



*As we reach the end of the Autumn Term and look forward to the Christmas holidays, I wanted to write to thank all of our families for their continuing support during this busy time of year. I would also like to give you an update on many of the fantastic things that have been going on this term, from musical moments to exciting English, sporting success to festive fun. Unfortunately, it is not possible to include every event and achievement from this academic year so far, but there is a huge range of photos on the school website. Please check it out if you haven't had a look recently.*

**OAK ARE TOP OF THE ATTENDANCE TREE**

Attendance for this academic year so far is 96.51%. There have been a few nasty bugs around this term, so let's hope for a healthy start to 2020.

The top two classes for attendance so far this academic year are as follows:

- Apple Class – 97.55%**
- Beech Class – 96.75%**

Congratulations to Miss Barrett and the resilient bunch in Apple Class!

We currently have 40 pupils who have achieved 100% attendance since September.

**Term 1 House Attendance:**

<b>Squire: 98.37%</b>	<b>20 points</b>
<b>Buckle: 97.61%</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>Penrose: 97.05%</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Jersey: 94.85%</b>	<b>5 points</b>

**Term 2 House Attendance (up to 16<sup>th</sup> December):**

<b>Squire: 97.90%</b>
<b>Buckle: 97.10%</b>
<b>Penrose: 96.13%</b>
<b>Jersey: 93.88%</b>

Remember: House Points are available for any children who achieve 100% attendance for a whole term and this starts afresh for the Spring Term.



**Punctuality**

It has been noticed in recent weeks that a number of children are arriving at school after the bell has gone. We appreciate that there has been some difficult weather (and traffic) but would like to ask you to make every effort to ensure that your child arrives at school on time. Punctual attendance is important for many reasons and we are a little concerned that some pupils are regularly not ready to start the school day. This disrupts important sessions, including Phonics, and pupils who arrive late are missing out on vital learning time. If a child is marked as absent when the registers are taken, this will appear on their attendance record and will prevent them from achieving 100% attendance. In the new year, the gate will be closed more promptly following the morning bell and late arrivals will need to register at the office. Governors will also be asking for feedback on the situation, as they are required to monitor attendance and punctuality.

## WHO'S THE HOUSE TO BEAT?

Our house competition has again been keenly contested throughout the Autumn Term, with nearly 2900 points already gained through pupils being awarded a range of certificates, earning points from our class 'Going For Gold' charts, attendance, enthusiastic running and through excellent reading at home. The first champions of this academic year were decided at October term with **Josh Cresswell** and **Penrose** storming to victory.

The final Term 1 leaderboard was:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: **Penrose (Josh Cresswell / Mrs Leonard) 449 points**
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Squire (Megan Allmond / Mrs Salter) 433 points**
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: **Jersey (Toby Goddard / Ms Bailey) 424 points**
- 4<sup>th</sup>: **Buckle (Myiesha Khan / Miss Barrett) 397 points**

Points for the second half of the Autumn term are reset to zero, so everything is to play for in the run up to Christmas. Remember that you can keep up to date on the House Points page on the school website.



at  
half-

The current Term 2 leaderboard is:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: **Penrose (Josh Cresswell / Mrs Leonard) 330 points**
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Squire (Megan Allmond / Mrs Salter) 302 points**
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: **Buckle (Evie Walford / Miss Barrett) 270 points**
- 4<sup>th</sup>: **Jersey (Toby Goddard / Ms Bailey) 277 points**



The eagle-eyed amongst you will have noticed that Buckle have had a change of leadership. After Myiesha's move to Buckinghamshire, Evie Walford has been very proud to take over the reins and will be looking to help the blues recapture their cup-winning form of last year!

## AWESOME ACHIEVEMENTS

Our gold certificates, which are awarded for outstanding effort, are given out at the end of each term. Two children were chosen per class and received their certificates just after half-term. Each gold certificate winner earns 5 points for their house.

Our chosen few in Term 1 were:

- Maple Class: Sophie Brennan & Maya Sumner**
- Beech Class: Marshall Berridge & Edith Haynes**
- Ash Class: Eleanor Messum & CJ Hawes**
- Apple Class: Amelia Hawes & Daisy Collett**
- Oak Class: Alyssa Gidney-Twiselton & Oscar Williams**

Ten more have been awarded today at the last celebration worship before the Christmas holidays, and the 50 points up for grabs could have made all the difference to the destination of the house cup!



The winners in Term 2 were:

**Maple Class:** Edie Wells & Eva Sinclair-Pearson

**Beech Class:** Addy Hunt & Maddie Lee

**Ash Class:** Esme Eilertsen & Luca Steptoe

**Apple Class:** Sean Mooney & Joshua Reed

**Oak Class:** Evie Walford & Charlotte Hornby

### Headteacher's Awards:

Our ultimate certificate, which is awarded for: outstanding pieces of work; extraordinary effort over a period of time; other reasons where a pupil has performed significantly above expectations. These awards certainly don't come along too often and there have only been two lucky winners so far this academic year, but I certainly hope to be awarding some more early in 2020.

The first two winners of 2019-20 were:

**Isla Brayshaw – Oak:** *“For contributing to Oak Class and Chesterton School in so many different ways this term. Miss Crockett has been so impressed with your confidence in class and I have enjoyed seeing you represent the school sports teams and choir.”*

**Daisy Collett – Apple:** *“For an awesome start to life in Apple Class! Miss Barrett says that your contribution to lessons is amazing, especially computing. You have also taken part in sport and music, not to mention the Eco Council.”*

### AMAZING AUTHORS

Writing has also been celebrated again this term, with our Amazing Author certificates for November being awarded just after half-term and again this week.

Congratulations to **Edie Wells, Edith Haynes, Lily Oakes, Grace Abbey** and **Jack Happell** for impressing the teachers with your writing in the first half of the Autumn term. Examples of the children's work are on display in the school hall.

The most recent winners, for December, have been announced today.

**Maple:** Georgina Hales

**Beech:** Beatrice Dancer

**Ash:** Herbie Allmond

**Apple:** Manasvi Abhilash



**Oak:** Kit Carry

### Handwriting Heroes:

The following children have also been recognised by their teachers for efforts with presenting their work as neatly as possible.

#### Term 1

**Maple:** Olafur Viner-Smith

**Beech:** Jacob Williams

**Ash:** Ted Thornton

**Apple:** Sophia Shirvell

**Oak:** Josh Cresswell

#### Term 2

**Maple:** Jude Twiselton

**Beech:** Esme Queralt

**Ash:** Harold Lane Fox

**Apple:** Willow Boshier

**Oak:** Katie Smith

Mrs Salter





## READING RAFFLE

Regular reading at home is extremely important to help children develop fluency, comprehension and enjoyment of books. This should be recorded in your child's reading diary, where a cumulative total of 'reading nights' can be tracked. There are special stickers that are awarded when a multiple of 25 is reached. Each milestone also equates to a Reading Raffle ticket, with the draw taking place during each Celebration Worship. The lucky winner then has the opportunity to choose a book, kindly funded by the School Association, from the boxes in Mr Horner's office. Please see below for this year's winners, four of whom are from Maple Class!

October	Georgina Hales	Aisha Gurbanova		
November	Myiesha Khan	Olivia Morgan-Griffin	Maya Sumner	Sophie Happell
December	Joely Donaldson	Bethany Hornby		

## MARVELLOUS MATHEMATICIANS

We have also recognised effort and achievement in Maths with our first Marvellous Mathematician certificate winners for this year. The teachers have been keeping their eye out for impressive work in Maths lessons and extra activities at home and chose the following winners for October.

Maple Class: **Eva Sinclair-Pearson**

Beech Class: **Maisie Wilson**

Ash Class: **Emin Gurbanov**

Apple Class: **Manasvi Abhilash**

Oak Class: **Isla Brayshaw**

December's Marvellous Mathematicians were announced today.

Maple Class: **Caden Hawes**

Beech Class: **Emilia Brayshaw**

Ash Class: **Eleanor Messum**

Apple Class: **Emily Fuller**

Oak Class: **Logan Malin**



## THE SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

*"The governors' role is not about fundraising, neither is it about cheerleading for the school - though governors might do both those things".*

The role of the governing body is a strategic one, its key functions are to:

- \* set the aims and objectives for the school
- \* set the policies for achieving those aims and objectives
- \* set the targets for achieving those aims and objectives
- \* monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making towards achievement of its aims and objectives
- \* be a source of challenge and support to the headteacher (a critical friend)

"The headteacher is responsible for the internal organisation, management and control of the school and the implementation of the strategic framework established by the governing body."

(Taken from National Governor's Association website, <http://www.nga.org.uk/Be-a-Governor.aspx> )

### The current members of the Governing Body of Chesterton School are:

Abigail Grenfell – Foundation Governor (Chair of Governors)	
David Attwood – Foundation Governor (Vice Chair of Governors)	
Lesley Harry – Local Authority Governor	Julia Reece – Foundation Governor
Chris Messum - Parent Governor	Rev. Gareth Miller – Ex-officio Governor
Luisa Summers - Foundation Governor	Simon Dancer – Foundation Governor
Sally-Ann Woodrow – Foundation Governor	Laura Evans – Parent Governor
Katy Salter – Staff Governor	Mr Horner – Headteacher

We currently have a vacancy for one 'Foundation' governor. If you are interested in becoming a member of the governing body, please contact the school office.

If you have an issue you would like to raise with a member of the Governing Body, then please contact us through the school office.

## CHARITABLE CHESTERTON

This term, the whole school community has really been putting our school values of COMPASSION and GENEROSITY into action with many different fundraising events.



### Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

For our coffee and cake afternoon on Thursday 26th September, pupils and families again focused their baking efforts on providing a fabulous array of cakes, which were served with coffee and tea to raise money for a wonderful charity. The afternoon itself, run by our team of new school councillors, raised £218 for Macmillan, which, I'm sure you will agree, is a great total for a very worthy cause. Well done to our team of school councillors, who did a brilliant job of hosting our customers!

### Race For Life

As our first Race For Life, organised by Mrs Rotherham, was such a great success, we had to repeat the event this year. Just like the 2018 edition, it was a beautiful autumnal morning on the 26th September. The runners, complete with personal messages pinned to their backs, were out in force from the minute the school gates opened and put in a huge amount of effort towards the goal of 21 laps around the school field. Many Maple Class pupils completed the whole 5 kilometres, which was an incredible effort, and lots of intrepid older runners set themselves targets of way beyond 30 laps! Thank you to Mrs Rotherham for organising and to Bryan Taunton from Tesco, who supplied us with oranges and helped present the hard-earned medals. We all had a fantastic time and were delighted to have raised £2800 for Cancer Research UK.





**Our whole school after the Race For Life**

### Harvest Food Bank Collection

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, in the school hall, all of our children took part in a special Collective Worship to celebrate and give thanks for the harvest. Paul Clifford led the collective worship and the pupils contributed with a range of readings and poems, interspersed with some fantastic singing. I would particularly like to thank all our families who donated items for the Bicester Food Bank as part of the day. We received a huge amount of dry and canned goods, which will be distributed to local families in need.



### Children In Need

One of the School Council's favourite annual fundraising events saw the school dress up in rainbow colours, design their own Pudsey teddies as famous celebrities, as well as buying Pudsey-themed wristbands and badges. This all resulted in the school raising £304 for Children in Need.

### Poppy Appeal

The School Council's selling of poppies and associated small gifts helped Chesterton raise money to support such a worthy charity. We will let you know the total as soon as it arrives. Thank you all for your support.



The term ended with the very exciting School Council stall at the Christmas Fayre. They planned, organised and ran Bauble Bash. It was very popular and it was great to see so many people trying to beat their own score. Here is the leaderboard!

- Pre-School – Fleur Steptoe with 8 points**
- Lower School – Luca Steptoe with 25 points**
- Upper School - Josh Cresswell with 27 points**
- Everyone else - Jess Cresswell with 22 points**

## OUR SUPERB SINGERS AND MARVELLOUS MUSICIANS

The term leading up to Christmas is always incredibly busy with performances for our hardworking and talented choir and musicians.

### Big Christmas Sing

On Tuesday 26th November, Mrs Salter, Miss Barrett and Mrs Rotherham took the school choir to join with other singers from across Oxfordshire to perform in the impressive surroundings of Oxford Town Hall. After an afternoon rehearsal, the children had a well-earned rest and some refreshments before their big performance. The concert began with a candle-lit parade of children singing 'Once In Royal David's City'. Chesterton was represented by Caitlin Tingey for this song, as she joined with other school soloists to open the show. During the evening,



Chesterton Choir did themselves proud with their own beautiful performance of 'Love Shone Down', accompanied by musicians from the Oxfordshire Music Service. Their singing was very impressive and they were given a well-deserved rapturous applause. Later in the concert, all of the choirs joined together to sing excellent renditions of the well-known 'Feliz Navidad', along with a new Christmas song: 'Shepherd Boy'. Chesterton was very ably represented again by Kit Carry and

Honour Woodrow, as they sang the descant part in 'O Come All Ye Faithful'. Another highlight of the evening was an appearance by Mrs Rotherham representing '11 Pipers Piping' during the song: '12 Days Of Christmas'. The festive evening was very enjoyable and certainly left the audience with a smile on their faces. All our choristers should be very proud of themselves. Their singing and behaviour was excellent throughout the entire afternoon and evening.

### Encore, Encore!

The School Association Christmas Fayre saw another performance from our choir, who sang a set of three songs to a large, appreciative crowd in the school hall. Even as I write, the festive singing is not finished as we look forward to Singing Around the Christmas Tree and our Christmas Church Service later this week!



## BBC RADIO OXFORD

### Chesterton On The Radio

After recording 'Infant Holy' and 'Love Shone Down' back in November, Upper School waited eagerly to hear their songs played out live during Radio Oxford's breakfast show on Wednesday 18th December. If you missed their moment of fame, or if you just want to relive it one more time, the link should

be available on catch-up.

### Inspiring Instrumentalists

Individual and small group instrument lessons have continued this term in the studio with teachers Bethan, Flora, Ross and Carys. Children have the opportunity to learn a range of instruments, including the flute, clarinet, violin, piano and guitar. The musicians have showcased their talents at a specially arranged celebration worship, where they performed a range of seasonal tunes, as well as making extra performances at a range of Christmas events to add an extra note of Christmas magic to proceedings. We are looking forward to lots of new pupils starting their 'Music For Schools' lessons in the New Year.





### Magnificent Musicians

Our first certificate winners of this academic year were chosen for their enthusiastic participation in singing activities, their instrumental skills, or both!

- Maple: **Cariad Evans**
- Beech: **Michael Tingey-Taylor**
- Ash: **Esme Eilertsen**
- Apple: **James Hooke**
- Oak: **Toby Hutt**

Mrs Salter

### SUPER SPORT

Despite the shorter evenings and deteriorating weather, the sporting opportunities have continued to come thick and fast over the last term and our children have acquitted themselves admirably.

As much as I'd love to, there isn't time to go into depth about each event, so here are our sporting highlights from this term!

- Our talented Year 3/4 mixed football team, winning four and drawing one match out of six games at the Mini Football event at The Cooper School. The teamwork was excellent with players adapting to multiple positions.

- Two thoroughly enjoyable Year 3/4 Focus Festivals. The children enjoyed activities including boxing, dance and obstacle courses.

- Our Year 5/6 Tag Rugby mixed A team finishing as runners-up in the Bicester Competition. For the second year running, the only team who beat us were King's Meadow! The B team, which included many children who had not played rugby competitively, also performed admirably to chalk up some wins.

- Making our Futsal (indoor football with a heavier, foam-filled ball) debut in the county event at Oxford University Sports Centre. We won 3 of our 4 matches and only missed out on winning the trophy due to goal difference after finishing level on points with the eventual winners!

- Harold Lane Fox (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Hallie Malin (3<sup>rd</sup>) earning places on the podium at the cross country event at the Bicester School. Hallie then led the Year 3/4 girls' team to runners-up spot at the District Final to ensure that a Chesterton team qualified for the county final for the first time. The girls then raised their game even further to finish an incredible 4<sup>th</sup> out of 14 schools at the Oxfordshire final – definitely a determined team effort. All schools finishing above us have more than three times the number of pupils that we do, so the girls should be very proud of themselves.



1st	St. Philip & St. James	80
2nd	Rush Common	81
3rd	Sonning Common	94
4th	Chesterton	116
5th	Our Lady of Lourdes	117
6th	Radley	127
7th	Goring	130
8th	St Ebbe's	143
9th	Dr Radcliffe's	153
10th	Shiplake	158
11th	Woodcote	167
12th	Wantage	170
13th	Aston & Cote	184

Date	Event	Year/s	Results	Certificate Winners
3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct 2019	Girls On The Ball Football Event	Year 3/4/5/6	Year 3/4: 3 wins, 2 draws (8 goals scored, two against) Year 5/6: 1 win, 2 draws, 2 defeats	Meriel Woodrow Honour Woodrow (Teamwork)
10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2019	Bicester Tag Rugby	Year 5/6	A Team – Runners-Up (6 wins, 1 defeat) B Team – 4 <sup>th</sup> place	Josh Cresswell Isla Brayshaw (Respect)
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2019	Bicester Mini Football	Year 3/4	A Team – (4 wins, 1 draw, 1 defeat) B Team – (2 wins, 4 defeats)	Finlay Haynes Frank Ryan (Teamwork)
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2019	Girls On The Ball Hockey Event	Year 5/6	Non-competitive	Daisy Collett (Self-Belief)
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2019	Bicester Cross Country	Year 1-6	Harold Lane Fox: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place – Year 1/2 Boys Hallie Malin: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place – Year 3/4 Girls	Dotty Powell Sean Mooney Daisy Collett (Determination)
21 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2019	Girls' Focus Festival	Year 3-4	Non-competitive	Grace Abbey Lily Oakes (Passion)
28 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2019	Boys' Focus Festival	Year 3-4	Non-competitive	Alexander Selkirk Manny Donaldson Oliver Couling (Passion)
28 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2019	Girls On The Ball Football Event	Year 5/6	Year 3/4: 2 wins, 2 draws, 1 defeat	Charlotte Hornby Anabelle Meek (Teamwork)
29 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2019	District Cross Country Final	Year 1-6	Freddie Nunn-Reeve: 6 <sup>th</sup> Place – Year 1/2 Boys Hallie Malin: 11 <sup>th</sup> Place – Year 3/4 Girls	Olivia Berridge Bethany Hornby (Self-Belief)
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2019	Andy Reading Fun Run	All Years	PRIMARY SCHOOL CHAMPIONS Isla Brayshaw: 5 <sup>th</sup> Place – Girls Finlay Haynes: 6 <sup>th</sup> Place – Boys Charlotte Hornby: 9 <sup>th</sup> Place – Girls Alex Brayshaw: 10 <sup>th</sup> Place – Boys	Edie Wells Edward Messum (Self-Belief)
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2019	County Cross Country Final	Year 3-4	4 <sup>th</sup> Place in Oxfordshire County Final Hallie Malin: 10 <sup>th</sup> place	Whole Team (Determination)
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2019	County Girls Futsal Tournament	Under 11s	RUNNERS-UP 3 wins, 1 defeat	Isla Brayshaw (Passion)



### Andy Reading Fun Run

On a very pleasant, if a little breezy, afternoon on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 20 determined competitors from pre-school to Year 6 turned out to compete in the annual 1 kilometre Andy Reading Fun Run at the Bicester Sports Association playing fields in Chesterton. It was very impressive to see so many pupils from Chesterton (approximately half the entries) competing against many athletics club runners. We had a number of top 10 finishers: **Isla Brayshaw** (4<sup>th</sup>), **Finlay Haynes** (6<sup>th</sup>), **Charlotte Hornby** (9<sup>th</sup>) and **Alex Brayshaw** (10<sup>th</sup>) and some excellent finishes from children making their Andy Reading debuts.

We were very excited to find out that we had won the trophy for best primary school – the third time in a row and the fourth time in the past five years!

Congratulations to all our pupils, who earned house points for taking part, and a special mention to our intrepid runners from Maple Class, **Bethany Hornby** and **Edie Wells**. In a first for Chesterton, we also had two pre-school siblings taking part. **Hugo Queralt** and **Arthur Wells** deserve a big pat on the back and also became the first children to earn Chesterton house points before actually starting school!

Let's hope we'll be back next year to defend our trophy with even more runners!

I'd also like to thank our dedicated team of School Association volunteers who organised the refreshments stall to raise much needed funds for the school.



### Football Fixtures

Although our Bicester Schools' Football League campaign is yet to get underway, we have been involved in plenty of footballing action to ensure that we are ready to go in the new year. See results and top goalscorers below.

Date	Competition	Home	Goals	Away	Goals	Chesterton Scorers	Player/s Of The Match
17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Girls' Friendly	Amy's Avengers	5	Caitlin's Conquerors	2	Brayshaw 2, Hawes 2, Miles, Woodrow, Allmond	Isabelle Goddard Amy's Avengers (Team award)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Friendly	Bruern A	6	Chesterton A	5	Richings 3, Williams, Horseman	Logan Malin
2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Friendly	Bruern B	5	Chesterton B	5	Horwood 3, Sinclair-Pearson 2	Emin Gurbanov
10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Friendly	Chesterton A	4	Eynsham	2	Kirby 2, Williams, Richings	Toby Richings

Date	Competition	Home	Goals	Away	Goals	Chesterton Scorers	Player/s Of The Match
7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Girls' League	Chesterton Lionesses	12	Launton Girls	0	Brayshaw 5, Hawes 4, Woodrow 2, Hornby	Isabelle Goddard
19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	League	St. Edburg's A	3	Chesterton A	4	Kirby 3, Richings	Oscar Williams
3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Girls' League	St. Edburg's	0	Chesterton Lionesses	3	Hawes 2, Brayshaw	Hallie Malin

## Football Top Scorers 2019-20

Player	Games	Goals
Isla Brayshaw	9	12
Amelia Hawes	6	11
Oscar Horwood	4	6
Ollie Kirby	2	5
Toby Richings	3	5
Hallie Malin	5	5
Honour Woodrow	7	5
Isabelle Goddard	6	3
Wyatt Barton	2	2
Oscar Williams	3	2
Emin Gurbanov	3	2
Noah Sinclair-Pearson	4	2
Olivia Morgan-Griffin	1	1
Frank Ryan	2	1
William Isaac	2	1
Joshua Horseman	3	1
Meriel Woodrow	3	1
Amy Miles	4	1
Megan Allmond	5	1
Charlotte Hornby	6	1



### **LOWER SCHOOL'S STAGE STARS**

The lead up to Christmas is always 'performance season' in a primary school and it has been no different this year at Chesterton. This week saw two performances of Lower School's production of 'Baubles', which followed the story of Mrs Potts, the hardworking school caretaker, whose specially made Christmas decorations told the story of the first Christmas. It is a genuine pleasure for me, as headteacher, to be part of the audience and I know that parents, grandparents and other relatives shared in the enjoyment of seeing so many enthusiastic and smiling actors and singers. This year, the contribution of our new pupils was particularly noticeable, both Maple Class' beautiful costumes and singing and some starring roles for those children who have joined Chesterton in other year groups during the last twelve months. These productions require a lot of hard work – from teachers, teaching assistants, pupils and parents – but I hope that you agree that the results are well worth the effort.



*William and Sophie as Mary & Joseph,  
with Dotty the Donkey!*



*Our excellent team of narrators*



*Some of our Maple Class actors on their Chesterton School stage debut*

## PROFICIENT PEDALLERS

Terms 1 & 2 have seen two separate groups of Year 6 pupils undertaking the Cycling Proficiency. Learning about various aspects of cycle safety, the Highway Code and bike handling, the children have progressed from sessions on the school playground to excursions onto local roads, where they have had to apply their knowledge for real.

The children, assisted by a fantastic team of parent volunteers, have also had homework tasks to make sure that they were up to speed ready for the assessment at the end of the course. After visits from an external examiner to test both theory and practice, I am pleased to say that all children in both groups passed and I'm sure that they are now better prepared for any independent cycling that they may do in the future.



### *Message from Helen Marchetti, Cycling Proficiency co-ordinator:*

*This year, we have again been able to offer the Year six pupils the chance to undertake cycle training in conjunction with Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service. We have been able to do this due to the help of parent volunteers, several of whom have now passed their own training to become Instructors! Thank you to Laura Evans, David Happell and Donna Billington for stepping up to the challenge. Thank you also to Lisa Horseman, Gemma Haynes and Rachael Blakey for their continuing support. I am pleased to say that the pupils have shown good road sense as well as excellent behaviour*

*when representing their school on the roads around Chesterton. Keep cycling  !*

Without our dedicated volunteers, it simply wouldn't be possible to offer Cycling Proficiency to our pupils. New parents are always welcome – if you think that you might be able to offer some of your time in future, please contact Helen or the school office.



## QUGQWALA: OUR SOUTH AFRICAN PARTNER SCHOOL

In October, I was lucky enough, alongside Miss Norman, to travel to South Africa and meet our partner school - Qugqwala. It was an incredible experience and I hope that I have brought some of it back with me to Chesterton. The partnership between our schools is impressive! As soon as I arrived, I saw the Chesterton flag flying and photos/letters which we have sent previously. Four years ago, Miss Norman and Miss Gascoigne helped to build and set up their library. This is very much up and running and it's a lovely sight to see. It was quite magnificent walking into a room on the other side of the world to see so much related to Chesterton! The garden, which is still going strong, was created two years ago on Mr Horner and Mrs Meaney's visit! The children eat fresh vegetables

grown from the garden and we were able to try the spinach and potatoes.

Our project this year is to increase awareness of gender equality in both schools. We have been working hard in Chesterton to ensure that everyone has an equal chance to succeed. We took the activities and ideas over to Qugqwala and completed them with the children. We bought the children two footballs and, as we left, it was wonderful to see girls joining in a sport they said would usually be played by the boys! With support from our link with one of Qugqwala teachers, Babalwa, we hope this continues!

Our week in Qugqwala was incredible and the children and staff are just fantastic! I know children in Beech Class are enjoying sending videos and pictures. It really was the best experience and one I will never forget!

**Miss Phillips**



## FRESH AIR AND FREEDOM AT FOREST SCHOOL

This term, children in Apple Class have braved the elements to take part in Forest School sessions run by Sally-Ann Woodrow and supported by Gemma Haynes, Mrs Cresswell, Mrs King and Mr Barrett. Thank you also to Olivia's mum for volunteering her time to support us. During these sessions, the children took part in a range of activities in a local woodland, which we are kindly allowed to use by the Lane Fox family. The children have enjoyed exploring the environment and learning new skills such as building dens, making decorations out of natural materials, tying knots, constructing a rope swing and using tools, including bow saws, hand drills and loppers. One of the highlights was the last session where the children were able to see fire craft. Sally-Ann showed the children how to start a fire, in spite of the damp conditions. Everyone then had the chance to toast marshmallows and create smores using a wide range of biscuits - bourbons were a favourite!

**Miss Barrett**



## STAY SMART ONLINE THIS CHRISTMAS

There's no doubt that there will be a young person at home that has asked for some form of Bluetooth or internet-enabled tech for Christmas. Here's some information and advice that you may find useful to make sure that they stay safe online over the festive holiday period and beyond.

From robotic toys to smart speakers, this article explains what is meant by the 'Internet of Things' and how to use these devices safely with your child.

[Internet of Things](#)

The festive season can be a social minefield, made all the more complex by an ever-increasing number of digital devices. Here are 5 suggested parenting tips for screen time and tech when families gather.

[Seasonal Netiquette](#)

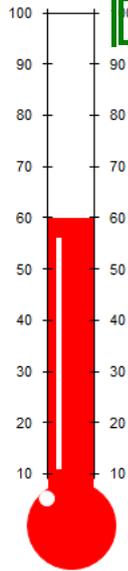
As part of our Computing work next term, and in preparation for 'Safer Internet Day', all classes will be taking part in 'The Ultimate E-Safety Show' and online safety workshops. We will also be running a parents and carers session with a CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) Ambassador at 3:30pm on **Wednesday 5th February**. Please look out for a letter with more information about both the school workshops and parents session in the new year.

**Mrs Leonard**



## SCHOOL ASSOCIATION PUT IN A 'FAYRE' AMOUNT OF EFFORT TO RAISE MONEY

The Chesterton School Association has been exceptionally busy in recent weeks organising the ever-popular Christmas Fayre, not to mention the film night. Over half of the £5000 target has already been banked, with just a third of the year gone!



Event	Amount Raised
Disco Sept '19	£253.17
Bag 2 School	£116.00
Cauliflower Cards	£248.61
Andy Reading Fun Run & 10k	£332.12
Christmas Fayre	£1,482.68
Festive Film Night	£544.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,976.62</b>
<b>Goal</b>	<b>£5,000.00</b>
<b>Current total</b>	<b>60%</b>

Thank you to all of you who have attended and supported these events. A big thank you also goes to all of you that helped on stalls at the Christmas Fayre, as well as those that helped to set up and organise the evening. It couldn't have been done without you all.

**Message from The School Association:** After last year's poetic summary of their efforts, Gemma and Helen have surpassed themselves with a Christmas calligram for 2019!



School

Association

Disco fever in September

Cauliflower Cards in October

**Bag2School in November**

# Festive film night in December

# Christmas Fayre

Almost there,  
Subsidised trips  
and a new  
BIG SCREEN!

Merry Christmas and thanks to everyone for their help and donations,  
from the *School Association*

## AMAZING ACTIVITIES, LIVELY LESSONS AND VARIOUS VISITS!

As usual, I have written far too much so I am going to summarise the remaining activities and events from across the school in photographic form - there certainly has been a lot going on already this year!

### MAPLE CLASS



Drawing owls during Art



Balancing in P.E.



Den building and light and dark in Outdoor Learning

**BEECH CLASS**



**More Than / Less Than In Maths**



**South Africa Week**

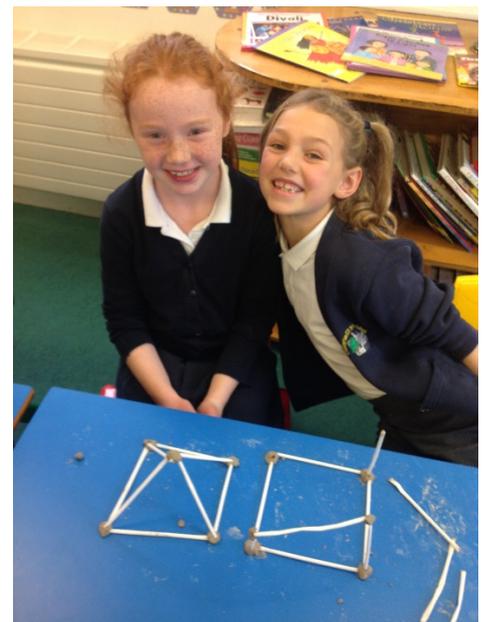


**Beech Class' Nativity Cast**

**ASH CLASS**



**A Music lesson with Beech Class**



**Constructing 3D Shapes in Maths**



Feeding the birds on our visit to Slimbridge

APPLE CLASS



Our visit to Slimbridge



Posting our letters



Active Maths lessons

OAK CLASS



**Prayer Space**



**Visiting Maple Class for an active English session**



**In the Observation Tower at Slimbridge**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Spring Term – First Half**

Friday 24th January	Maple Class Sharing Worship
Tuesday 28th January	KS2 SATs Info Evening
Friday 7th February	School Association Quiz Night
Wednesday 5th February	E-Safety Parents' Session

**Spring Term – Second Half**

w/b 2nd March	Book Week
Friday 6th March	Book Week Film Night
Friday 13th March	Comic Relief
Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th March	Parents' Evenings

Thursday 2nd April	Easter Church Service (2.15pm)
Friday 3rd April	School Association Dress Down Day

**AND FINALLY...**

*Thank you all very much for the support that you have given to our staff so far this academic year, as we all work together to ensure that Chesterton provides the best possible education for your children. The staff and I are looking forward to recharging our batteries over the festive period and we will be back in January ready for an exciting start to a new decade. Please note that school restarts on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.*

*I would like to wish you and your families a happy and healthy Christmas together. May it be full of festive cheer!  
Best wishes, Mr. I. Horner (Headteacher)*

**This newsletter will also be available on the school website:**

**[www.chestertonprimaryschool.org.uk](http://www.chestertonprimaryschool.org.uk)**