

<u>Parent Link</u>

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Issue 23 12th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Where has the last year gone? As I think back on being headteacher at Chiltern Wood now for nearly a year, I can not believe how much I have learnt and been inspired by the fantastic children, staff and parents/carers. When people have asked me what my highlights have been I would always have to say the people, so I want to say a BIG thank you to everyone for all your support.

I am enjoying the Christmas traditions that Chiltern Wood have, and had a wonderful time at The Christmas Bazaar, which raised over £4,000. We even have a visit from Father Christmas, Mr Mayor and Wendy the elf!





Earlier this week, Woodlands Department had their film premiere 'Walking in a Woodlands Wonderland' which was wonderful. The care and creativity of the staff and children was amazing and it was super to see lots of family members their as well.

I want to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and look forward to more adventures in 2023.

Rachel Chapman

News from Governors

As we near the end of term I wanted to let you know that the governors have been making visits to departments throughout the school as part of the curriculum monitoring. It is lovely to see the children and young people in their learning environment and all following a varied and individual curriculum. They have been enjoying Diwali and Christmas activities alongside their other learning. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in organising the school Fayre and those who attended which made it a huge success. I hope that you all have an enjoyable and peaceful holiday with your families and I look forward to meeting some of you at a parent's forum in the New Year, Ann Waterman, Chair of Governors

Calendar dates

Autumn Term 2022 – Wednesday 7th September to Tuesday 20th December 2022

School will reopen to pupils on Thursday 5th January 2023

Attendance reminder

Please can we remind parents that all pupil absences have to come from home via phone to the office or dojo to the class. Please do not ask your taxi driver to pass a message on as we cannot accept this. Many thanks Wendy - DHT

Update from Parent Ambassador

I am currently busy building a timetable of events/training for next term for our parents so do watch this space. There are several things in the pipeline including some sessions on maximising your income, applying for Disability Living Allowance and budgeting.

At the current time, when finances are tight, it can be easy to stick your head in the sand and ignore your finances (I am speaking from personal experience), however putting time aside to look at your finances and getting to grips with budgeting really does lift a weight from your shoulders (again talking from personal experience).

This will be a course about money management and is for anyone whether you are in debt or not. Plus, you get access to an online and super helpful budgeting system. If you feel you may have missed the parent survey, then please do not worry, I haven't sent it out yet! It will be headed your way soon. Please do complete it so that we know how best we can support you in your parenting role.

Finally, I wanted to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas. I know that Christmas can be a super stressful time, so do try and find some time for you - even if it's just for 10 mins! You are important and valuable to your children! Liz

News from around the school

Little Wings

Nearly the end of Autumn term and I am just but impressed with how well all pupils are doing with their development and learning. Their social, communicational and play skills are improving at a very high speed and its just beautiful to see them all happy and enjoying their school day.

We all in Little Wings want to say thank you to all of you. You are the other half of the puzzle who help us all. Thank you and may you have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year \bigcirc See you all back on Thursday 5th of January. Patri.

Gemstones

The end of term is drawing near and we are busy preparing for our Christmas celebrations.

Next week we have the Panto in High Wycombe, Christmas dinner on Wednesday and our Christmas play: Ready, Steady Elf, on Friday, which even in first practice looked great! As you know I will be leaving Chiltern Wood at the end of term. I am sad to leave, but excited to start on a new adventure. It has been a wonderful five years here, I have loved getting to know the children, staff and their families in this amazing school. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Sarah

Rainbow

Hello, thank you for your contributions towards the Living Nativity. The children had a wonderful time and got so much from this visit. It was also a lovely way to start our Christmas celebrations. Next week, we have a visit from Santa and will continue to theme our SCERTS rotations around Christmas. As the weather gets colder, please remember to send in hats and gloves if your children will tolerate wearing them. Please rest assured that the classrooms are nice are warm and time outside will be limited on particularly cold days. Please also continue to send in any 'Wow' moments and photos of any Christmas or World Cup celebrations to your children's class team via Dojo so these can be added to your child's learning journal. Sam





Coppice

We are all looking forward to our parent event next week, hopefully you are able to join for this. It has been an action-packed term and has been great to see the students make so much progress in many different areas. Some highlights have included seeing students engaging with sensory stories, transitioning between new places, taking part in cooking lessons, communicating with communication books in a variety of sessions to make requests and taking part in the obstacle course to develop gross motor skills with the OTs. I hope you all have a good Christmas and look forward to seeing you all back in the New Year. David

Woodlands

We have had a busy few weeks with the run up to all the festivities but it has been really lovely to see the changes and awareness in the pupils as all the tinsel and sparkles come out. The children and staff have been working hard behind the scenes to prepare for the Woodland Wonderland Movie Premiere. We hope you have a safe and healthy run up to the Christmas Holidays and enjoy the family time together. Kara.

Treetops

Thank you to those that were able to join us for our Treetops Event and enjoyed the celebration. It has been a very busy term but it has been great seeing all the students make so much progress in many different areas. Some of the highlights have included visiting the Mayor, having a visit from a careers advisor where our students were able to be asked interview questions, attending Chiltern Rangers Champions award at Sands nature reserve, working with Chef Michael to make a variety of different foods and enjoying our department assemblies. We hope you all have a good Christmas and Happy New Year. David

Did you know, every time you shop with AMAZON SMILE, you are helping to raise funds for our charity FRIENDS OF CHILTERNWOOD. You just need to shop at smile.amazon.co.uk to keep helping us on this mission. Thank you.

Staffing Update

STAFF PROFILE

Hana joined us in September. Read below to find out a bit more about her.



Name: Hana

Role at Chiltern Wood School:
Midday Supervisor (Cressex)
An interesting fact about you:
have an interest in disability sport
What do you like most about working

What do you like most about working at Chiltern Wood School?

What I like most about working at Chiltern Wood School is that everyone, particularly the children, are unique in their own special ways and everyone is treated like a family. At the end of the day, it is rewarding and by working at such an amazing school, you realise the positive differences you are making for the children and their families. Having Special Educational Needs does not stop you from achieving the greatest accomplishments in life.

December staffing Update

We welcome to the school the following new staff...

Teaching roles

Lizzie

Mid-Day Supervisors

Lindsay

Teaching Assistant

- Joanne
- Sylwia
- Adeola

We say farewell and good luck with your new adventures to...

Teaching roles

Sarah R

Teaching Assistant

- Sam L
- Tamzin



Congratulations to Saeeda

Saeeda who is the class teacher in Deer Class completed the Valencia Marathon on Sunday 4th December in a sub 4 hour time. Saeeda is raising money to support the school, so if you feel able to support her you can find her on JustGiving.





Become a Parent Volunteer

Support your child's education through supporting the school, whilst meeting other parents and having fun!

We meet on Thursday mornings from 9-10.30am at Cressex site

For more information or to join our team, contact Liz Webber, our Parent Ambassador by phone: 01494 532621 (Cressex site) or e-mail: lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk





