



# Newsletter

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we celebrated the efforts of the children and families that carried out the big clear up after our Firework event. Thank you again everyone. You can see the children with their certificates here.

Best Wishes, Mrs Smart

## Achievement Awards



**Badgers:** Ollie Wigg, Edward Steadham, Sophie Chruch

**Hedgehogs:** Teddy Reed, Laila Nar, Charlie Sweet, Reegan Tolhurst

**Otters:** Charlie Bowery, Rhea Mills, Allana Hoyle, Jacob James

**Squirrels:** Nathan Gunton, