**Chenies School Newsletter**

**7th January 2022**

**Headteacher’s News**

It was lovely to welcome Mrs Jones to our staff this week. She was pleased to be able to meet a few parents on Wednesday after school and is looking forward to getting to know our school community; please do introduce yourself to her next week. The children have had a good start to the term and settled back into the routine of school life quickly. I would like to say a particular well done to the children in Hockney who have had to manage being taught in the hall due to the noise from the work on the roof. We are still hopeful that the work on the roof will be completed at the end of this month.

**Thank You**

Thank you for eating so any sweets over Christmas! Monet class now has a sufficient supply of wrappers but would still like some small boxes eg: the sort of size you get 20 teabags in.

**Punctuality**

Unfortunately a number of children are still arriving after 8.50am. Not only can this have a negative impact on the child who is late but it also disrupts the flow of teaching and the rest of the class. All children are welcome to arrive in school from 8.30am and teachers provide learning tasks for them to get on with independently. This time is also a valuable opportunity for teachers to provide some individual support if they have identified a misconception in a child’s learning.

**KS2 Pencil Cases**

Please can you check with your child that they have all they need in their pencil cases. A number of children are missing items. It should contain a blue pen, writing pencil, coloured pencils, an eraser, a pencil sharpener (with its own collecting pot) and a glue stick.

**Free Train to Teach Webinar**

Astra (Based at Dr Challoner's Grammar School) is holding a free webinar on **Thursday 10 February 2022 from 4.30-5.30pm.**

If you have a degree and are interested in a career in teaching, join us to find out more about Astra and our courses starting in September 2022.

This is a great opportunity to have all your questions about teaching and teacher training answered.

At this session, you’ll be able to:

* Access information about our courses and entry requirements
* Find out more about submitting a successful application
* Find out about bursaries, scholarships and funding available for teacher training

To register for a place, please complete [this form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScVQUCpHZTkRVJ4BN09zJ_aETHGWJmeXtLdMDjgUZaf_WAixQ/viewform).

For information on Astra, please visit [Astra SCITT](https://www.astra-alliance.com/)

**COVID**

Following on from the information I sent out on Tuesday you will be aware that government guidance has already changed and now states that confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January. This will mean that any pupil who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

**Contact Details**

Please ensure that if you or anyone who is listed as an emergency contact for your child has changed any contact numbers recently that you have informed the office of the new details.

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

Suzanne Powell

**Happy Birthday**

**Jessica B – 1th January**

**RJ**



**STARS of the week**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Van Gogh** | **Senan** | **Henry** |
| **Monet** | **Mia** | **Oliver** |
| **Hockney** | **Aiden** | **Elora** |
| **Hepworth** | **Sienna** | **Samyukta** |

**Class News**

**Van Gogh**

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope that you have had a lovely Christmas and good break.

**Phonics**

We have started to learn our digraphs and trigraphs (sounds with two/three letters). Please note these can be tricky and therefore do need to be consistently reinforced so that the children are confidently applying their phonic knowledge to reading and writing words/sentences.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Week 1  | ch sh th  |
| Week 2 | ng nk ai ee |
| Week 3 | igh oa (coat) oo (pool) oo (look)  |
| Week 4 | Consolidate all sounds  |

It is also important that you continue to consolidate Phase 2 sounds and work on segmenting and blending, hearing initial/middle/end sounds and rhyme.

**Reading**

This term the children will be bringing home their reading books on **Fridays** which should be returned to school the following **Thursdays** to be changed. Please ensure that you write in the reading record every time you hear your child read or share a book with them, so that books can be changed. The children will also be bringing home a library book every Wednesday, once again please ensure these are returned the following Wednesday for the children to pick another book.

**Writing**

The children are very excited about writing, they are discovering that they can segment and blend to write simple words and sentences. Please continue to encourage them to write at home, remember they will use their phonic knowledge to spell words and should be praised for having a go.

**Maths**

We have continued to work on mathematical vocabulary related to addition, learning how to read/write simple number sentences and make up stories using objects and drawings.

This week we will be chanting numbers to 10/20 and will be learning about number 6 and 7:

**Conservation of a number**: Number of objects in a set does not change even when they are moved around.

**Composition of a number**: Number are made of two or more other smaller numbers involving a ‘part’ and a ‘whole’. Learning to ‘see’ a whole number and its parts at the same time.

