



Parent Link

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Issue 15
14th May 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Whilst we have yet to see any clear sign of summer weather, the summer term is well under way and it has been great to hear about all the learning that is going on around the school. As I write this we continue to have been fortunate enough to not have any confirmed positive Covid cases across the school – child nor adult, so we are grateful that this form of disruption so often seen across the year has – for now at least – not been a factor in the children's education.

With so much disruption over the course of the year, I wanted to mention your child's attendance in the newsletter this week. There have been some occasions when the school office has been contacted to say that a child hasn't slept well and the child will not be in school as a result. I really encourage you to send your child in if this is the case anyway, particularly if you are able to bring him/her in a bit later after some sleep. If a child is especially tired then we can allow a child to have an afternoon nap if it is agreed with you – essentially we want the children in school to maintain or re-establish the routine that has been lacking for some of the year. Whilst as an exception we recognise a child may need a day off school, the general rule will be to not authorise this absence.

On a related theme, there have been a small number of cases where foreign travel has caused a significant attendance issue. With rules changing all the time regarding quarantine and amber/red lists, the school is not in a position to authorise holidays away from school during term time. In this very difficult time we do recognise that sadly there are occasions when relatives pass away or are very unwell. Our request to you in these circumstances is to try to find a way such that your child does not need to be part of a trip that might require you to support bereaved loved ones. As ever, each case is handled individually, but we have had occasions where a request has not been authorised, and then it has been very difficult to return from abroad due to changing rules, and as a result a significant period of time is missed away from school. In such cases we will be pursuing penalty notices and fines, as the impact on the child's education is severe.

Quite separate from that, a number of children were away from school during the week for Eid. To those families, I do hope you were able to enjoy the festivities. Best wishes,
Bradley

Summer Term 2021

Wednesday 19th May 10-11.30 - Virtual Epilepsy Workshop

Thursday 20th May 10-12 – Supporting Your Child's Wellbeing (Bucks Adult Learning)

Tuesday 25th May 10-11.15am Recharge: Time out for parents (Liz Webber)

Thursday 27th May 10-12 Supporting your Child's wellbeing (Bucks Adult Learning)

Monday 31st May – Friday 5th June – HALF TERM

Monday 7th June 2021 – Wednesday 21st July

Chiltern Wood School
Success through Wellbeing

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 9th June 2021 for 4 weeks.

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

GROWING HOPE

Chiltern Wood School
Success through Wellbeing

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: 20th & 27th May, 10th, 17th & 24th June
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 Summer"

GROWING HOPE

Doug the Pug



We have some sad news that Doug the Pug, our therapy dog has sadly passed away . As a school we would like to send our best wishes to Cate his owner and co-facilitator of the sessions we had and to thank her for all the lovely sessions that Doug and Cate provided us across the school. He was a very special dog who lit up the children's faces.

Parent Survey reminder

A link was sent out this week for the Parent survey and the closing date is 31st of May 2021. This survey is important as it provides us with our annual parent voice which informs us and the governors of what we are doing well and anything we could do better.



Epilepsy Workshop

During the workshop, Helen, our School Nurse, will be covering an understanding of the basics of epilepsy, knowledge of triggers, information on medicines used to treat epileptic seizures, what to do in the event of an epileptic seizure and when to call for medical help.

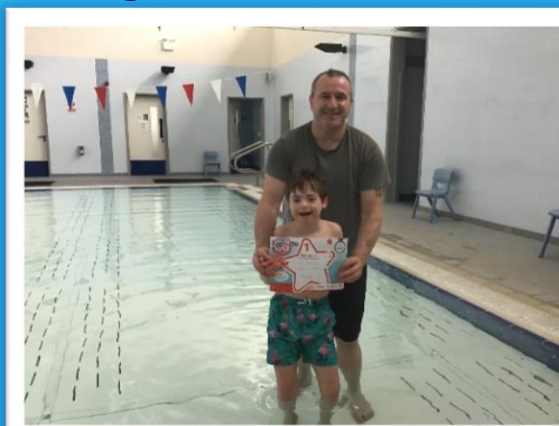
On 19th May 10-11.30am on MS Teams

E-mail lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk
to book a place



Sensory Octopus made by Lucy and the Go Talk device that Sayf, Isa and Toby were using during the Interactive story session in Bluebell Class

Congratulations to Oisín!



Oisín from Snowdrop class received his Stage 1 swimming award. Well done!!



Online safety at home:

parents and carers newsletter



30th April 2021

Sharing information, pictures and videos

It's harder to stay connected with our friends and family right now, so you may be sharing more images and videos of our children online via social media. But before you do, there are some important things to consider.

Read [sharing pictures of your children](#) for info on how to protect your younger, or older child whilst staying social.

Using devices like phones and tablets to share pictures and videos can be a fun way for children to have fun and stay in touch with friends and family online. It's really important your child knows what's ok to share online and what they should check with you first.

Read [younger children sharing pictures or videos online](#) for more information on the risks and how to support safer sharing.

Personal information is any information that can be used to identify your child. Sharing personal information online is easy and sometimes children, like adults, might share more online than they would offline, which can be risky.

Read [your child's personal information and how to protect it online](#) for information and advice.

News from around the school

Rainbow

We are now seeing the final few annual reviews of the year. Thank you to you all for your support within these meetings in particular with us hosting them virtually. It has been wonderful to hear about the progress each of the children have made both in and out of school. My continued thanks for the partnership you have with each of the class teams and our department. The children have continued to enjoy getting out and about over the past couple of weeks with forest school and swimming. In PE we have been working on an OT styled obstacle course which will hopefully feed into our sports day later in the year. Have a lovely weekend, Hannah G.

Little Wings

Next term our topic will be transport and holiday and we are already planning our playroom set up after the success of the aquarium set up we have at the moment. We are considering sorting clothes for different types of holidays (hot and cold). If you have any old clothes e.g. hats (summer or winter), gloves, swim shorts or bags we could use as holiday bags etc that are not needed and you would like to donate these would be really helpful! Thank you in advance, Hannah H.

Treetops

The last couple of weeks the students have enjoyed taking part in PE sessions again with Matt. They have been practicing their ball skills, balancing activities, going over obstacles and practicing their listening skills. A big well done to Bertie in Kestrel class who swam 15 metres last week. Have a good weekend. David

Gemstones

This half term's theme, Be Active was introduced in assembly last Friday.

As we sat in the playground the adults role-played various activities and the children sorted them into active and not active ... as we talked about this, we were visited by a friendly seagull who perched on the roof, he then flew down onto the plastic veranda and picked up a small football and flew off! Sarah

Woodland

The pupils have been working hard to develop their communication skills. Sayf, Toby and Isa joined Caroline Dixon for an interactive story session that involved going on an imaginary journey using a TheraBand. The boys have been using a Go Talk device and laughing while joining in with actions, experiencing the wind and exploring the sensory octopus made by Lucy. The pupils in Snowdrop Class have engaged extremely well with their 1:1 communication activities. Ria has been using a communication board to ask Sally to act out different emotions, Dexter has been using a 'go' symbol during games and Oisín vocalised 'go'. Well done, Everyone!

Amanda

Health and Therapies

Hello everyone! We have some exciting news in the Health and Therapies Team. Nicola McHugh (Nicky) will be starting her Special School nursing post on 17th May 2021 for 13.5 hours per week. This is very exciting news. Helen Watts will meet with her on Monday, and together they will sort out working hours etc and will be able to give more details at that point. Nicky was actually on placement as a student nurse at Chiltern Wood school, and loved it so much that she is really looking forward to returning.

Welcome to Chiltern Wood Nicky!