



Dear Parents and Carers,

I have been looking forward to writing my first newsletter to you all since I was offered the amazing job of being Head Teacher at Chiltern Wood back at the end of September last year.

I have had a warm welcome from all the pupils, staff and parents that I managed to see at the forum on Tuesday.

A small bit about me is that I live locally with my family - my husband and 4 children (aged between 17 and 23). I love the theatre, art, baking and reading. I have been a teacher for all my working life, most recently as Deputy Head at Alfriston School, a special school in Beaconsfield.

My number one priority is to build relationships and part of this was to ask each class to create something to go into my offices. This has led to some very creative ideas coming from the staff and pupils, especially around how they have given me their work: I had a treasure hunt from Opal class and was invited to breakfast with Red Kite class, which were both wonderful.

Unfortunately, we had some very sad news with the sudden death of a Woodlands pupil in the early hours of Monday morning. I have been so impressed with the way the staff have supported Ariana's family, each other and the pupils. I have heard all about how Ariana was a delight to be with and a very popular young lady.

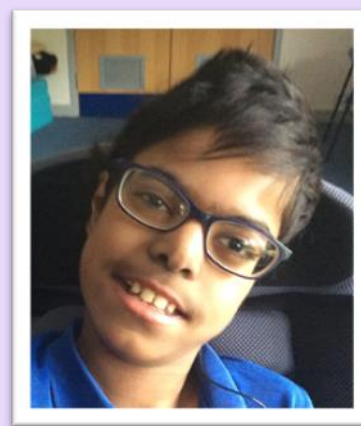
We would also ask parents and carers to continue to be aware of Covid as we have had an increase of cases in pupils and staff this week. This has meant that some pupils have had to do some remote learning and one department has gone into a bubble. If your child shows any symptoms we would ask that you follow the government guidance.

I look forward to getting to know and working with you all. If you see me around please say hello.

*Rachel Chapman*

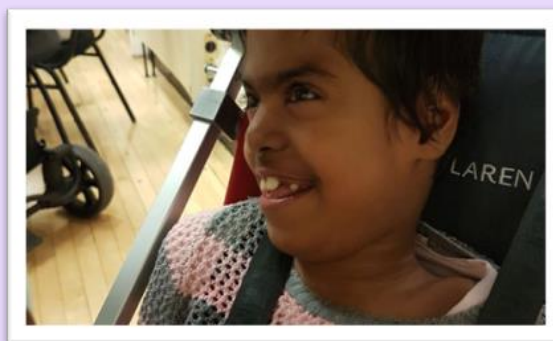


## Ariana Miah 23.09 2007 – 10.01.2022



Ariana's family have set up a fundraising page to raise money to build a school in memory of her. This school will enable children living in a remote, isolated community to attend lessons. Please follow this link if you wish to donate.

<http://gofundme.com/f/ongoing-charity-for-ariana-miah>



## Calendar dates

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> February – Parents Evening

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February – HALF TERM

## News from around the school

### Rainbow

Welcome back to the Spring term! We hope you had a lovely break with your children. Thank you for the amazing wow moments that you have been sharing with us, it is really lovely to see. There is still time so please do send them in, with photos where possible, to your class teachers. This week we have had to move into a bubble and close one class. Thank you all for your support and understanding. For those who are unwell we hope you have a speedy recovery. Have a lovely weekend, take care, Hannah

### Little Wings

A happy new year to all Little Wings families! My name is Claire May, I am the department lead for Little Wings. I have not met the families of our new September pupils because I only recently returned from maternity leave, but I look forward to meeting you in due course. This term our theme will be 'On The Farm' and we will be creating a veterinary surgery in the play room. If anyone has any photographs of animals they have at home or trips to the farm etc we would love to see them! Also, for your information we do have an incident of covid in the department. Although there is no concern of an "outbreak" at this stage, we kindly ask parents to continue being vigilant when monitoring the children for symptoms and using lateral flow tests where possible. We thank you for your continued support in this matter. Claire

### Coppice

Happy New Year! It has been lovely to see children back over the last week. I have enjoyed hearing all about their holidays and what they got for Christmas.

