Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Friday 25 June 2021

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parent/Carer,

We haven't let the pandemic distract us from our work of continually improving the school for the benefit of all pupils. We invited our School Improvement Advisor in to school last term to independently verify the progress we have made in key areas we have been focussing on, such as the development of our curriculum, the effectiveness of middle leaders in driving forward improvements in their subjects, and provision for the most able learners. The SIA was positive in her findings and key statements from her report include:

"School leaders have taken decisive action to address the issues raised at the last inspection with a distributed leadership approach firmly in place. Subject leader action plans form the basis of the SDP and used to drive improvements. The headteacher meets regularly with subject leaders to develop their roles and responsibilities and to discuss and guide their work."

"School leaders have also maintained a focus on More Able pupils, and this is checked through the work of the governing body with updates from the More Able Leader. CPD has been provided for teachers which supports the accurate identification of more able pupils and the inclusion of them on an 'Above and Beyond' register and identification markers on work books. A range of examples of the work undertaken in this area was shared in a detailed report. e.g. younger pupils in EYFS involved through 'drink and think' sessions, Braeside courses offered to KS1 and KS2 pupils and differentiated feedback and questioning during lockdown."

"The Curriculum Leader has made a good start working with all subject leaders to develop the curriculum intent, implementation and assessment documentation. The school took further action and adapted their curriculum plans and topic areas in response to the pandemic, making sure the curriculum was not narrowed, as a result of it."

"Link governor reports demonstrate governors provide thoughtful challenge and support and have a good understanding of the issues the school has faced during this extraordinary year."

I would like to thank the whole school community for their continued commitment and support which is ensuring the education and support provided to our pupils continues to go from strength to strength.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards.

Simon Futcher.

Mathletics

After almost a month, we have a new gold award winner! Congratulations to

Ted L who has been working consistently hard in order to achieve this. There are also a handful of silvers and lots of bronzes, showing that lots of children are working hard towards the same goal. Well done all of you!

Gold: Ted L

Silver: Tomas, Ted L, George P, George R

Bronze: Theo, Alex C, Oliver CJ, Olivia, Florence, Ethan, Josiah, Alexis, Maddox, Sam H, Rufus, Oliver H, Lillie, Isla, Lauren, Thomas, Emily J, Leighton, Livinia, Ted L, Violet, Iris, Eleanor, Emily M, George P, George R, Imogen W



Dress As a Bug Day! Wednesday 30th June

Next week is science week at Churchfields. Lots of exciting

activities have been planned for maximum learning opportunities. We will looking closely at the importance of bees and will be welcoming a visitor into school to engage the children.

On Wednesday 30th June, children are welcome to come to school dressed as a bug to celebrate these important creatures. No costume is required, yellow and black for a bee, colourful clothing for a butterfly, and black for a beetle or red and black for a ladybird are just a few ideas. The choices, like types of bugs, are endless!

Thank you for your support. It is going to be a super week!

Together

Along with 7,500 children across Wiltshire, we went out onto the playground to sing the song 'Together' at 2.15pm on Monday (World Music day). This song was written especially for Wiltshire over lockdown, and many children had a go at learning it via Google Classrooms. At Atworth, the Y6s played the instrumental section on boomwhackers and xylophones and the ukuleles accompanied the verses. It sounded great and the rain held off!







Unauthorised absence – a reminder

The Headteacher may authorise absences in special circumstances. If your reason for requesting leave falls outside of illness or a medical appointment or any of the planned circumstances listed below; but you believe there are exceptional circumstance for the absence, please complete an Absence Request Form giving as much detail as possible.

Other planned absence

Please fill in an Absence Request Form (available on request from the school office) for:

- External examination: e.g. music, ballet
- Visit to new school
- Funeral of close family member (at Headteacher's discretion)
- Wedding of close family member (at Headteacher's discretion)
- Family emergency (at Headteacher's discretion)
- Holiday for children of parents in armed forces personnel on leave from active service (written confirmation required)

<u>Please note:</u> if requested absence, which has not been authorised is taken, it will be recorded as unauthorised absence. If unauthorised absence exceeds ten sessions (i.e. five days) in any six-month period within an academic year, the school is required to report this to the Local Authority. The Local Authority may then decide to levy a fine.

Photography Competition

Congratulations to the winners of last week's photography competition with its gods and monsters themes. We were very impressed with your creativity and there was a great sense of fun in the photos. The winners were Imagen B, who created a surreal Daliesque photo, and the Miller family, who had fun fitting themselves onto a skateboard!

This week's focus is reflections.



