friday 20th November 2026

NEWSLETTER

Chesterton Primary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This has been an incredibly busy and exciting week for everyone at Chesterton. From Reception to Year 6, our children have been out exploring and learning in a wide variety of locations, representing our school in sport, and welcoming special visitors into school.

Last week, our children represented Chesterton incredibly well at both football and rugby, demonstrating respect, kindness and excellent sportsmanship towards their opponents. This week, our Year 1 pupils had a fantastic time exploring Warwick Castle and learning about the realities of medieval England, although the lure of the Zog Playland was certainly hard to resist! Year 5 enjoyed the opportunity to step back in time and become Ancient Greeks for the day, experiencing life in this fascinating civilisation. Today, Hawthorn Class are visiting the Black Country Living Museum. If you are looking for a family day out, I would highly recommend a visit as it is a truly immersive and memorable experience.

It seems that all of our children and staff have earned a well-deserved weekend after such a busy and rewarding week.

Chesterton School Association

Chesterton CE School Association

School Association updates:

For all our school association updates and news of upcoming events, please follow the Chesterton School Association on Instagram and facebook.

Upcoming Events

26/11 - Yr 1 Dance/Cheer Showcase
27/11 - Hawthorn Sharing Worship - 9:00am
04/12 - Elfridges - Dress down day for Donations
04/12 - KS2 Cross country Finals
07/12 - 08/12 -SA - Elfridges Sale
08-09/12 - KS1 Nativity 2:15
09 -10/12 - Music Worship - 10:00
10/12 - Maple class Nativity 2:15
10/12 - Oak - Trip to Bletchley Park
11/12 - Singing around the tree and Cosy Christmas Evening- SA - 2:45
14/12 - Christmas Service at the Church - KS1 9:30/ KS2 10:30 - Parents Welcome
15/12 - School Christmas Dinner
17/12 - Christmas Jumper Day
18/12 - Last Day of Term

Families Survey

We're working with The Engagement Platform (TEP) to gather feedback from parents and carers and help shape future improvements.

We've had 81 responces so far!! We're aiming for over 100!

✅ *Takes just 10 minutes*
✅ *Completely anonymous*
✅ *Works on any device*
✅ *Contributes to a national study of parent and carer experiences*

Whether your experience has been positive or you think we can improve,
your feedback matters.
Please complete the survey today and help us beat last year's response rate.
Thank you for your support.

Click the link to access the survey:

https://questions.tep.uk/chesterton

Before you begin:

- **You can complete this in your own language.**
- **You don't have to do this survey.**
- **More than one person can take part.**
- **No one at school sees your individual answers**
- **This won't affect your child in any way**
- **You can be honest**

Safeguarding team

Just a reminder who our safeguarding team are - if you have any concerns, please come and speak to us:







Mrs Salter ***Miss Norman*** ***Mr Gratwoh***

We're entering a period where the weather is changing and the likeliness of coughs and colds rises. Please send your child to school if they are showing cold symptoms

If you have any concerns, here is the government guidance on when to send your child in.
https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

Attendance

- Maple: 97.3%
- Beech: 97.5%
- Ash: 96.6% -
Chestnut: 96.6%
- Hawthorn: 98.7%
- Rowan: 90.0%
- Oak: 98.6%

KS1 Nativity

It's that most wonderful time of year again and we are getting ready to perform our Nativity, 'It's a Miracle!' for you!
As we hope you are already aware, this year's performances will take place on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th of December (start time 2.15pm).
In the first instance, two tickets will be available per family to attend either Tuesday's or Wednesday's performance.

More information has been shared to KS1 parents via email.

Music Worship

Our termly Music Worship will take place at 10:00am on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th December in the school hall. Children who learn an instrument are invited to perform, either individually or as part of a group, and parents and carers are warmly welcome to attend. If your child would like to take part, please email office.3082@chesterton.oxon.sch.uk by Wednesday 2nd December, stating the instrument they play, whether they will be performing solo or in a group, their piece they will be playing and their preferred performance day. Please note that preferred dates cannot be guaranteed if demand is high. We look forward to celebrating our young musicians.

Cosy Christmas and singing around the tree

We are delighted to invite families to our Cosy Christmas Around the Tree event on Friday 11th December. The school gates will open at 2:45pm, when parents and carers are welcome to join us for mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies as we gather around the Christmas tree to sing some festive carols together. We would love for parents to sing along too!

At 3:15pm, children can be signed up for a range of Christmas craft activities, while parents are invited to stay, enjoy the refreshments and spend time chatting with other families. Further details will be shared by the School Association in the coming weeks.

Elfridges:

Each Christmas, children come to school in non-uniform and are invited to bring a gift to donate. This year, the non-uniform day will take place on Friday 4 December. The donated gifts will then be displayed in the Acorn Room on Monday 7 December, when children will have the opportunity to purchase a gift for a family member. Further details about this popular event will be shared by the School Association in due course.

Focus on Beech:

"Year 1's Trip to Warwick Castle

Year 1 had a fantastic day out at Warwick Castle! We were very lucky that the rain held off for most of the day, allowing us plenty of time to explore.

We met our wonderful guide, Vicky, who taught us all about the different jobs that adults (and even children!) might have done in medieval times. We discovered that some jobs were hard work, such as brushing wool to help make clothes; some were dangerous, such as grinding wheat into flour; and some were rather unpleasant! We found out that medieval doctors had some very unusual ways of checking if people were poorly, including smelling and tasting their urine! We also explored the castle grounds and different rooms, learning lots about what life would have been like in a medieval castle. One of the funniest (and yuckiest!) discoveries was the toilet hanging above the moat!

