



Parent Link

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Issue 13
1st April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I know they say time flies when you're having fun, but I'm not quite sure where the last term has gone. I have really enjoyed getting to know the amazing pupils, staff and families at Chiltern Wood and am starting to feel very at home. Thank you all for making me feel so welcome.

Unfortunately, The Mayor of High Wycombe had to postpone her visit last week as she tested positive for COVID the day before. This was very disappointing, but also a good reminder to us all to keep testing as cases are still very high.

The Friends of Chiltern Wood have been working hard to collect Easter Eggs and donations from a range of local companies and supermarkets. Please remember to send in your donation next week to help raise money for the school and to ask your children what Easter activities they have been up to. I got to try a yummy Easter nest this week made by Red Kite Class.



A huge thank you to Sara, Charles, Judith and Sophie who took 7 of our Gemstones children to perform at the Royal Albert Hall as part of ECHOES and the Buckinghamshire Music Trust. I was lucky enough to attend and was so proud of our children. My favourite song they sang was 'True Colours', it was just beautiful.



It was great to catch-up with a few more parents at last week's 'Cakes and Bakes'. I particularly enjoyed the vegetable samosas and lemon drizzle cake.

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the Parent/Carer Survey sent out last week and a gentle reminder to anyone who still needs to complete it.

Finally, have a wonderful Easter holidays. I hope the sun shines and you get a chance to make some memories.

Rachel Chapman



Calendar dates

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

SUMMER TERM – Tuesday 26th April – Wednesday 20th July

INSET DAY – Monday 25th April 2022

BANK HOLIDAY – Monday 2nd May

HALF TERM – Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

'Paws for thought'

We are so lucky to have two new therapy dogs visiting us again after the Easter break!

Meet Nellie the Retriever



Meet Willow the Whippet



Our new friends will be joining us each week on Tuesdays at the Downley site and Thursdays on the Cressex site, we are all very excited to say hello! Therapy dogs provide comfort, affection and support to children and adults alike. Having a therapy dog visiting can help to reduce stress, increase positive emotions and help promote engagement in learning activities and positive attitudes to learning.



THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR DONATIONS TO COMIC RELIEF

**Cressex site raised £31
Downley site raised £27**

News from around the school

Little Wings

Happy Easter to all those celebrating, and Happy Holidays to all our families! I'm sure the Easter bunny will be making an appearance next week and we'll all be doing plenty of Easter crafts. Thank you for your continued support over the past term. Once again Covid has struck at various times and we have been enormously grateful to all the families that have accommodated home learning and isolating at various times. Moving forward we hope to start inviting parents into school for events once again. Our first scheduled event will be a stay and play on Friday 27th February to celebrate the Queens Jubilee. Stay tuned for details!

Best of luck to Lizzie Bulteel, who sadly will be leaving us after the Easter holidays to start a new job at Odds Farm Nursery. Lizzie has worked for Chiltern Wood for 6 years and has undoubtedly had a positive impact on the education and lives of a large number of pupils (and staff!) at our school. We wish her all the best! Claire

Gemstones and Woodland Wow Wall



A message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wrote to you recently about changes on the Governing Board and promised to update you. Last night the Governing Board of Chiltern Wood met and I was appointed as your Chair of Governors. David Buckle, a parent governor, is the Vice Chair and he brings many skills to that role. There have been changes in both school and on the Governing Board but I want to reassure you that the school continues to do a fantastic job of working with and educating your children and young people. I will update you from time to time but in the meanwhile, I hope you enjoy the Easter break and we have the summer term to look forward to.

