



# Parent Link

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Another year has passed, and it's hard to accurately reflect the range of challenges that we have all faced and overcome. It is a big understatement to say we all deserve a big pat on the back. Sadly we have been reacting to a number of Covid related issues this past two weeks, with staffing levels affected by isolation requirements, and then we have had 3 positive cases amongst our secondary provision too. It is highly disruptive and I can only apologise that we have not finished the year as smoothly as we would like. I am intentionally not communicating the details of how we will operate in the new year, as I am keen to digest the guidance fully and see what the national picture is like towards the end of August.

The end of year always brings sad news with those students who come to the end of their learning with us as a school. We have 3 year 14 leavers, and the development and change in those young people has been incredible. We are so proud of them after such a long period with us. Layla, Kayla and Yousef – we wish you well as young adults.

Equally we have a large number of year 6 pupils leaving us – going to Stony Dean, Pebble Brook, Alfriston and Arbour Vale schools. Whilst their length of time with us is not quite so long, they are just as much endeared to us no matter when they joined. We wish every single one of them the best for the future, and we look forward to hearing about how they get on in their new schools.

We are also saying goodbye to some fantastic staff as the year comes to an end:

Amy Rowland who has been an outstanding member of Orchard class team is starting her pursuit of becoming a teacher and leaves us to study.

Zahrah Khan is a teaching assistant in Rainbow and will be leaving the school for family reasons.

Alice Fletcher from Bumblebee class is a bit further along in her journey – she is starting her trainee teacher year next year, and we hope to see her back for a placement.

Kathryn Edwards, teacher in Squirrel class, has returned from maternity but is finishing with us at the end of the year to look after her young family.

Lizzie Faithful, who has been with us for some years through teacher training, also returned from maternity but is relocating to another part of the country – I'm pleased to say she continues in special education.

Sam Anson, another teacher who came through training with us, also continues in special ed but closer to her home.

Pali Juttla has worked for Chiltern Wood School for a number of years, starting at our Cressex site, working as Gemstones department lead, and most recently in Woodlands department. Pali is going back to working in a mainstream school as of next year.

Sandra Derby has been a teaching assistant with the school for many many years – 30 if our records are correct! She has worked with PMLD youngsters in all the different incarnations of the school through the years – her service has been truly outstanding. Sandra, we wish you well in your retirement.

**Last day of term:**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

**First day of new term:**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

## Parent Ambassador Update

It has been a fantastic term for Parent Events, and it has been great to see many of you coming along to training sessions and courses. I hope that you have enjoyed them and benefited from attending them.

I know that Summer holidays can be tricky, so I ran a Summer Self Care Session last week for parents. For those who weren't able to attend, but would like to see it, I recorded the session and am happy to send it to you to watch. It's an hour long. Just drop me an e-mail on [lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk) and I can send it over to you.

I am also working on a list of activity ideas for the Summer, which I hope to send out next week.

Finally have a wonderful Summer and I look forward to September and all the exciting events we have coming up - I'm planning already!

Liz

Finally we also say goodbye to Caroline Dixon, who has provided excellent service to the school and the children within, through her role as speech therapist with the NHS. Her expertise will be really sorely missed, but we wish her well for the future as she reduces her hours.

All these staff have affected our children in ways that are so hard to measure – we thank them for everything they have done.

My best wishes to all the children and their families over the summer period – I look forward to the new year and new challenges!

Bradley Taylor

## News from around the school

### Rainbow

What a year this has been but one which saw each of children rise and face the challenges the world presented them with. We are so incredibly proud of each and every one of them for all they have overcome and for all the wonderful personal progress they have made over the course of this year. There are too many wow moments to list here but there have been some most wonderful and memorable occasions. We say goodbye to a few children from our department who have either moved onto the next department or to a new school. You will be greatly missed. Thank you for the energy you brought, the smiles you have given us and for being the incredible children that you are. Thank you to you all for the support you have given our team over the past year, we really do appreciate it. Have the most amazing summer, stay safe, Hannah G

### Woodland

Congratulations to Theresa and Rosie on the Isle of Wight Challenge! They both did so incredibly well and have raised lots of money to go towards overhead tracking and ceiling hoists. A huge thanks to Rosie and Theresa, and also to everyone who has sponsored them. There is still time to contribute if you'd like to and haven't already done so.

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/theresa-howells-3?utm\\_id=2&utm\\_term=3KJMr2rMW](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/theresa-howells-3?utm_id=2&utm_term=3KJMr2rMW)

Hoists are going to be fitted in Orchard Class over the summer holidays which we are very excited about, and plan to arrange for the ceiling hoists to be fitted in the other Woodland Department classes once the funding has been raised.

We are sending a massive thank you and the best of luck to Sandra, Caroline D, Pali and Amy who are leaving at the end of term, and congratulations to Hannah B who is getting married over the summer. Well done to all of the pupils for their super work throughout the year. We are very proud of you all, hope you have a nice summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all in September. Amanda

### Health and Therapies

Hi everyone, we are almost at the end of term! We have so enjoyed working with the children this year, and have had lots of lovely success stories, despite the challenging times. Everyone in the Health and Therapies team would like to wish all of our leavers good luck in their new settings - we know you will all do amazing things in the next steps of your journeys. Have a lovely Summer break everyone!

From the Health and Therapies Team

### Coppice

I hope you have all had a chance to have a look at the children's end of year reports and explore their transition books for next year. The children have all been exploring their new classes virtually over the last week. As the year comes to a close I would like to say thank you to you all for all your support this year, I appreciate how difficult it has been with lockdowns but the collaborative approach from parents and staff has ensured that this has continued to be a productive year for all. Hopefully we will get some sun over the summer. Have a lovely break. Salma

### Gemstones

As the year rolls to the finishing line I would like to Thank you all for your support this academic year. Despite the unusual circumstances Gemstones has been able to carry on laughing, dancing, and enjoying our learning experiences.

Thank you also for your contributions to the Big 5 sports events, we have raised a considerable amount towards the development of our Swings area.

Our year six pupils have been preparing for their move to secondary schools and we will be celebrating their achievements in Friday's assembly. Shine brightly as you take your next steps, we are all very proud of our Gems! Sarah

### Little Wings

This week Little Wings have had a lovely beach day on the playground. The children enjoyed exploring the water and sand and buying ice lollies and drinks from our shop. I am unbelievably pleased at the progress of all of the children this year. All of the pupils have had a fantastic year and I hope that you all have a safe and well-rested summer. Hannah H.

### Treetops

This week we had our leavers assembly where we celebrated Yousef, Kayla and Layla's achievements. They have been here since the age of 3, we wish them all good luck with everything in the future. On Friday we had our celebration assembly where we celebrated our students individual achievements. On Monday we have our department party, please send some food in for this. Have a good weekend and hope we can enjoy some sunshine over the summer. David



**Opal class went on a trip to Hughenden Manor to learn how during WW2, the grounds were used for a top secret map making operation, known as operation Hillside. They then took a trip to RAF Naphill where they saw fighter aircraft that used the maps to help win the war. Opal class had such a great time and were fascinated that this happened so close to their school!**





Little Wings Beach Day