**Subitise**: Look at a group of objects and realis how many there re without counting.

In addition to this we will be looking at 2D shapes with 6 and 7 sides (hexagon & heptagon) and as we consolidate previous shapes learnt we will be looking at pattens when describing the properties, for example the number of sides and corner are the same. We will also be opening up our snack shop where the children will get the opportunity to buy their fruit and drink by paying for it using 1p 2p and 5p coins.

**Topic**

Our topic this term is: Chinese New Year - Food from Around the World

This week we will be talking about celebrations we have already learnt about and look at similarities and differences, comparing Harvest, Bonfire, Diwali, and Christmas. This will lead us into introducing Chinese New Year… 2022 The Year of the Tiger.

**REMINDERS:**

**SHOW & TELL:** The next one is on **Thursday 13th January 2022 - Green House**

**TRIP**: Sports Event Thursday 20th January 2022 – Details to follow

**STAY & READ**: Wednesday 26th January 2022 – Please note this is subject to the Covid restrictions at the time.

Thank you for your ongoing support! Should you have any further queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. Mrs Sahotay 😊

**Monet**

The children in Monet class have had a great few days back at school reflecting on their Christmas holidays and looking forward to the year ahead with New Year Resolutions.

Next week we will be focusing on using capital letters to begin our sentences and working hard to make sure they are the correct way round. We will also be thinking carefully about when to use capital letters (for names of people and places) and double checking our writing to make sure there are no capital letters lurking in the middle of words.

We will begin our new Topic of Homes and The Great Fire of London by using a painting as a starting point to inspire us.

In maths in Year 1 we will be making sure we are secure with our number bonds, finding doubles and practising to add 3 numbers. In Year 2 we will rounding numbers to the nearest 10, adding and subtracting by bridging 10 and using place value to add and subtract.

In topic we will be identifying the features of Tudor houses and beginning to find out about The Great Fire of London. We will be linking this to science by identifying the uses of everyday materials in the context of our local area. We will be singing in music and learning some New Year songs and understanding that we all have different needs in PSHE.

All of the children in Monet class now have access to [DoodleLearning](https://www.doodlelearning.com/). The children have access to Doodle English, DoodleSpell, DoodleMaths and DoodleTables. In school they have already accessed DoodleMaths and completed the first set of tasks and the area we would most like the children to focus on. Research has shown that just spending 5-10 minutes a day accessing the tasks and games is beneficial to a child’s progress. Mrs Whittingham will be running a workshop at 9am on Wednesday 9th February and 2.15pm on Thursday 10th February for parents to explain more about it but in the meantime I think you will find it self-explanatory. **What is extremely important however is that children complete the tasks without any adult support.** Thealgorithms in the programme are set to ensure the questions asked to each pupil are at an appropriate level. When errors are made further questions will be set to enable pupils to develop their understanding. If adults support the answering of questions the computer will record an understanding of the concept and the difficulty of tasks will increase. This will only serve to demotivate your child if they cannot do the next tasks.

More information about DoodleLearning and how to access it from different devices can be found on the [school website](file:///H%3A%5CDownloads%5CDoodleBundle_Username_and_Password_Setup_.pdf). Our experience has found that children find it easier to complete the tasks through the app on a phone or tablet. Your child will be bringing home their username and password today.

Please also remember to return reading books every Tuesday and read daily.

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Blakeley

**Hockney**

Happy New Year to you all and we hope you had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break. This term is going to be an exciting and enjoyable one with lots to look forward to.

On Monday afternoons our Year 4 children will start forest school. The children must come to school wearing their school uniform on top and wearing warm leggings or trousers with a waterproof coat and sturdy footwear that you do not mind getting dirty.

In English next week we are going to be completing our work on autobiographies with this culminating in creating a PowerPoint all about ourselves to present to the rest of the class. In our spelling lesson next week we will be exploring homonyms which have the same spelling but multiple meanings and explain how the meanings can be distinguished through the context of the word.

In maths, we shall continue to work on our times tables in detail and work on understanding how we can use known facts to work out related ones. We shall begin to look at factor pairs and the most efficient multiplication strategies we can use.

In history we shall begin our new topic, the Anglo-Saxons. We will be learning about who they were, how they came to settle in Britain and what sort of lives they led once here. Only the Year 3 children will be starting topic initially as these lessons fall on a Monday afternoon when Year 4 have forest school. This will then be swapped over after the February half term when Year 3 begin forest school and Year 4 will study the Anglo-Saxons.

If you have any cereal boxes at home that you could send in for future use on our Anglo-Saxon project we would be very grateful.

In PSHE we are starting a new topic where we shall be focusing on the rights of children and what the laws are within our society. Trying to better understand how laws protect our rights.