Red Kite have started to explore their topic Lights, Camera Action whilst Falcon have started to read Alice in Wonderland. Squirrel class had their first forest school session and Deer class had their first swimming session. Salma

### Treetops

I hope you all had a good Christmas and Happy New Year to you all. It has been great seeing all the students back and settling back into school routine. Hawk class enjoyed Forest School with Lyn on Friday and went to the Rye. Eagle class did a walk out to get their shopping for their cooking sessions. Owl Class went swimming for the first time and Kestrel class have been enjoying their new story 'Messy Morgan's Weather.' This term Hawk class are making cakes for their friends as part of their mini enterprise project and we are asking parents to please send in 50p for the students to buy a cake every Thursday. Have a good weekend. David

### Gemstones

Happy New Year to all the Gemstones families. Our topic this term is Ready Steady Cook and Authors, each class has put a different spin on the theme and learning is already happening across the department.

Newsletters have gone home to communicate changes in the class timetables.

We are hoping that we can have a smooth run this term and everyone stays safe. Sarah

### Woodlands

Ariana's family have been in our thoughts and prayers as we have been remembering the special times we have had together over the 12 years since she joined our school. What a gorgeously cheeky, determined, playful, fun-loving young lady. We will miss Ariana very much.

If you haven't already returned the home school learning bag your child was given last spring, please return this to school as soon as possible as the resources are needed within lessons.

We have been having fun creating art work for Rachel's office! Amanda

### Health and Therapies

A big welcome back to everyone after the Christmas holiday. We hope you all had a restful break. The therapies team are happy to see the children back, and are also welcoming some new children in Little Wings. Please do get in contact with your class teachers if you have any questions about your child's speech, language, and communication needs. We are always happy to help.

## School Nurses



Nikki McHugh



Helen Watts

## Update from our Parent Ambassador

Hi everyone,

Just to let you know that all our parent events up until half term will be online (due to COVID restrictions). We will reassess at half term and see if we can bring things back in person as soon as we can. I am aware that some of our parents prefer in person events.

If you have any ideas or thoughts about training or workshops that you would be interested in attending, please do e-mail me on [lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk) and I'll see what I can do! Liz



### Sensory Workshop

On Tuesday 25th January from 9.30-11am  
Venue: TBC  
Run by Geri Pinnock, OT

Every minute of every day a child's brain is flooded with all the different senses they experience. These are often pleasurable, but for many they can be overwhelming and cause an emotional reaction like anger or fear.

Come along to our workshop to find out more about Sensory Processing and how you can help and support your child with this.

### Asian Families Coffee Morning

All parents are welcome!

Date: Tuesday 1st Feb 2022  
From: 9.15 - 10.30am  
Venue: Downley School Hall



### How to use ERIC to help your child with toileting

On: Friday 11th Feb 2022  
From: 10-11am on MS Teams  
With Helen Watts, School Nurse

During the session, Helen will show you ERIC, The Children's Bowel and Bladder Charity's website, which has excellent resources to help you with toilet training your child and supporting them to become more independent.

Places are limited. To book a place, please e-mail: [lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk)

### Teen Life

Starting on Tuesdays from the 1st March for 6 weeks  
from 9.30-11.30am online  
Facilitated by Sam Nuttall (Teacher) & Rowena White (SALT)

A six-session programme from the National Autistic Society for parents/carers of autistic young people, aged 10 to 16 years, bringing parents together to share information, experiences and ideas covering a range of topics including:

- understanding autism in teenagers
- self-esteem and spending time with other people
- stress and anxiety
- understanding your diagnosis
- puberty and independence
- education and planning for the future.

Spaces are limited. If you are interested in attending then please e-mail: [wtaylor@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:wtaylor@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk) by 31st January 2022