



Parent Link

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Issue 15
7th June 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

The final half term of the school year is here already and it has been good to see the sun shining – at least on some occasions – over the past few weeks. Planning sports day is always a bit of a risk, but running this before half term for the past couple of years has worked well in terms of the weather, and on Wednesday before the holiday we again got lucky. It was an excellent day, both morning and afternoon, and some tweaks to arrangements seemed to work well, especially in the afternoon. Whilst a small number of children did not make it over to the start of the event in the morning, it was great to see smiles on faces of so many children as they took part in the different races. For Little Wings and Rainbow classes in the afternoon, a more SCERTS-friendly approach was adopted, with lots of fun sporty activities that the children had the chance to take part in. Generally speaking this was very successful and it was great to see so many children willingly engage in the activities on offer. As ever, it was great to see so many of you attend the day, thank you for your support. Woodland department have not held a sports day this year, but did hold a wholly more appropriate Music and Mayhem day, in conjunction with Emma the music therapist and Caroline the Speech Therapist. The day was a resounding success, with some great learning from all who attended, and a good deal of fun too.

Over the next couple of weeks I will be sending out information regarding staffing and class groups for your child, to support a good transition into the new year – so much to do and enjoy before all that, but we recognise how important it is to start preparations early. Bradley Taylor (Headteacher)

Summer Term 2019 dates

Wednesday 24th April – Wednesday 24th July

Other dates for parents:

Stepping Stones Parenting Course-Weds 5th June, Weds 12th June and Wed 26th June 9am-4pm Cressex Hall

Tuesday 11th June – Y5/6 Gemstone and Coppice trip to Woodrow

FCWS – Thurs 13th June 7pm – Downley site
Thursday 20th June – Gemstone 'summer fete' afternoon

Wednesday 26th June – Chiltern Wood Has Talent (Downley site)

Parents' Evening-Thursday 18th July

Parents Forum

Come and join your forum

Held at the Cressex site

Join us and be part of the discussion on how to develop and improve our school.

For all parents on **both sites**

Thursday 13th June

At 9:15am for coffee

for

9:30am start

Agenda

Sports day feedback

Parent Survey feedback

Ideas for parent information

Sessions/events for next year



Friends of Chiltern Wood

Please do come along to our Friends meeting on Thursday 13th June at 7 pm on the Downley site. We will be looking at how to continue the charity's excellent work and need parents to volunteer and get involved. I hope to see as many of you as possible. Bradley

News from around the school

Rainbow

We hope you have all had a wonderful half term. It has been great to see some of the different photographs coming into school about what the children have been doing in the break. This half term is a busy half term for the children and there will be a focus of supporting the pupils with preparations for any changes in September. If you need any support with this please do speak to your class teacher in the first instance. Our topic for this term is 'Over a Rainbow'. This will incorporate looking at colour and different types of weather to name just some of the aspects. Later in the term we will be visiting TVAP for our last trip of this year. On Thursday the department came together for an Eid Party. It was a lovely event for the children. Thank you again for your support with Sports Day just before half term. We hope you have a lovely weekend. Hannah

Little Wings

Hope you all had a good half term and happy Eid to those that were celebrating. The pupils have settled back quickly and are enjoying their new theme 'Up in the Sky'. Some of the books and songs they have started looking at have included 'Noah's Ark' and 'I can see a Rainbow'. We are excited about being able to take lots of our learning outside this term provided the weather stays nice! David

Treetops

Hope you all had a good half term and happy Eid to those that were celebrating. The students have already been very busy with Red Kite class hosting the community cafe. The chocolate cookies were delicious! Falcon Class have been continuing the cooking theme and this week made frittata. Hawk Class continue to enjoy their sensory story about Sheldon the Snail and Kestrel Class, The Enormous Crocodile. We look forward to many more fun events happening this half term. David

Coppice

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful half term and a very Happy Eid for those who are celebrating this week.

On the polling day Coppice Staff worked to develop our outside area ready for the summer months. We now have a new outdoor kitchen, water play area, music area as well as a trampoline, spinning top and see-saw for regulation. It's been lovely to see the children using this space for creative play and social interaction. As always, the summer term is jam packed with events. Coming up in June we have:

Chiltern Wood's Got Talent on Wednesday 26th

Kitefest on Thursday 27th

Please see the letters for more details. Claire

Woodlands

At the time of writing this, we are very much looking forward to Feel Theatre Company visiting us to perform their Sensory Circus to small groups of Woodland Department pupils. I will write about the experience in the next newsletter. The pupils in Bluebell Class have been developing their communication skills with the support of Grid 3 software used on their plasma screen computer. Meadow Class pupils have been engaging in newly designed sessions to improve their vision and active listening. Orchard Class pupils have been exploring the new sensory mats made by Brenda and Theresa and joining in with Gemstone Department's 'Wake and Shake' session. The pupils in Forest Class have demonstrated some excellent independent movement, either while travelling around the school or when reaching for and grasping items during a range of activities. The Den Class pupils have responded positively to the sights and sounds in the outside environment of the school grounds and also the local community. Amanda

Gemstones

A good start to the half term!

In this week's Assembly we launched the new Gemstones newspaper, this will be produced every half term with contributions from every class. We announced the children selected from each class to come and help select some books for the school library, spending a book token kindly donated to the school.

Our friends from Woodlands joined us for our Wake and Shake session and we enjoyed playing some parachute games together; great to see all the smiles and giggles as the monkeys jumped off the beds!

Unfortunately the wet weather forecast for Friday led us to postpone the picnic event until the 12th July, we hope it will be a sunny and fun end to the term. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

We have a WOW day planned for the 20th June, we hope to see as many of you as possible then and at Chiltern Wood Has Talent on the 26th June.

Transitions are beginning to happen for the Year 6 pupils moving up to Secondary School and we hope they will all have positive experiences to make the move from our setting as smooth as possible. Sarah

Treetops Department – Cooking



Coppice Department – Outside Area



[Pinpoint \(Disabled Children Register\) and Max Card - Bucks Family Information Service](https://www.bucksfamilyinfo.org)

www.bucksfamilyinfo.org

Pinpoint, the Disabled Children Register is a voluntary database which captures information about children and young people aged 0 to 19 years with SEND who live in Buckinghamshire.

<https://www.bucksfamilyinfo.org/kb5/buckinghamshire/fsd/advice.page?id=RUKy1n-fvHY>



[Discounts for fostered and disabled children - MaxCard](https://www.mymaxcard.co.uk)

www.mymaxcard.co.uk

The Max Card is the UK's leading discount card for foster families and families of children with additional needs. Families can use their Max Card at venues across the UK to get free or discounted admission.

Once you have registered to PinPoint, if you choose to have a Max Card you will receive it within 6 weeks. You can find the expiry date on the back of the card.

Any questions or support on how to do this, please see Wendy.