We shall not be setting any homework this week but homework will resume next week.

We hope you all have an enjoyable and restful weekend.

Mrs Whittingham & Miss Groves

**Hepworth**

It was lovely to see the children again after the school holiday, and Mrs Jones has enjoyed getting to know them. This week they have been consolidating previous work on place value and multiplication and division in Maths. On Wednesday they also enjoyed working on performance poetry, leading to some lovely creative presentations.The class also started a new class text, 'The Curse of the Maya' by Johnny Pearce and Andy Loneragan which is based on the Mayan civilisation; this is our new topic for the following term.

There are lots of lovely books that also link to our topic here: <https://www.booksfortopics.com/maya>

Next week the children will be looking at the order of Mathematical operations (BODMAS) in maths, before doing some final work on division - focussing on what we do with remainders.

In English we will be starting our Wordsmith unit based on the text 'Salamander Dream' which is a graphic novel. We will be working on our comprehension skills as we begin this text and doing some work on settings.

At the end of the week we will be doing some descriptive writing work and our grammar focus is on noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and prepositional phrases. Our spelling words (set for homework on Friday) will be words ending in -tious.

In Science, our aim is to plan and carry out investigations that attempt to separate mixed materials. Do continue to send in small jam jars as these are useful when we are testing out lots of mixtures! Thank you to those of you who have already.

We will also start our new topic on the Mayan Civilisation, beginning with the basics of where and when the Maya lived.

Our PE sessions are on Tuesdays, with our swimming session taking place on Wednesdays. Please ensure that you have read the information letter carefully about what your child needs for the swimming session.

In RE we will be finding out what we can learn about Buddha as a leader and our Spanish lessons will continue with Mrs Walker on Tuesday afternoons.

In PSHE we will be beginning work on our theme for this term 'Living in the Wider World'.

As always, do catch us on the playground or send an e-mail via the school office if you want to chat to either of us. Mrs Jones works in school on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Wilson works in school on Thursday and Friday.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to working with you and your child over the spring term. Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Wilson and Mrs Jones

**Diary Dates**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Tuesday 4th January** | **Inset Day**  |
| Wednesday 5th January | Children Return to School |
| Wednesday 12th January | Hepworth Swimming lessons start |
| **Friday 14th January** | **After School Cake Sale** |
| **Wednesday 19th January** | **PTA Meeting 7.30pm** |
| Thursday 20th January | Van Gogh Movement to Music Event, Chalfont Community Leisure Centre  |
| **Friday 21st January** | **After School Tuck Shop** |
| Wednesday 26th January | EYFS Stay & Read 9am |
| **Friday 28th January** | **PTA Film Club** |
| **Friday 4th February** | **After School Tuck Shop****PTA Quiz Night** |
| Wednesday 9th February | DoodleLearning Workshop – Parents Y1,2,3 9am |
| Thursday 10th February | DoodleLearning Workshop (Repeated) – Parents Y1,2,3 2pm |
| **Friday 11th February**  | **PTA Valentine Disco**  |
| Thursday 17th February | Work Share Evening 3.30pm-5pm |
| **Friday 18th February**  | **Break the Rules Day** |
| **Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February** | **Half Term** |
| Thursday 3rd March | World Book Day  |
| Friday 1st April  | EYFS Spring Walk 9am |
| Monday 4th April  | Mid-Year Reports will be sent home to parents |
| **Friday 8th April**  | **Term Ends at 1.30pm** |
| Monday 25th April | Children Return to School |
| **Monday 2nd May** | **Early May Bank Holiday – School Closed** |
| Thursday 5th May | Hepworth Parents Sex Education and PGL Information Evening 5pm |
| Monday 16th May | EYFS Stay & Get Physical 9am |
| Thursday 19th May | Work Share Evening 3.30pm - 5pm |
| Monday 23rd May - Friday 27th May | Y5/6 PGL Residential Trip  |
| **Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June** | **Half Term** |
| **Monday 6th June** | **Inset Day** |
| Monday 13th June  | Class photos |
| Tuesday 28th June | Sports Day 1pm |
| Tuesday 12th July | Reserve Sports Day 1pm |
| Wednesday 13th July | KS2 Summer Production 7pm |
| Thursday 14th July | KS2 Summer Production 2pm & 7pm |
| Friday 15th July | EYFS Stay for Breakfast 8.15amEnd of Year Attainment Reports will be sent home |
| Wednesday 20th July | Leaver’s Assembly 11amSchool Picnic 12.15pm-1.15pm**Term Ends for Children 1.30pm** |