There was plenty more to see and do. We were amazed by the detailed model of Warwick Castle and a fantastic Lego trebuchet. We also enjoyed watching some magnificent birds of prey at the Winter Bird Show, where we learnt all about the art of falconry.

To finish off our busy day, we squeezed in a quick visit to the Zog playground before heading home. We had such a wonderful time and were disappointed that we couldn't stay a little longer to explore! It was certainly a very busy day, as some of us were so exhausted that we even managed to fall asleep on the coach journey home! What a brilliant day of learning and fun!"







Children in Need:

Children in Need Fundraising – A Huge Thank You!
We have had a fantastic time supporting Children in Need! The children embraced the occasion by dressing up in a wonderful array of magical and mythical costumes, bringing plenty of colour, creativity and fun to the day. We also had a range of Children in Need merchandise available, including pens, badges and wristbands, which proved very popular. The children also put their creative talents to the test by taking part in our Design a Pudsey Bandana and T-shirt Competition. We were so impressed with all the fantastic entries!
A huge congratulations to our seven lucky winners: Charlie in Maple, Evelyn in Beech, Sophie in Ash, Joshua in Chestnut, Effie in Hawthorn, Teddy in Rowan and Evelyn in Oak.
Thanks to the generosity and support of our wonderful school community, we are delighted to announce that we raised an amazing £470.76 for Children in Need!
A massive thank you to everyone who contributed their time, donated money, purchased merchandise and supported our fundraising activities. Your kindness and generosity have helped us raise a fantastic amount for such a worthwhile cause.
Well done, everyone, and thank you for helping us make a difference!
From the School Council

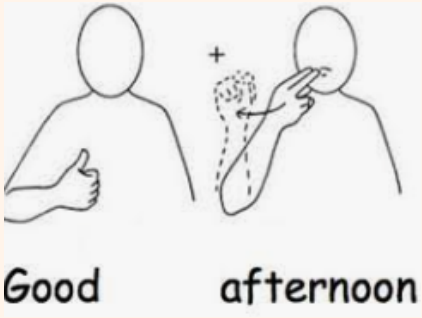






Makaton Sign of the week

Makaton is a sign language which is often used with chidlren with learning or speech difficulties. Most famously used by the rockstar that is Mr Tumble. Every week we will be beginning to teach the children a different Makaton hand gesture to help support children in our school feel more included and recognised. This week's sign of the week is...



ARCH Readers:

ARCh
Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire

Want to work part-time for a local charity, term-time only?

ARCh is an award winning charity which recruits, trains and supports volunteer reading helpers to work with primary school children throughout Oxfordshire to encourage a love of books and reading.



We have the following position available for someone living in the Bicester area.

Field Worker (Bicester and Thame area) home based

A confident 'people person', with a passion for books and education, you will provide support to ARCh Reading Helpers. The role involves visiting primary schools in the Bicester/Thame and surrounding areas, liaising with school staff and ensuring everything runs smoothly.

Enthusiasm and good communication skills are vital!

12 hours per week (to be worked across the week) **term-time only**.
Starting pay £12.71 per hour
Use of computer and own car essential (travel expenses paid).

Contact info@archoxfordshire.org.uk for an application form.

ARCh, Suite E, Gobles Court, 7, Market Square, Bicester, Oxon OX26 6AA
www.archoxfordshire.org.uk

Charity number 1146276

School Logo

Our competition to design a new logo for Chesterton CE Primary School is now underway, and we would love our whole school community to get involved!

We are looking for a fresh, simple and memorable design that reflects who we are, our Christian vision of "Building Firm Foundations for Life", our values, history and strong sense of community.

The competition is open to everyone – pupils, parents, grandparents, former pupils, local residents and friends of the school. We would love to see your creative ideas!

The winning design will help shape our new school branding, including our logo, signage, uniforms and communications.

Please send your designs or ideas to the school office by the end of November. Paper, photographs and online submissions are all welcome.

For more information, please speak to Mr Gratwohl, Miss Salter or a member of the office team. Good luck and happy designing!

The reading raffle

Our reading raffle was won by… **William in Chestnut.**

Keep reading to be in with a chance of receiving a free, new book from the reading raffle from Coles Books in Bicester!

NODA

Launton Village Players present their 40th pantomime

LAUNTON VILLAGE PLAYERS

PUSS IN BOOTS

A traditional family pantomime

Written and directed by Julia West
Music by Steve Webber and Ash Foster

Wed 17th to Sat 20th Feb 2027

*Relaxed Performance Thursday at 10:30am

Date	Performance Times			Adult (18+)	Child (1-17)
Weds 17th Feb			7:30pm	£12	£7
Thurs 18th Feb	10:30am*	2:30pm		£12	£7
Fri 19th Feb		2:30pm	7:30pm	£14	£8
Sat 20th Feb		2:30pm	7:30pm	£14	£8

Cooper School Performance Hall, Bicester, OX26 4RS

Tickets available from
www.ticketsource.co.uk/lvp
(or call 07864 715708 for assistance)





Family Discounts available for all shows!

Scan here for tickets!

Book by 30th November and use the code EARLYBIRD to save 10%

All profits donated to the Fire Fighters Charity

www.launtonvillageplayers.org.uk