



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am trying very hard to not focus on Covid 19 within this newsletter, although a confirmed case within school almost 2 weeks ago makes that difficult! I can confirm that there have been no further cases and it appears no-one caught the virus during any potential transmission period. Everyone in school remains aware of the risks and concerns for our whole school community and we continue to engage with all the advice we have around hygiene and precautions.

It is great to read of some of the learning activities going on across the school from Department Leads (overleaf). Whilst I try to limit the amount of time I am appearing in classes across the school, leaders are now able to get a better view of how learning is going, and it's great to be focused on that again, as well as thinking about safety measures. It is always a joy to see children getting involved (and mucky) with being creative in a sensory way, so I was pleased to receive the picture below from a class with some of our newer pupils in it.

Have a good weekend.

Bradley Taylor (Headteacher)

## Autumn Term 2020 dates

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### Other dates for Parents:

W/C 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Parent Forum – Cressex – *details to follow*  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November – 9.15 – 10.30am – puberty workshop – *details to follow*  
W/C 7<sup>th</sup> December – Parent Forum – Cressex – *details to follow*

## REARRANGED



Welcome to  
**Chiltern Wood School**

&



Meet the

**Health and Therapy Team**  
virtual coffee morning

At the Downley site

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 9:15 to 10:30 am

Come and virtually meet other parents and the therapists at school and hear about what we do.

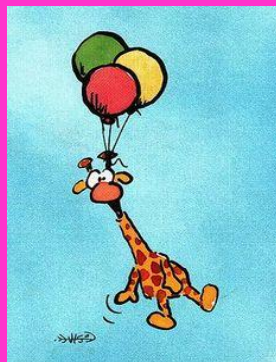


Zoom invite to follow via Parent mail

## Ladybird Class – Enjoying Hand and Feet painting



## News from the Parent Ambassador



Just to say I am sorry to be stepping down from my position as Parent Ambassador and leaving the school next week. I will miss the cheery conversations at the gate and on the phone, the jokes imparted, the gardening tips, the inspiring tales of marathon training, fundraising and juggling work and family.

Thank you for the experiences shared, the original ideas, the useful feedback on events and all that you have taught me about special needs and keeping a sense of humour. I have really enjoyed my time at Chiltern Wood and mostly because of you. Wishing you, your children and families good luck, good health and good times ahead. Allie

## News from around the school

### Rainbow

The term is well underway now and the children continue to amaze us with how well they have settled back into life at school. There have been wonderful reports coming back from the class teams with regards to positive interactions with the pupils and for many of the children there have been some fantastic wow moments. We are keen to hear from you of any wow moments you have at home, please do share these so we can include these into your child's learning journal. This term we have been thinking about ourselves; our bodies, our emotions and our families. This has been a lovely topic to start the year with and there have been some fantastic moments collated by the teams in the children's learning journals. Have a lovely weekend, Hannah

### Little Wings

Our Little Wings topic this half term is 'All About Me'. We are focusing on body parts, our families and new friendships. One popular story is Go Away, Big Green Monster! An animation can be found on YouTube should you wish to show the story again at home. A popular song is the 'Head to Toe' song by Eric Carle which can also be found on Youtube at home. On the front page is a photo of Ladybird Class enjoying some hand and feet painting! It is always useful for us to have photos of pupils' families to refer to at school, so please send in any photocopies of family photographs you'd like the children to share. Claire

### Treetops

It has been a busy couple of weeks. Lots of the students have been working on their life skill activities where they have been enjoying washing up, hoovering and washing clothes. Hopefully they may help with some of these jobs at home! Eagle and Hawk class have been enjoying their cooking sessions making lots of things including cheese scones and quiche. Have a good weekend. David

### Woodlands

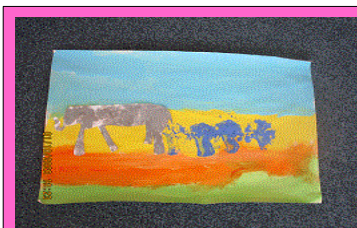
I spent some time with Snowdrop Class this week and was delighted to see sustained interactions between pupils and adults, the use of Grid 3 on the plasma screen to support communication and super attention skills during the Bucket session. The noisy frog toy and flour castles were particularly motivating for the pupils. The pupils in Bluebell Class have been equally as busy. A highlight has been their mini-beast scavenger hunt where they found and explored feathers, rocks, tree bark, leaves, twigs and flowers. Great looking, listening and grasping skills were demonstrated. Amanda

### Gemstones

Life in Gemstones is now falling gently into a new routine. The children are loving their swimming sessions as normal, some children are already showing signs of improved confidence in the water.

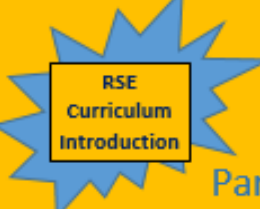
The children are enjoying learning about Our Wonderful World.. some pictures shared.

The weather is turning cold now so please ensure your child has a named coat in school as we will be taking lots of opportunities to learn outside and enjoy our playtimes. Sarah



### Gemstones Department

James in Ruby class has been busy copying African art to create his Elephant safari painting.



**RSE Curriculum Introduction**

## Virtual Parents Forum

Come and join your forum on Zoom.


**BOTH SITES on 15<sup>th</sup> October**

At 10am

**Zoom link will be sent out via Parent mail.**

Agenda




1. Welcome
2. Update on how we are working in COVID times (Bubbles etc.)
3. Introduction to new compulsory DFE Relationship and Sex education curriculum
4. How it works at Chiltern Wood School
5. Some examples of content and resources across the school
6. Opportunity for questions and feedback
7. Other events this term
8. Ideas for events parents would like, given our challenging times ...



### Emerald Class

Emerald Class found out that chocolate melts, turns from a solid into a liquid, more quickly in hot water than in warm, or cold water.

They also made delicious samosas.

### A request from Rainbow Department




If anyone has any scooters, balls or other outside toys they no longer want, Please can these be donated to Rainbow Department.

Also, fairy lights, any sensory light items, and plastic storage boxes for the Rainbow Sensory room would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!