Make sure we can tell that it's you



All you need to do once you have your chosen picture upload it to your class's Google Classroom by Wednesday.

Have fun and enjoy being creative!



KS2 have had an exciting photography wow day/afternoons. They were inspired by the storybook Each Peach, Pear, Plum to create stop motion animations. Each team took responsibility for one page to create a complete film. They worked brilliantly in their teams to create some super videos.

At Atworth, Nightingales and Kestrels also learnt about the artist Andy Goldsworthy and were inspired by his work to create their own art, based on responses to the environment, using natural materials, as well as creating pipecleaner photoframes.

Falcons class enjoyed creating stop frame animations for 'Each Peach Pear Plum' on both Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. The children had such great fun! And want to do it again. The children's animations will be added to our Classroom page as they are too large to upload to Facebook! Look out for these going on over the weekendl



Sunday 04 July 10am - 2pm

Table top sale with many toys, games, books and 'preloved' school uniform.

Ice lollies available as refreshment

Location Churchfields Atworth Base

Like to help?

Please contact Emma Bennett at

smilesdavies@gmail.com







Children's summer holiday activities - HMRC can help towards the cost

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) is reminding working families in the South-West that they can use Tax-Free Childcare to help pay for their childcare costs over the summer.

Tax-Free Childcare – a childcare top-up for working parents – can be used to help pay for accredited holiday clubs, childminders or sports activities – giving parents and carers that extra peace of mind that their child is having fun during the school summer holidays and it can save them money.

Tax-Free Childcare is available for children aged up to 11, or 17 if the child has a disability. And for every £8 deposited into an account, families will receive an additional £2 in government top-up, capped at £500 every three months, or £1,000 if the child is disabled.

Parents and carers can check their eligibility and register for Tax-Free Childcare via GOV.UK. They can apply for an account at any time and start using it straight away. By depositing money into their accounts, families can benefit from the 20% top-up and use the money to pay for childcare costs when they need to, for example, during the summer holidays.

"To find out more search 'tax-free childcare' on GOV.UK."

Tax-Free Childcare is also available for pre-school aged children attending nurseries, childminders or other childcare providers. Families with younger children will often have higher childcare costs than families with older children, so the tax-free savings can really make a difference.

Childcare providers can also sign up for a childcare provider account via GOV.UK to receive payments from parents and carers via the scheme.















Churchfields School Needs You!!

Churchfields Primary School is currently looking for local people to fill a number of vacancies on its governing body. We are an aspirational school that is keen to capitalise on recent successful inspections and provide the best possible education for the children in our community.

School governors work with the school's senior leadership team to set strategic direction, monitor school performance and ensure the school's budget is well spent. The governing body ensures that our school provides the best possible education for our pupils. You don't have to be a parent to apply, and schools are looking for skilled volunteers from all backgrounds.

We are particularly interested in applications from people with experience in governance, HR, education, finance, or business management, and who can occasionally visit the school during the day.

You can make a positive contribution to your community, by becoming a school governor!



If you are interested or know of somebody else who would be then please contact the school office for an application form on **01225 703026** or via email at admin@churchfields.wilts.co.uk

For more information on the role, please contact: Ed Latimer-Sayer: chair@churchfields.wilts.co.uk (Chair of Governors)
Simon Futcher: head@churchfields.wilts.co.uk

Churchfields School is in Atworth and Monkton Farleigh.





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Friday 25 June 2021

Term 6	
Monday 28 June – Friday 02 July	Science Week
Tuesday 29 June	R21 induction afternoon
Wednesday 30 June	Dress as a bug day
Thursday 01 July	Move-up morning
Friday 02 July	Corsham School Year 6 taster day
Tuesday 06 July	R21 induction afternoon
Thursday 08 July	Year 6 pupils Induction at St Laurence whole day
Friday 09 July	Sports afternoon 1pm -3:15pm
Tuesday 13 July	R21 induction afternoon & Teddy Bear's picnic
Tuesday 13 July	Yr. 6 Transition Day Melksham Oak
Thursday 15 July	Year 5 taster Day St Laurence School whole day
Friday 16 July	Provisional Sports Day
Friday 16 July	Pupil Reports go home
Monday 19 July to Wednesday 21 July	Sports Week
Monday 19 July	Y6 Leavers' celebration
Wednesday 21 July	Last Day Term 6
Thursday 22 July	INSET DAY
Friday 23 July	INSET DAY

INSET DAYS 2021/2022

Wednesday 01 September Monday 06 June Tuesday 04 January Monday 25 July Friday 08 April



