



friday 17th September 2026

NEWSLETTER

Chesterton Primary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to wish a very warm welcome back to all the children who returned to school last week. Schools are only truly special when they are filled with the smiles, laughter and energy of children, and it has been wonderful to see the school come alive.

It has been such a privilege to be welcomed so warmly into the school community, and it is a real pleasure to be working in such a special school. I feel very lucky to be able to play even a small part in the children's journey, and

I cannot wait to see all that they will achieve.

I hope you all have a wonderful and restful weekend.

Mr Gratwohl

Welcome to our new staff:

I would like to extend a huge welcome to some of our new staff...

Miss Taylor – Joins us as a TA who has a huge experience working with children with additional needs.

Mrs Lay – Joins us with a wealth of experience working in early years and foundation settings. They are both excellent additions to our team and I'm sure they will make a huge contribution over the coming terms.

Safeguarding team

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



Miss Salter



Miss Norman



Mr Gratwohl

Attendance

Maple: 95.2%

Beech: 97.3%

Ash: 95.6%

Chestnut: 98.6%

Hawthorn: 98.8%

Rowan: 98.5%

Oak: 95.2%

Chesterton CE Primary School



Building Firm Foundations For Life



School Association AGM

We'd love you to join us on **Wednesday 23rd September, 7–8pm on Microsoft Teams – details below.**

Over the past year, our volunteers have helped make things happen that directly benefit our children and school.

But right now, we really need more parents and carers to get involved. We're a small group, and without more volunteers, there's only so much we can do. You don't need to commit lots of time, attend every meeting or have any previous experience.

Even helping with one event, sharing an idea or giving an hour here and there can make a huge difference.

It's a friendly, welcoming team, a great way to meet other parents, and most importantly, it's a chance to help create opportunities and experiences for your child and every child in our school. ✨

If you've ever thought about getting involved, this is the perfect time to come along, find out more and see what you could bring to the team.

Everyone is welcome – we'd genuinely love to see some new faces! 💛

Meeting ID – 376 078 153 386 373

Password – nR9Bd9Cb



Parking and Road Safety



For everyone's safety, please do not park on the zigzag lines outside school, the white lines on the corner of Orchard Rise or block residents' driveways. These areas need to remain clear so that children can enter and leave the school safely, and so that our neighbours can access their homes. We really appreciate your consideration and respect for the wider community. Please give yourself a little extra time to find a suitable parking space. If you have had to park further away, don't worry—we are very happy to keep your child with us for a few extra minutes while you walk back to the school. Thank you for helping us keep our children and community safe.

Maple Highlights:

Our new Maple class have made a fantastic start to Chesterton school life – we are so proud of them! They have been busy learning new routines, getting to know their new classroom and outdoor area and making new friends. They have enjoyed mark making, using small construction and playing on the bikes. We have also enjoyed singing together as a class and learnt the song 'Spotty Socks'.



Growth Mindset & Resilience BMX Experience

Chesterton welcomed a special guest on Thursday as Mike Mullen from BMX Academy visited to share an inspiring message about growth mindset and resilience.

In assembly, Mike spoke about overcoming fear, trying new things, and rebuilding his career after a serious injury. He encouraged children to persevere, embrace challenges, and learn from setbacks.

After wowing us with some incredible BMX tricks, including jumping over members of staff, Mike led growth mindset workshops with Years 5 and 6. Pupils were challenged to test their confidence and resilience, and I am proud to say that everyone stepped outside their comfort zone and gave it a go.

It was a fantastic day with a powerful message: perseverance and practice help us grow in confidence and achieve more than we think possible.

If you want to see the sort of work and experiences Mike and the other member of BMX academy do, you can find them at bmxacademy.com.



School Drop off

A gentle reminder to please allow your children to walk through the gates independently and then move away from the blue gates to allow staff to support the children.

We recognise that this is still new for some parents, but we want to build the children's resilience and moving into school independently. Please trust the adults in school to support them in. Thank you for your help.

Newsletter

If you would like to post anything in a future School Weekly Newsletter, please email or speak to the front office for more details.

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Building Firm Foundations For Life

Upcoming Events

23/09– Macmillan Coffee Afternoon 2.00pm
24/09: School Association AGM 7.00pm
02/10: Open Classrooms (3.15–3.45)
08/10: Maple Curriculum Evening 5.00pm
10/10: School Association Quiz Night (Oxford)
16/10: School Association Discos (Light Party)
19/10: School Photographer (Portraits)
19/10 and 20/10 – 5pm – New Maple open evening
20/10 – Ash – Gaydon Motor Museum
21/10: Flu Vaccination Programme (All Year Groups)
23/10: INSET Day

Childhood Flu Vaccination Programme

The flu vaccination programme will be taking place on Wednesday 21st October for all year groups. Please look out for further information; as last year, permission will be given online.

School Photographs

The School Photography Company will be coming into school on Monday 19th October to take portrait photographs. Further details to follow.

Open Classrooms Afternoon

Straight after school on the 2nd of October (3.15–3.45), your child's classroom will be open to view what the children have been doing since the start of term.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Please join us for coffee, tea and cake at our Macmillan coffee afternoon on Wednesday 23rd September from 2.00pm onwards. Our School Council will be helping to run an informal afternoon for Chesterton families in the school hall. Please come along for a hot drink, chat and a slice of cake (or two!).

We would be extremely grateful for any donations of cakes – large or small or biscuits – that we can serve at this event to raise much needed funds for a fantastic cause. Please send any cakes and biscuits into your child's class at the start of the day on Wednesday 23rd September.

Any cakes left at the end of the afternoon will be sold on the playground in aid of Macmillan.