



Parent Link

office@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk

Issue 9
31st January
2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As per my letter last week, it was with great sadness that we received the news that one of our pupils, Harry Stock, passed away on Friday 17th January, after a period of decline in his health. Today marks the date of his funeral, and there are many staff attending in support of his family and to remember him with those who were closest to him.

There will be an opportunity to donate to the hospice where Harry spent the end of his life – Helen House. Harry's family have asked that if anyone wishes to make a donation it should be sent there. We will set up an option on parentmail to facilitate this. Harry's time spent at Chiltern Wood School was overwhelmingly positive. Some of the memories that will be shared today are indicative of the fond affection that quickly grew for him amongst the staff, and the acceptance of his passing is challenging to the whole school community. Whilst truly making sense of the loss of a star as bright as Harry is beyond us, we are extremely grateful that we were lucky enough to have Harry in our school. The positive impact he made upon us from those who worked with him on a daily basis, to those who advised and supported through therapeutic or health roles, to his classmates, and to all those who came into contact with him, we will celebrate the opportunity we had to be with Harry, and we will hold those precious memories with us always.

Bradley Taylor (Headteacher)

Spring Term 2020 dates

Tuesday 7th January – Friday 14th February

Monday 24th February – Friday 3rd April

Other dates for Parents:

Community café starts – every 1st Wednesday of the month

Wednesday 5th February – 2.15 - 2.45pm Rainbow and Little Wings Stay and Play

Thursday 6th February – Parents Forum – 9.30am at Cressex site and 11.00am at Downley

Monday 10th February - Therapy dogs visit to Cressex site

Wednesday 12th February – 10am – 12pm Toileting workshop – Cressex site

Thursday 13th February – 4 – 7pm Parents' evening

Tuesday 25th February – Therapy dogs visit to Downley site

Coffee morning information session

Wednesday 12th February

10-12pm

Toileting workshop

Come and find out some tips and share your experiences/ideas with other parents

Run by Community nursing team

for children with a Learning Disability

Chiltern Wood School
Cressex site

Parents Forum

Come and join your forum and share your ideas, concerns, and suggestions

Held at the Cressex site

For all parents on both sites

Thursday 6th February 2020

At 9:15am for coffee

for 9:30am start

Agenda

- Holiday club update
- OT Obstacle Course / fund raiser
- SRE parental consultation
- Parent feedback on events
- Behaviour Clinics
- Summer term workshops



News from around the school

Rainbow

Another great couple of weeks in Rainbow. I have had some brilliant learning walks across the department and I have been really proud of what I have seen in place for the children in our care. The children have been highly motivated and engaged within their learning and activities with staff providing them with all the tools they require to succeed e.g. processing time, communication supports and positive relationships. We have Stay and Play next Wednesday (5th February), we really hope you are able to join us for this event. Have a brilliant weekend, Hannah

Little Wings

This term the children have been enjoying the theme 'on the farm' and we are pleased to be hosting farm animals on-site on 25th February. The children will have real hands-on access to the animals including: Dodger the sheep, Liquorice the Cow or Declan the Miniature Donkey! Don't forget, on Wednesday 5th February we will be welcoming parents in for another Stay and Play. At 2pm a class from our secondary department will be hosting a community Café in the school dining room, and from 2.15-2.45pm you will be welcomed into the classroom. The playground will be available to park in from 1.55pm, but please be aware if you do park here, you will need to leave promptly by 2.45pm in order for the taxi's to come in. We look forward to seeing you! Claire

Treetops

The last couple of weeks have been very busy with lots of activities taking place. I was lucky enough to attend swimming with Hawk and Eagle class last week at Handy Cross. It was great to see so many of the students growing in confidence when in the pool. Kestrel class have been continuing to work on their cooking skills and using portable hobs to cook their own stir fry! Owl class had their first swimming session last week which they all enjoyed. Reminder Community Cafe next week. Have a good weekend. David

Coppcice

The children have been hard at work this term. Highlights to share from the last couple of weeks include- Deer class went on their first walk out this week to Tesco. They made a shopping list and carefully used the list to find all the items in Tesco's.

Squirrel class have been working on identifying the emotions - the children loved the creative activities used in these lessons! Red Kite class have been busy learning how to recycle. Meanwhile Falcon class have been making leaflets about our school - Look out for these in reception once they are complete!

Woodlands

I have observed pupils showing lots of interest in touching and exploring everyday items with sensory properties i.e. smooth shaving foam, sticky vegetarian jelly, soft cornflour, cold potatoes straight from the fridge, sweet smelling oranges and spiky scrubbing brushes. These items can often be as interesting as toys, if not more so. Please let us know if your child shows particular interest in touching and exploring anything at home. Harry's family have been in our thoughts as we hugely miss and remember an extremely special young man. Harry's delightful personality regularly put a smile on the faces of others in the classes he was part of, and people in the school as a whole. Our deepest condolences. Amanda

Gemstones

This half term is whizzing past. Our topic for this term is Ancient Egyptians and the children are having positive and active learning experiences across the classes.

I have seen a pyramid built from sugar cubes and models of the Nile, lovely Art work being created.

In Opal class this weekend Monika volunteered to be Mummified... canopic jars, brain hooks and bandages were used to demonstrate the process. Sarah

Support Staff

Everyone seems to have settled into the new term well. Linda a new member of staff joined the mid-day team and will be working in the Gemstone Department. Linda has lots of previous experience that we will benefit from within the school, I have no doubt.

We will be saying goodbye to Lucy McCord on the 8th February and wish her good luck in next stage of her career.

Thank you to all the non-teaching teams for been flexible in the approach and always prepared to support and backfill when crisis strikes. Whether it is clearing up after lunchtime due to staff illness or covering lunchtime duties in a classroom because they are short staffed and the numerous other duties you cover that are not in the job description. You all do a fantastic job. Vicky

Gemstones – Learning about Mummies



Buddy Classes – The Den and Emerald “Sharing favourite books”





Get involved

with our Half-term LAF Project Celebration Week!

Monday, 17th February
Butlers Hangings Family Scrub BASH
Time: 10:30-14:30
Meet: Old West Wycombe Garden Centre Car Park, Chorley Road, HP14 3AP and wait for our minibus shuttle to the site.

River Chess Laurel Bash, Restore Hope Latimer
Time: 11:00-14:30
Meet: Main car park at Restore Hope Latimer, Latimer Park Farm, Chesham HP5 1TU. We will meet you and take you to the site.

Tuesday, 18th February
Copping Family Session, Dancersend, Wendover
Time: 11:00-14:30
Meet: Reserve car park at the Waterworks, HP23 6LB and we will meet you there.

Arty Spray Paint Bird Box Build and Litter Pick Session with Aylesbury Youth Action
Time: 10:30-13:30
Meet: Drop in to our gazebo at Bedgrove Park, Ambleside, Aylesbury, HP21 9TT.

Wednesday, 19th February
Littleworth Common Heathland & Pond Restoration Community Session
Time: 11:00-14:30
Meet: Please contact us for details.

Friday, 21st February
Help the Friends of Holtspur Bank Nature Reserve Community Coppcice
Time: 11:00-14:30
Meet: Park in the streets around Cherry Tree Road, Holtspur, HP9 1BN and follow the footpath from the Cherry Tree Road, Holtspur Lane Junction.

We have been delivering community conservation projects all over Bucks this year with funding from the Buckinghamshire County Council Local Area Fund (LAF) team.

To finish off this year's projects we invite you to join in one or more of these all age, family sessions all over Buckinghamshire.

Children and young people should be accompanied by an adult. Wear strong shoes, old clothes with lots of layers, waterproofs and bring a packed lunch. We will provide work gloves, tools, hot drinks and biscuits and teach you how to use the tools safely and explain to you the difference you are making to Keep Bucks Buzzing!

For full details of each of these events please visit our website: chilternrangers.co.uk/events or contact us by email: info@chilternrangers.co.uk.

Please park considerately and share lifts where possible.

In partnership with



Buckinghamshire
County Council

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chilternrangers.co.uk