



friday 17th September 2026

NEWSLETTER

Chesterton Primary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What another fantastic week we've had at Chesterton!

It has been a joy to see our children settling into their routines and becoming fully engaged in their learning. The enthusiasm and focus around school are helping to build the strong foundations for a successful year ahead.

This week marked the start of our regular sports fixtures, while music lessons and singing assemblies have filled the school with energy and excitement. It was also a pleasure to celebrate our new Sports and House Captains in Celebration Worship. Watching children step into leadership roles reminds me of the incredible potential we have across our school community.

From Year 5 carefully selecting stones for their Greek structures to Year 6 embracing the challenges of Forest School, there have been many wonderful moments of learning and discovery to enjoy.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Mr Gratwohl

SIAMS Inspection

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to those parents who took the time to support the school today by speaking with the SIAMS inspector this afternoon. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a supportive and engaged parent community, and it is a privilege to work alongside you.

I would also like to thank all our staff and governors for their hard work, dedication and support throughout what has been an intense day. Everyone approached the inspection with professionalism, positivity and commitment, and I am immensely proud to be the Headteacher of such a hardworking and dedicated school community.



Attendance

Maple: 100%

Beech: 97.1%

Ash: 96%

Chestnut: 98.3%

Hawthorn: 97.4%

Rowan: 97.1%

Oak: 98.1%



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.

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

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MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**



Staff Changes:

Unfortunately, this week we are saying goodbye to three valued members of the Chesterton team.

Today, Laura Davies leaves us to pursue a new career opportunity. We thank her for her dedication and commitment to our children and wish her every success for the future.

We also say farewell to Charnieze Taylor, who is taking up a position closer to home. We thank her for her contribution to the school and wish her all the very best.

Finally, Phoebe Salter is leaving to return to university and continue her studies. We are grateful for her flexibility, enthusiasm and support across the school this term, and we look forward to welcoming her back at half term.

To Laura, Charnieze and Miss Salter, thank you for all you have given to our school community. We wish you every happiness and success in the future.

Short Story Competition

The Oxfordshire Libraries are delighted to announce that the 'Oxfordshire Libraries Short Story Competition', which some of you may recognise from previous years, will relaunch on Monday 14 September 2026.

It encourages pupils to tell their own stories, write for enjoyment, and share their creativity. They could even become a published author as the winning entries in each category will be published as an eBook, available for Oxfordshire Libraries members to borrow during 2027! What an achievement!

Children's stories can be up to 1000 words. Stories by young adults and adults can be up to 3000 words. The competition is free to enter, and entries can be submitted from Monday 14 September 2026. The closing date is Sunday 15 November 2026. To enter your story, complete the online form before the competition's closing date. The entry form will be available on this webpage from Monday 14 September 2026. Entries from children and young adults, up to and including 17-year-olds, will need parent or carer consent to accompany their entry.

Please see the letter from Miss Baxter and Mrs Salter for more details!



Focus on Ash:

What a busy start we have had to Ash Class! One of our favourite subjects so far has been Art and Design, where we have been learning about sculptures. We have explored a range of techniques to shape paper, including curling, fringing and accordion folding. We then investigated how we could join the pieces of paper together using cellotape, masking tape and PVA glue. We are excited to apply our learning to make a sculpture inspired by Charles McGee next week.

We have also been impressing our teachers with our knowledge of 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 in Mastering Number sessions. Using rekenreks, we have been showing how to make these numbers using the '5 and a bit' structure. Ask us at home to tell you how to make these numbers, for example '6 is made of 5 and 1. 5 and 1 make 6.



Kings, Queens and Knights Day

We had a lovely time celebrating our Castle topic with a special Kings, Queens and Knights day.

The children enjoyed a range of activities throughout the day, including riding horses, having a go at jousting, decorating their own crowns and working together to build a castle.

There was plenty of creativity, teamwork and laughter along the way, and it was wonderful to see the children getting so involved and enjoying the experience.

A great day was had by everyone!

As you can imagine, there are so many pictures that these are just a few. Look on our website in a few days time to see a complete collection.



Away Football Match at Bruern Abbey

On Thursday this week, some of our KS2 children headed down to Bruern Abbey for a football friendly. Both teams played brilliantly, showing excellent teamwork, sportsmanship and a fantastic attitude throughout the matches. It was wonderful to see the children representing our school so positively.

Results:

A Team: Drew 2–2

B Team: Won 5–0

A huge well done to all of the children who took part!



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
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

Please see your child's class newsletter for details which are on the website under class pages.

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.

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.

Chesterton CE Primary School



Building Firm Foundations For Life



TRY RUGBY



BICESTER RUGBY CLUB MINI AND JUNIORS OPEN DAY



**SUNDAY
20TH
SEPTEMBER**



AGE 9 - 16

 **9:30 - 11:00am**

 **(Year 5 - Year 11)**



AGE 4 - 8

 **10:00 - 11:00am**

 **(Reception to Year 4)**

PLAY • LEARN • GROW • TOGETHER

Oxfordshire Youth Folk Group

Six sessions per year

Saturday afternoons at
the Centre for Music in
Oxford

Open to children in
school years 6 to 11

Any instrument or voice

Beginners and
experienced players
welcome



Sign up or find out more by visiting www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/folkgroup or scanning the QR code

Chesterton CE Primary School



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