



Parent Link

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Dear Parents and Carers,

At the time of writing I am very much looking forward to seeing what everyone will be doing tomorrow for Comic Relief, Red Nose Day.



Personally I will be wearing my 'LOVE' t-shirt and hoping to see a few red noses around the school. It is great that staff and pupils are keen to do so much for others and have fun in the process.

We have welcomed a few new staff since half term but will sadly be saying goodbye to Charles from Ruby class at the end of March as he moves on to a new adventure. We wish you all the best Charles, we will miss you.

My class highlights recently have been:

- Topaz Class – welcome session and OT course – we all had great fun and the pupils concentrated really well on the tasks.
- Bumblebee Class – morning session – such a warm welcome from the pupils and I was even chosen to dance with several of them!
- Falcon Class – shared some delicious cheese and chive scones they had made.

I am looking forward to meeting a few more parents and carers next Wednesday (23rd March) at the Cakes & Bakes events both during the day and in the evening. I will be getting my apron out to make some Millionaires Shortbread, I am looking forward to trying lots of other new tastes and textures.



Finally we are looking forward to welcoming the Mayor of High Wycombe, Cllr Angela Baughan to the school next week. She will spend some time on both

sites and is looking forward to seeing our amazing pupils and staff.

Have a lovely weekend, I hope the sunshine stays with us.

Rachel



Calendar dates

SPRING TERM – Monday 28th February – Friday 8th April

A message from the Acting Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know Bridget Ledson, who has been chair of the Governing Board, has recently resigned. She has done a great job over the past few years and it has now fallen to me to take on that role as Acting Vice Chair until the end of March. Governors will then make a more permanent appointment. I have been on the Governing Board for six years covering Curriculum Committee, FHR, Wellbeing, Pupil Premium Funding and Gemstones department. During this time I have come to know the needs of our children and the school very well and I am determined that as a Governing Board we maintain and build on our achievements. The Governors of Chiltern Wood work in formal and informal meetings to ensure that the school meets the needs of every one of our children.

Best wishes
Ann Waterman

Sapphire class enjoyed a teddy bears picnic and shared our favourite stories for World Book Day!



News from around the school

Woodlands

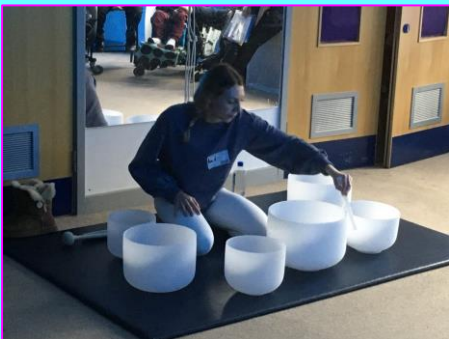
There have been so many exciting learning opportunities that have taken place in Woodland Department over the last couple of weeks. The pupils in Meadow Class have been stilling, smiling or vocalising in response to the sound of the Cello, and the pupils in Orchard Class have responded similarly to the relaxing sound of singing bowls. The Snowdrop pupils have been making the most of the early spring weather by using trikes and balls on the playground to further develop both their physical development and their social/interaction skills. The pupils in Forest Class have been working on play and curiosity by exploring a range of different sized and textured coloured objects. Exploring fluorescent coloured items under UV light has been particularly successful as these colours really glow when they are in a darkened room. Pupils in The Den Class have been working so hard using their individualised technology access methods, including Eye-Gaze. They have been showing lots of interest in a wide range of programmes. Excellent work, everyone! Amanda

Little Wings

Thank you to those parents who sent children in wearing something red in celebration of Red Nose Day today, and thank you for your kind donations. If you haven't already and would like to donate, please go to the red nose day website to donate directly. This week Butterfly Class received a very special letter in the post - a letter from the Queen! Butterfly class sent the Queen a card in celebration of her Platinum Jubilee and her lady in waiting was kind enough to reply with a letter and a card. Photos below. In celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, Little Wings will be hosting a stay and play in the summer term. Dates and details to be confirmed soon! Claire



Orchard and Meadow class enjoyed a visit from Izzy and experienced her playing the Tibetan chime bowls



Coopice

I want to take a moment to share a few of the lovely things that have been going on within the Department. Red Kite and Falcon have been exploring RSE, they have started to talk about growing up and the changes that come along with this process. Squirrel class have been enjoying Attention Autism sessions with Kathryn.

