



Parent Link

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Issue 10
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2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As ever my grateful thanks to all parents for their hard work during this Lockdown period, in many cases supporting the children at home whilst juggling a multitude of other responsibilities.

Some big news that I am happy to announce is that all our staff have been offered their first dose of the vaccine within the past two weeks. This feels like the first step towards normality, although of course there is a long way to go. Whilst the science is not entirely conclusive, the first dose should provide a good degree of protection by the time 3 weeks rolls around – for week beginning March 8th.

We will wait to hear the Prime Minister's announcement on February 22nd, but it is highly likely we will increase our current capacity subsequent to that date. I am well aware how challenging this period is being, and I thank you for your feedback via the survey last week. Please be assured that our drive is to get as many children back in to school as early as possible, provided it is safe to do so.

Our testing team – who have done an amazing job – are now testing staff twice a week. This will continue to happen, and I need you to be aware that all the precautions we have in place at present will continue. This includes isolating anyone that has come in to contact with the virus, the hygiene practices, bubble structure and social distancing where we can.

Whilst there have been some positive cases of both pupils and staff over this half term, none have been linked to school in any way, so I am pleased that our collective efforts have prevented the school from being a source of illness for anyone – staff or children's families. I am sure you are aware of the decreasing numbers both nationally and locally, and I hope by March 8th we will have seen a further considerable decrease.

I think we could all do with the weather warming up a little to allow us to get out and exercise a bit more readily – I hope your week during the half term holiday goes well. I am hopeful we can start that climb back to worrying about more trivial matters soon after the break.

I mentioned in the last newsletter that Claire May had her baby somewhat earlier than expected – I am pleased to report that she and her baby daughter (Rosa) are now out of hospital and at home. We wish them well. We have appointed Hannah Hope (Dragonfly teacher) as the Department Lead whilst Claire is on maternity leave; Sarai Luque Talavera takes up Claire's position as assessment lead within the school.

Finally – we wish Munib from Emerald class a fond farewell today, as he leaves the school with his move away from the area. Good luck Munib for the future!

Bradley Taylor (Headteacher)

Spring Term 2021 dates

Monday 22nd February – Thursday 1st April 2021

Chiltern Wood School logo and Buckinghamshire Council logo are visible at the top. The poster features a blue background with white and green text. It includes a list of topics covered in the course and specific dates and times for the sessions.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING

Join us for a FREE 5-week course run by Bucks Adult Learning and Chiltern Wood School

Topics covered include

- strategies to improve self-esteem and confidence
- mindfulness
- helping build resilience
- strategies to help with anxiety and stress
- the importance of communication to well-being.

Dates: 25th Feb, 4th, 18th & 25th March, 1st April
Time: 10am-noon
On: Google Meets (we will help you get online)

To book your place, please text: Mandy on 07825 862029 with your name and "CWW" ASAP

Chiltern Wood School logo is visible at the top. The poster features a white background with blue and green text. It describes a 4-week course for parents and carers and provides contact information for booking.

WHEN DREAMS CHANGE

A 4 week course for parents and carers exploring what happens when dreams change and how we process and adjust our expectations to our child's additional needs.

On Mondays from 10-11.30am on Zoom. Starting on 1st March for 4 weeks.

Facilitated by Liz, our Parent Ambassador
To book a place, e-mail
lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk

GROWING HOPE logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

The Exploitation HUB (Buckinghamshire Council) is a multi agency unit which includes police, Social care, Barnardos and health colleagues. If you have concerns about the Cunch app and/or any child being exploited into county lines and would like some further advice please contact the HUB by emailing: exploitationreferrals@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

News from around the school

Treetops

Thank you all for your hard work this half term which has been very challenging. It has been great seeing some of you on zoom and hopefully we will be all able to see some of you in person soon. We have had some exciting news recently where the school has built some outdoor fitness equipment where students will be able to go on an exercise bike, health walker, sky stepper, double slalom skier and enjoy the outdoor table tennis table. Hopefully they will be able to enjoy them next term. Have a good half term. David

Gemstones

Thank you all for your support over this half term. It has been a different one but as you will see from the photographs, there have been so many different activities to celebrate. Thanks to also to all the staff who have given so much of themselves when they have had their own personal worries. Sarah

Rainbow

My continued thanks for all you have done to support Rainbow over the past half term. This has been a half term full of challenge but what we have seen rise from this is some fantastic 'wow' moments from our children. These have been wide ranging from increased communication, exploring new sensory experiences even to progress in toilet training! So much to celebrate! We hope you all have a wonderful half term break, stay safe and take care. Hannah

Coppice

It is nearly half term I hope you all manage to wind down a bit and take a well-earned break. Thank you for all the hard work you have put into supporting your children with their learning over this term. The collaborative approach taken by school and parents to support the children has been so amazing. Some highlights to share from over the last few weeks include: Roleplaying Aliens Love Underpants in Squirrel and Deer class, learning about fact files in Falcon class and exploring shapes in Red Kite class. Salma

Woodland

The pupils who are in school have been busy exploring paints with their hands and making marks on paper to create Valentine's cards for their friends who are at home. Some pupils were able to choose the paint colour and others experienced making marks on different textures e.g. sandpaper and bubble wrap. The cards have been posted, so your child should receive their card in the post any day now. I have enjoyed hearing about Aimee and her family making cakes to celebrate the birthdays of family members who they are not currently able to see in person. How fantastic that Aimee has used her Eye-Gaze device to request cake baking. It made me chuckle when Audrey told me that Cassie now has a chicken called Audrey! Cassie clearly enjoyed introducing the two Audreys to each other via Zoom! Amanda

Woodland Department Activities



Gemstones Department Activities



Bumblebee Class Athena building a Snowman!