Best wishes, Ann Waterman

Rainbow

As we head towards the end of term, I wanted to reflect on some of the wonderful achievements we have seen in Rainbow. There has been some incredible progress with communication with children being challenged and extended with their targets and developing their independence in using communication supports. We have seen children having a lot of fun with food, including painting jelly onto staff members faces, the impact of which has been a greater tolerance of smells, tastes and textures. Children have been supported with their regulation which has resulted in them being able to access more sessions as well as being able to identify supports they require to regulate e.g. independently body brushing. Thank you for all you do to support us as a department, it is really appreciated. Have a wonderful Easter and break when the time comes. Hannah

Gemstones

If you come up to the Downley site you will be greeted by our WOW wall, which documents amazing moments from Woodlands and Gemstones Departments, this evolving display will document just a few of the WOW moments that we have in our school from small breakthroughs to the performance at the Albert Hall for the children who sang with other Buckinghamshire Schools in the ECHOES performance.

These captured moments are all facilitated by the teams who support our amazing children, parents and families as well as school staff.

We say goodbye and good luck to Charles who is taking a new job in a new setting in April. Anyone who has passed through Ruby class or Gemstones will be sad to see him go but excited to hear about his new adventures.

We have started to plan for the summer term, lots of amazing ideas were flying around for our new topic, 'Space and the future!' Have a lovely Easter holidays! Sarah

Treetops

It has been great to have some warmer weather and get the students enjoying the outdoor spaces although it has not been so warm this week! Owl class have been working on developing their turn taking skills and gross motor skills in PE. Kestrel class have enjoyed doing lots of sensory activities and learning about their body parts. Eagle class continue to complete lots of community activities and have been enjoying getting the public bus into town and then buying their own lunches. Hawk class have been enjoying their weekly music sessions and making biscuits and cakes for the Community Cafe. Next week will be the last one so make sure you get your orders in. Have a good weekend. David

Woodlands

We are looking forward to welcoming parents of Woodland Department pupils into school during the morning of Thursday 5th May. It has seemed like a very long time since you last visited your son/daughter's classroom, so we hope you welcome the opportunity to visit. Your son/daughter's class teacher will be in touch about the timings for this event and also let you know what activity will be taking place.

We are sorry to be saying 'goodbye' to Agnieszka, who will leave Snowdrop Class at the end of next week, and also to Jane R who left Orchard Class earlier this term. Thank you very much for all that you have done to support the pupils at Chiltern Wood, and we wish you well in your new roles. Amanda

PARENT EVENTS

SUMMER TERM 1
2022

FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW ON PARENTMAIL

Week commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
25th April				Parent Volunteers 9-10.30am at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	
2nd May	Bank Holiday	When Dreams Change 4 week course 9.30am-11am Meeting room 1 at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	Coffee and Woodland Walk from Downley site - meet outside the main entrance at 9.15am. Coffee will be provided. Led by Liz, Parent Ambassador	Parent Volunteers 9-10.30am at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	
9th May		When Dreams Change 4 week course 9.30am-11am Meeting room 1 at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador		Parent Forum 9.30-10.30am Venue: on Zoom run by Parent Ambassador	
16th May		When Dreams Change 4 week course 9.30am-11am Meeting room 1 at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	Supporting children and young people with eating, drinking and swallowing - invite only. 12-1.15pm on Zoom run by Helen & Leanne from our SALT team	Parent Volunteers 9-10.30am at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	
23rd May		When Dreams Change 4 week course 9.30am-11am Meeting room 1 at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador		Respite & Grants Workshop 9.30-10.30am on Zoom run by Wendy Taylor, Acting Deputy Headteacher and Liz Webber, Parent Ambassador	
30th May			Half Term		



COFFEE & WOODLAND WALK



ALL PARENTS WELCOME

**ON WEDNESDAY 4TH MAY
FROM 9.15-10.45AM**

STARTING FROM DOWNLEY SITE

HOT DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED

**DRESS FOR THE WEATHER
WALKING BOOTS/TRAINERS/WELLIES
RECOMMENDED**

RUN BY LIZ, PARENT AMBASSADOR





WHEN DREAMS CHANGE

GROWING HOPE

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 Tuesdays from 9.30-
11am at the Cressex Site
Starting on 3rd May for 4
weeks.

Facilitated by Liz, our
Parent Ambassador

To book a place, e-mail
lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk