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Headteacher: Mr Iain Horner

8th January 2021

RE: Chesterton New Class Names

Dear parents, carers and pupils,

It seems like a long time ago now that we asked our pupils for their suggestions to name the new classrooms! However, I'm pleased to report that, after a thorough process involving our Upper School Council and the staff, we have arrived on our final choices. The winning names were:

Chestnut – Suggested by **Charlotte Lancaster** and **Ivo Szkonter**, **Caden Hawes** and **James Hales**, because "It has conkers that you can open," and "They can be very strong, tall and beautiful."

Hawthorn – Suggested by **Aidan Hanna**, **Luca Steptoe** and **Sebastian Dibsall**, because "Hawthorn is also known as the May Tree and May Day is celebrated at Chesterton School," "I like the berries," and "The white blossom looks like snow."

Rowan – Suggested by **Cariad Evans** because, "...in the Autumn it has red berries which are good for nature. The old Celtic name for the rowan tree means 'wizard'."

| Tree Name | Year Group | Location | Do we already have any on the school site? | Did you know? |
|-----------|------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| Chestnut | Year 2 from Sept 2021 | Current Ash Class | Yes, at the bottom of the school field. | Chestnut belongs to the same family of trees as Oak and Beech. |
| Hawthorn | Eventually Year 4 | Old Apple Class | Yes, one, at the front of the school by old Apple Class. | Our Hawthorn tree appears on the school logo! When Hawthorn begins to bloom, it is a sign that spring is turning into summer. |
| Rowan | 4/5 (eventually Year 5 only) | New block | No, we will arrange to plant one in view of the classroom soon. | Miss Barrett personally chose this name from a shortlist given to her by the School Council. We have already started using this name. |

Therefore, when our additional two classrooms open, the full list of class names will be as follows:

Reception – Maple, Year 1 – Beech, Year 2 – Chestnut, Year 3 – Ash, Year 4 – Hawthorn, Year 5 – Rowan and Year 6 – Oak. We decided that the name 'Apple Class' retired in December!

The School Council would also like to mention the following children for submitting impressive entries that made it onto our shortlist. **Sophie Brennan**, **Georgina Hales** and **Benjamin Isaac** – **Elm**, **Daisy Collett** – **Pine**, **Isabelle Goddard** – **Sycamore** and **Sophia Shirvell** – **Hazel**.

Thank you also to the Upper School Councillors: Manny Donaldson, Eleanor Messum, Sean Mooney, Sophia Shirvell, Toby Hutt, Anabelle Meek and Charlotte Hornby, who put in lots of effort to conduct further research on each tree in their own time to enable us to make an informed decision.

We think our final choices are tree-mendous!

Yours sincerely, Mr Horner