. We were really proud of all of their efforts during the event—well done team!



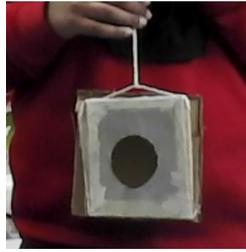
EYFS animal visit from Ark Farm

Children in Nursery and Reception had some special visitors from the Ark Farm to link with their learning about animals. There were rabbits, guinea pigs, a tortoise and even a beautiful barn owl! The children got to meet all of the animals up close and even feed them! They really enjoyed learning about what they eat and how to look after them.



Year 5 and 6 Learning in Design Technology

Year 5 children had to design and make a bird or insect house. They had to choose their own materials, measure, saw and secure the fittings. Then children had to weatherproof the structure so it was fit for purpose and evaluate their designs.



Year 6 worked with textiles—they had to learn different sewing techniques, evaluate them and choose the one they would use to sew their cushion. They chose their own measurements, materials and embellishments.

Year 1 local area walk - science, geography and RE

Year 1 went on a local walk, we looked for minibeasts and birds as we have been learning about them in Science. We went to Albany Park and we saw lots of different types of birds in the wetlands area and on the field. Unfortunately we didn't find any minibeasts at this time of year but as we are fortunate enough to have an edible garden we did find lots of minibeasts when we got back to school. We have been learning about our local area in Geography and were set the challenge of finding our local shops, the closest church, the train station and of course our school on the return walk. In RE we have been learning about different religions, we stopped outside the Church and discussed some of the symbols we have found in books at school, The children found the symbol of the cross in lots of different places all over the church building.



Year 2 Art

Year 2 have been learning to mix a range of colours, shades and tones and match colours to objects, experimenting with painting techniques and adding texture to paint to create portraits of the late Queen.



Lunar New Year

Children in Reception created a Chinese dragon to celebrate this Lunar New Year and the start of the Year of the Dragon. The children visited all the other classes to share their work.



Attendance update

Whole-school attendance figures for spring 1

Reception	94%
Year 1	92%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	94%
Year 5	94%
Year 6	93%
Total	94%

**Our school
attendance
target is
96%**



Getting your child to school really matters!

Did you know?

If your child's attendance during the school year is	Your child would have lost approximately	Or they would have missed approximately
95%	9 days from school	50 lessons
90%	19 days from school	100 lessons
85%	29 days from school	150 lessons
80%	38 days from school	200 lessons
75%	48 days from school	250 lessons

My child is unwell, should I send them to school?

Sometimes it is difficult to know whether to keep your child off school or send them in. Always try and send your child to school if they are a little 'under the weather', for example, with a runny nose, headache, mild tummy-ache. The school will always contact you if your child is unwell, which is why it is vitally important that we have your correct contact details. HOWEVER, please do not send your child to school if they have any infectious illnesses like Chicken Pox, Measles etc. If your child has been vomiting or is suffering from diarrhoea, then they must stay away from school for 48 hours from the last bout of illness. This is to ensure that any infection does not spread through the school.

Please do contact the school office if you need any additional advice or support and we will be happy to help.

The NHS has a handy guide to the most common childhood illnesses and what you should do.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Term Dates 2024/2025

Autumn Term 2024	
Inset Day	Monday 2 September 2024
Inset Day	Tuesday 3 September 2024
First Day of Term	Wednesday 4 September 2024
Half Term	Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024
Inset Day	Monday 4 November 2024
Start of second half term	Tuesday 5 November
Last Day of Term	Friday 20 December 2024
Spring Term 2025	
First Day of Term	Monday 6 January 2025
Half Term	Monday 17 to Friday 21 February 2025
Start of second half term	Monday 24 February 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 4 April 2025
Summer Term 2025	
First Day of Term	Tuesday 22 April 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 May 2025
Half Term	Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025
Inset Day	Monday 2 June 2025
Start of second half term	Tuesday 3 June 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 July 2025
Inset Day	Monday 21 July 2025
Inset Day	Tuesday 22 July