Deer class have been enjoying applying their addition skills in class to check the teachers can add properly!

We have also as a department been busy preparing for Comic Relief and will all be wearing red on Friday and will be making each other laugh with our own little in-house comedy show. Salma

Rainbow

Over the past two weeks Wendy and I have had chance to visit the different classes in Rainbow. It was lovely to see your children engaging so well in our new topic for this term and see how each class had their own unique twist on how they shared the fairy tales with the children. Some of the wonderful examples we saw included activities through fun with food, fairy tale themed attention autism sessions where children were 'hiding' from a giant and creating their own glitter reveal pictures as well as the development of early play skills in particular on turn taking with adults and peers. What shone through was how the class teams were all working with the therapy teams and how this was developing both communication opportunities and the regulation of the children. I hope you all have a lovely weekend, Hannah

Gemstones

It seems to be a half term of celebrations. We have had World Book Day, Shrove Tuesday and this week Comic Relief and Holi – The Festival of Colour... thoughts are also making plans for a Jubilee Street party after Easter ! Rehearsals are going well on for Echoes and Young voices.

Its so lovely to be able to make lovely plans after two years of uncertainty. Great news that we will be able to eat all together in the Dining Room again in the summer term!

Thank you to everyone for your support in these events that contribute so much to life in Gemstones. Sarah

Treetops

The last few weeks students have been working very hard. Eagle class have enjoyed being off site taking part in dance lessons at Bucks University and helping sort out food items at the One Can Trust. Hawk class have been working hard with the community cafe and making lovely brownies and flapjack. Owl class have been continuing to enjoy their sensory story about the weather. Kestrel class have been having weekly Salt sessions focusing on their communication skills. Hoping that we can start enjoying some nice weather next week, have a good weekend. David

Health and Therapies

Hi everyone, our therapists at school are looking for any NRS issued slings, equipment (e.g. old chairs, standing frames etc) which are no longer being used at home. We would be very grateful of them in school. If you do have these at home, please contact the below email address to get in touch with our Clinical Therapy Assistant to arrange for items to be returned: ot@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk.

Thank you!

Parent Ambassador Update:

Would you like to meet our lovely Head teacher Rachel in person?

Do you love cake?

Do you love baking?

Would you like to meet and get to know other parents at the school?

If the answer to the above questions is yes, then do come along on **Wednesday 23rd March** to:

•Cakes and Bakes from Around the World coffee morning in the Cressex dining room at 9.15-10.30am - please bring cakes if you have time to make or buy them or just come along just as you are without cake! Remember **no nuts** please! Rachel has promised to bring Millionaire's Shortbread!

•Meet and Greet with Rachel in Cressex School Hall at 7.30-9pm, where we'll be finishing up the leftover cake hopefully!

We would love to see as many parents from both sites there as possible!

If you missed the Internet Safety Workshop, then do catch up with it on the Training and Workshop Videos section on our website. It was an excellent presentation from Alison Watts, with lots of useful information including a game created specifically for children with additional needs to learn more about staying safe online.

This week, we have welcomed our Parent Volunteers back into school, to help with preparing teaching or therapy materials for the teachers. We are a lovely small team and would welcome anyone who would like to join us. So, if you are available on a Thursday morning from 9-10.30am then please do get in contact with me on the e-mail address below and I can send you further details on this.

Finally, we have our Parent's Forum coming up soon on Thursday 31st March from 9.30-10.30am in the School Hall at Downley. Do e-mail me with any items that you would like to discuss on lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk

Bye for now,
Liz

