

**Friday 27th October 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

At this point in the year, we continue to be amazed by the changes in the children as they progress on their learning journeys with us, building confidence in so many ways. At the gate during pick up and drop off, we often hear conversations between families in anticipation of the exciting day ahead or reflecting on enjoyable events that have taken place in school that day! In this newsletter, we hope to give you a snapshot view of the last two weeks and also, the things we have to look forward to in the weeks ahead. Covid restrictions mean that this term's events will be altered slightly from previous years, but we hope to make it special for all of our Chandag Infant School community.

As temperatures drop, please remember those warm layers for school whilst we have to ventilate the classrooms during the day.

Best Wishes

Mrs A Smart  
Headteacher

Miss Willington  
Deputy Headteacher

### Golden Moments



Colourful semantics helping us to write sentences about Bears in Year 1 this week.



Part, part whole models in Maths ready for the next step of addition.

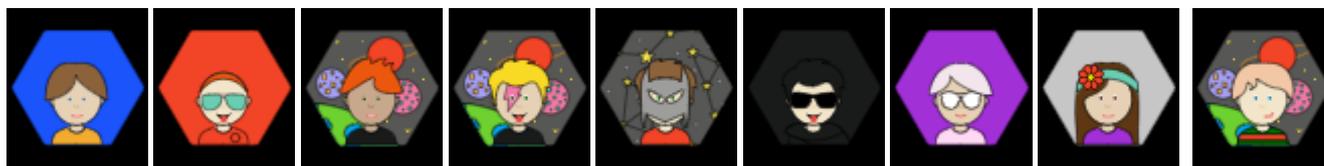
### Antibullying week – Odd Socks Day

The children loved showing off their odd socks last week to raise awareness for Anti-Bullying Week which we discussed together as a whole school. Wearing odd socks helped us to think about diversity and uniqueness amongst our school and wider community. However, the important anti-bullying message and ethos is something that stretches across the entire year for us and is not specific to one week. Children are encouraged to explore these themes through PSHE lessons with our SCARF scheme, circle times and conversations.

## Spelling Shed and Doodle Maths

Well done to **Squirrel Class** who have the most children in the green zone at the end of this week. Remember that 'little and often' is best with both Spelling Shed and Doodle Maths. We recommend 10 minutes daily if you can.

Look at these funky avatars! These are the top spellers on Spelling Shed this week, including one Hedgehog child who has only just started using Spelling Shed. Well done to all of the children using Spelling Shed. Keep earning points by practising your spellings at home and your avatar could be in the newsletter next week



## Christmas is Coming

Christmas plans are well under way and we have lots of excited staff, eager to make the build-up to Christmas special for the children, despite the restrictions currently in place. Also, a big thank you to our brilliant PTA for their support with our Christmas panto and parties.



## Planned Christmas Events for December 2020

Christmas Craft morning	Virtual Christmas Panto	Christmas Carols	Nativity Christmas story	Christmas Lunch Festive top/ jumper can be worn!	Christmas Jumper Day. <i>Save the Children.</i>	Christmas Parties PTA Mufti Christmas theme
<p><b>Friday the 4<sup>th</sup></b>, children will make a range of Christmas crafts, some to take home and one to decorate the school Christmas tree.</p> <p>Each bubble will experience the 'big switch on' of the lights in turn.</p>	<p>We have signed up for a virtual panto which has interactive elements for children to enjoy.</p> <p><b>EYFS –Tues 15<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><b>Year 1-Weds 16<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><b>Year 2- Thurs 17<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup></b> Children to wear school uniform (unless Christmas lunch day) but bring hats,gloves, scarves to wrap up warm for outdoor carol singing.</p> <p>All children will be learning traditional Christmas carols and performing them. We will share this with you so watch this space!</p>	<p>All classes will be sharing and role playing the Christmas story together through oral story telling</p> <p>We will take lots of photographs to share this with you.</p>	<p>Children will enjoy a Christmas dinner in the school hall, shared with their teachers.</p> <p><b>EYFS - Weds 2nd</b></p> <p><b>Yr1 – Thurs 3rd</b></p> <p><b>Yr2- Fri 4th</b></p>	<p>Wear your favourite Christmas jumper in on <b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup></b>. Optional donations online for Save the Children.</p>	<p>Fun games, dancing and snacks in our bubbles to celebrate Christmas and the end of term on <b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup></b></p>

## PTA

More details to follow about a Christmas raffle.



# Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/donate-hub-rgpp>

## Christmas Cards – child to child

If your child wishes to bring in Christmas cards for other children in their bubble, they may do but these must be quarantined for 72 hrs before being handed out. There is no expectation that children send cards, but for those who wish to do so, this is the arrangement in place. Cards may be brought into school on these days only, to help with timing of quarantine periods:

**4<sup>th</sup>December, 7<sup>th</sup>December, 11<sup>th</sup>December, 14<sup>th</sup>December**

## Facebook

We will be pleased to share the events outlined above with you on our school Facebook page, alongside other golden moments and key messages throughout the week. As a reminder with regards the school Facebook page, we would like to request that individual concerns are raised directly with the school via telephone or email please and not posted on this public forum. This is in line with the trust Online Safety policy published on our website. Thank you.

## Reading Rocketeers

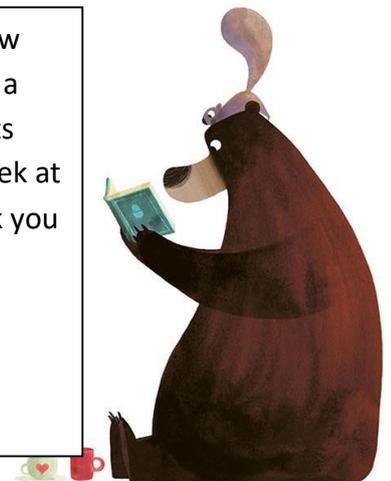
<i>Year Group</i>	<i>14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Nov</i>
<b>YR</b>	50%
<b>Y1</b>	47%
<b>Y2</b>	54%

Congratulations to **Hedgehogs** who were last week's Reading Rocketeers. This means that they had the largest number of children in the class who had read 4 times or more in the week.

Could it be your class next week? Keep practising together at home. Draws will be on a Monday from now on, so that there is not too long to wait!

Well done to our reading prize draw winners this week. They have won a book prize to celebrate their efforts with reading 4 or more times a week at home. A huge well done and thank you for your super effort too parents!

EYFS: Jessie  
Y1: Bella  
Y2: Noah



**Dates of remaining draws this term: 30/11, 7/12, 14/12, 18/12**

Illustration © Steve Small, 2020

Thank you to Mrs Gurnsey, our Reading lead, for organising this initiative and to PTA for supplying prizes.

## Helpful Links for Reading Together at Home

Why not cuddle up and enjoy a story with your little ones this weekend? Here, our Writer in Residence Smriti Halls shares some great tips for reading together. <https://booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2020/november/the-secret-magic-of-reading-together-smriti-halls-top-tips-for-sharing-stories/...>

## Online Reading Records

Each week, Mrs Weeks will send out a new form for you to complete, please look on the following platforms to access the form each time you read at home.

- Parent mail each Friday
- Your child's year group page on school webpage
- The school calendar

If you have any problems in recording your child's reading via the online form, please do not hesitate to contact the school office and we will support in any way we can.

## After School Activities

Clubs will resume from 3.12.20. Please contact Mrs Weeks with any questions.

## School Attendance and illness

If children have a new, persistent cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste or smell, they **should not** attend school.

However, runny noses, headaches or sore throats in isolation, are normal for this time of year and are not identified as symptoms of COVID-19. Children with minor cold symptoms and no COVID symptoms should attend school as normal. Each child's attendance is monitored by the school and by the local authority and is expected to be 100%. We understand that children may need to quarantine whilst they or a family member are awaiting test results however and therefore this absence will be authorised.

Anyone seeking leave during term time, should request a form from the school office. Absence is only granted in exceptional circumstances. Absences for birthdays, anniversaries, holidays or Friday travel to weekend destinations will not be authorised.

Dental and medical appointments should be made outside of school hours unless this is an emergency. All appointments must be verified by Mrs Weeks before children are taken out of school. Children should remain at home for 48 hours following sickness or diarrhoea. If in doubt, please telephone the school office.

