



Newsletter

Last Edition

Friday 15th February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thanks to all who have attended workshops or meetings, come in for reading morning, bought cakes on Valentine's Day or volunteered in school in some way this term. We know we are a very lucky school to have such strong parental support. A particular highlight was the 'Lads love Literacy too!' Y2 workshop today, at which 31 adults worked on a fun writing task with their child. See below for further information.

Wishing you an enjoyable half term.

Best Wishes, Mrs Smart, *Head Teacher*

Achievement Awards



Badgers: Dougal, Cormac, Charlie, Dylan

Hedgehogs: Flo, Lucy, Ollie, Isaac

Otters: Charlie, Dominic, Lei, Emma, Matilda

Squirrels: Sienna, Jorja, Serban Pop and All Squirrels!

Owls: Summer, Samuel, Kaci, Morgan

Kingfishers: Kelston, Riley T, Ella, Charlotte

Golden Pencil – Teddy Reed, Callum Bygrave, Ollie Caradine, Jude Hamer-Walby, Amelia Garcia, Charlie Price, Emily Watts

Attendance over last fortnight – Hedgehogs & Otters

Reading Rocketeers – Badger class with an fantastic 21/30 children reading 4+ times a week.

Newsletters ceasing

With the increasing use of Facebook and Twitter as means of communication and 'in the moment' sharing of what is happening in school, we have decided to stop our newsletters at the end of this term. Please see the school Facebook page and website for information on events, dates, children in receipt of awards etc. Thank you

Dates for the year

Assembly dates for parents: Kingfishers 15.3.19, Otters 22.3.19, Owls 29.3.19, Hedgehogs 28.6.19, Squirrels 5.7.19, Badgers 12.7.19

18th - 22nd February	Half term
Monday 25th February	INSET DAY 4
Thursday 28th February	Y2 SATs meeting for parents, 6pm
Thursday 7th March	Themed Lunch for World Book Day
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 13th March	Governors' Day in school
Wednesday 13th March	Parent workshop Growth Mindset
Wednesday 13th March	PTA Reception Entertainment night
Friday 15th March	PTA Year 1/2 children & family disco
Sunday 3rd March	Parents evening bookings go live
Tuesday 19th March	Parents evening
Thursday 21st March	Parents evening
4 or 5th March	PTA Cake Sale
Monday 8th April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 23rd April	First day of new term
Tuesday 30th April	PTA Meeting, 7pm

PE Kits

Please make sure that your child has their full PE kit in school each week and that earrings are removed on PE days. Thank you

Chinese New Year 2019



The children at Chandag Infant School enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year on the 5th February. We all came to school dressed in something red and some children (and staff) came in traditional Chinese dress. We had an assembly where we heard about how the Jade Emperor wanted to mark the passing of time and so challenged the animals to a race across the river. The order the animals finished then created the order of the Chinese Zodiac.

At lunchtime we had a special Chinese themed menu with either noodles or vegetable spring rolls.

The children said they enjoyed learning about something new and discovering which animal they were born under.

Mrs Gurnsey

Lads love Literacy too!

We are working hard to close the attainment gap for boys in writing this year. One of our strategies is to show children that 'Men can love writing too'. Today, Miss Willington ran a fun workshop for Year 2 dads, grandparents, uncles (mums weren't excluded!) and other family members. 31 adults attended and created a description for a pet dragon with their child, focussing on powerful vocabulary. We hope you enjoyed the session and feel inspired to write a story at home; look out for the follow up term. If you attended, we would appreciate your feedback – verbally or by email. Thank you!



Safer Internet day

This week, Chandag Infants have been learning all about how to stay safe online as part of Safer Internet Day 2019. We jumped into our learning on Wednesday morning when we joined in with the story of Zap and Zoom, two friends who love to play games together using the internet. There were three messages that we remembered from the story and we used actions to help them stick in our memories; ask for permission, make good choices and always check if you are not sure.



In our classrooms we read all about the adventures of Smartie the penguin and our Reception classes made up their own songs to help remember important e-safety messages. "Before you tap and click, you need to stop and think. Then TELL someone". Year 1 got themselves in a tangle, making the World Wide Web out of string and asking for permission before rolling it to their friends. There were lots of creative ideas when Year 2 made their own cartoon comic strips about how to make good choices online, applying their writing skills brilliantly. We can't wait to see all of the children's learning up on display in the school hall very soon. Watch this space!

Miss Willington

BrightKidz – Be safe Be seen



We were visited by Alison from Bright Kidz, who did an interactive assembly for the whole school about being road safe and making sure we are seen in the dark.

From Term 4 our School Councillors will be selling reflectors and road safety items during Friday morning playtimes.

PTA News

Thank you to everyone that supported our **Valentine cake sale** yesterday and those that took part in the 'Guess the name of the bear' competition. I'm sure you'll be pleased to know that the bear is called 'Chocolate' and the lucky winner is Jack Hayden from Hedgehog class. The cake sale and the competition **raised an amazing £235.51** A special thanks to the nine volunteers and their children who helped out on the day; your help is really appreciated.

As well as yesterday's cake sale we were pleased to see so many children supporting the **mufti-day** today. We've **raised £131.62** which will be put towards the transformation of the school library.

The **first draw for our school lottery will be held on Saturday 9th March** so there's still a few weeks left to get your tickets. There's currently 36 tickets sold so those lucky ticket holders stand a great chance of winning the local weekly prize which is set at £20 for the first draw. If you sign up this month then you'll also be in with the chance of winning a brand new Fitbit; perfect for the year ahead! <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/>

If you're planning a clear out over the half-term break then please remember that at the end of April we've arranged for [Rags2Riches4Schools](#) to come and collect **donations of clothes (adults and children but not school uniform), paired shoes and soft toys**, amongst other things. More details will follow next month but please keep hold of anything that might be suitable to donate nearer the time.

It's been another busy term and we're all looking forward to the break ahead. For those that may have missed this, then please be aware that the minutes of our January PTA meeting are available on the school website – [link](#). There's more events planned for next term with the **reception entertainment night** on the 13th March and the very popular **family disco** on the 15th March to look forward to. **Tickets for both events will go on sale straight after the break**. We're also pleased to confirm that we'll be hosting our first ever **wine tasting event on Friday 10th May** in the school hall so please make sure to hold the date and invite family and friends.

Finally, our **PTA Facebook page** ([Chandag Infant School PTA](#)) is very active and has over 257 followers so if you're not already signed up then please make sure that you 'like' and 'follow' our page. With the end of the school newsletter this will be our main communication channel (with Parentmail as a secondary route) so please don't miss out.

Thanks for your support this term and we hope you have a great break.

The PTA Team



We have sent out the new Spring menu for Term 4. Week commencing 25th February, we will be having tasting sessions during the day for children to sample some of the new menu items.

Breakfast Café – American Theme

Friday's Breakfast Café was again another popular themed morning. We saw some very smiley faces on the pancakes and it was very hard to pick a winner. Well done to Calla for her winning smile!





Free five week after school group for
school children and their parents/carers at the Key Centre!

- Learn to **prepare and cook easy, family friendly** recipes for everyone to enjoy!
 - Take home what you've cooked at the end of each session.
 - All ingredients & equipment provided **FREE** of charge

Where: Key Centre (behind Victoria Church Centre)
2 Charlton Rd, Keynsham, Bristol BS31 2JA
When: Wednesdays 06, 13, 20, 27 March & 03 April
Time: 3.45-5.15pm

To book a place contact Healthy Lifestyle Service Hub on

t: 0300 247 0203

Mrs Weeks is attempting to run the Bath Half marathon on March 17th. She is running to help raise money for a fantastic charity, Make a Move.

Make a Move supports the wellbeing and mental health of people in our community. Using music, dance and talking, they work with children in schools, mums with post natal depression and the elderly as well as being the amazing team behind Dance Umbrella which children from our school will be performing at.

If you would like to sponsor Mrs Weeks please click the link below.

<https://localgiving.org/fundraising/Clairew/?fbclid=IwAR0uaGmqKkH47jrFKSig9owjaD7OEJRcuyI0dlnId1FICKqQ7upez2FqBMQ>

Requests for leave of absence

Our term dates are DIFFERENT FROM THE DATES ON THE BANES WEBSITE. 2018,19 and 2019,20 dates are now available.

No leave of absence will be granted where our individual school term dates have not been followed.

There is a clear correlation between good attendance and good outcomes at school. Children need to be at school in order to have the relevant teaching in order that they will be ready for their next stage in learning. I will be meeting termly with our Children Missing Education Officer (CMEO) regarding attendance at our school. We, along with other local schools, follow BANES policy on holiday requests. **Any child who has attendance below 90% is considered by the government to be a persistent absentee** (supported evidence of chronic illness of course is taken into account and would not be counted) and requests for holidays in term time will not be granted unless there are **very exceptional circumstances**. This means that they are "rare, significant, unavoidable and short." (National Association of Head Teachers) **The expected attendance for all children in Wellsway Multi-Academy Trust Schools is 100%. The headteacher makes the decision whether or not to authorise absence, including sickness absence.**

- All applications for leave of absence must be made **two weeks in advance** by the parent(s), carer(s) or corporate parent that the pupil normally resides with.
- Where a request for leave of absence has been made by one parent only, any estranged parent with parental responsibility¹ will be advised of the request for leave. The school will not become involved in disputes between parents over permissions surrounding the request. If the parent on receipt of the notification does not agree with the absence then he/she may put in writing to the headteacher notification to that effect. This will be given consideration should a Penalty Notice be issued for the absence. “¹ Except where there has been an order made by a court restricting the sharing of information with that parent. In such cases it is the responsibility of the parent to provide documentary evidence of the order.
- **Illness:** If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please either visit or phone Mrs Weeks in the school office rather than leaving a message with the Class Teacher, who may have lots of messages to remember. In this way, we can ensure that all absences are recorded correctly. Our school answerphone has a dedicated line to report illness if outside of the office opening hours (8.30am -5pm, but 4.30pm on Fridays).
- **Please note that if your child is absent from school and we do not receive a message or are unable to reach you on the phone, we may be obliged to follow up with a home visit to check on your child’s safety.**
- Please ring us on each day of absence, unless by prior arrangement with the office, e.g. in the case of chickenpox or sickness, where a set number of days at home may be required. Mrs Weeks will be in the office from 8.30am each day.
- **PLEASE NOTE THAT CHILDREN MUST BE 48 HOURS CLEAR OF SICKNESS OR DIARRHOEA BEFORE RETURNING TO SCHOOL.**

Trust

Respect

Kindness

Cooperation

Courage

Creativity