



Parent Link

Issue 16
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Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been very much overshadowed by the terrible news we received about Sarah New on Monday. I know this tragedy will affect us all for a good while to come and it's important we take the time to recognise her impact on us as a school, and the loss that we now face.

Sarah joined (then) Chiltern Gate School in June 2004 and worked for many years within the residential department as part of a small team that supported those pupils that needed additional support beyond the school day. That facility closed in 2015, and at that point Sarah joined the main staff body of the school, working across a number of classes in the following years, including most recently Snowdrop class on the Downley site. Sarah lived in one of our staff flats, and has become part of the fabric of our school. It is very hard to quantify the positive impact she had on the children in the school, even before we consider the work she did providing respite for children in liaison with social care, or supporting Horizons Sports club for children with additional needs. Sarah was regarded by all as the most diligent of workers, and her commitment to the development and welfare of the children and young people in her class was truly exceptional. One of the children Sarah spent a lot of time working with made a real breakthrough this week when trialling the use of a communication device. It is only through the persistent and consistent work of staff day in and day out that allows the progress to be made which in turn provides the key to these amazing occasions when such big steps forward are seen.

In the fullness of time I will communicate further about how we can all, as part of the school community, contribute to the legacy of Sarah's hard work.

I wish you all a restful half term break,
Bradley



Summer Term 2021

Monday 31st May – Friday 5th June – HALF TERM
Monday 7th June 2021 – Wednesday 21st July



Now that the weather is warming up and restrictions are hopefully going to continue being lifted, our parent events are starting to come back in person. Our events are for parents from both Cressex and Downley.

So here's a few dates for your diaries:

- When Dreams Change 4 week course starting on 9th June on Zoom – 10.00 to 11.30am
- Recharge on 15th June at 9.30-10.45am - Nature walk and coffee at the Rye.
- Coffee Morning at 9.30-10.30am on 22nd June at Cressex site.
- Parent Forum 10am on 1st July.
- Basic First Aid 9.15-11.45am on 7th July.
- Creative Arts Recharge session on 13th July at 9.30-10.45am.
- Puberty Workshop 9.30-11.30am on 15th July.

Further details to follow via Parentmail, facebook, on our website and on our parents' noticeboards at school.

I look forward to meeting you in person!

In the meantime if you have any questions, need someone to talk to, or need support in any way, do contact me at the Cressex office or by e-mail to lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk

Liz

News from around the school

Rainbow

Once again this term your children have made us all incredibly proud! We have once again seen some wonderful wow moments from our children with taking on new challenges, developing their communication and participating in new OT groups. Next half term we move onto a new topic and this will be focused on a specific author, Julia Donaldson. This author has produced some incredible stories and which we are excited to share with the children. Thank you for all your support this half term. We hope you all have a wonderful half term, Hannah.

Treetops

This half term students have been enjoying getting back into our old routines and some of us have been taking part in some outdoor learning activities. This has included Forest School, community walks and gardening. Next half term we will be having a sports afternoon where students will be taking part in 5 different activities to raise money for our department. This will include a walking race, obstacle course, using recently installed fitness equipment, balancing race and relay. Sponsorship forms will be coming out soon. Unfortunately due to Covid we will not be inviting parents will take lots of photos to share with you. Have a good half term. David

Little Wings

This week I had the pleasure of going into classes and seeing the pupils and it was clear to see the progress all of them have made! I hope you all have a safe and rested half term break! Hannah

Gemstones

We are all looking forward to our Sports Event on the 18th June. Please see the separate letter. We are raising money for classroom hoists in Woodlands Department. It would be great to get your support! Hoping you all have a lovely half term and the sun will come out too. Sarah

Woodland

We have been remembering Sarah's enthusiasm, work ethic, dedication and friendship. She will be deeply missed by pupils and staff.

Please see the separate letter regarding our 'Big 5 Challenge' sponsored physical development event. This event will take place during the week commencing 21st June, and the sponsorship money will go towards ceiling hoists and overhead tracking. Please help us to raise money towards the hoists. Amanda

Coppice

It has been a long and busy half term but it has been lovely to see children settled back into their normal day to day routines.

Please look out for letters coming out regarding our Sports day Big 5 Sponsored event. Coppice department will be raising money to develop our outdoor learning areas focussing on the Quad. Please encourage friends and family to sponsor our young children in their event.

I hope you all have a restful half term ready for the final stretch of the year (hopefully with a bit more sun!) Salma

Health and Therapies

We can't believe we are half-way through Summer Term already! Everyone has been very busy. Helen from the SALT team had an interesting and thought-provoking discussion with parents in their Zones of Regulation training session a few weeks ago. Thank you to everyone who attended this. We wish you all a lovely half-term break. The Health and Therapies Team



The Gemstones swings have been well loved over the years. Unfortunately, they have recently been declared unsafe.

We would like to use this opportunity to be able to review and develop this area. Our sports event will be a perfect opportunity for us to raise some money that will allow us to develop a play area that is accessible to all our pupils.

Donations

Thank you for some recent donations to Rainbow which have included fairy lights, storage containers and regulation supports. It is always appreciated receiving kind donations.



Parent Survey reminder

A link was sent out 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.

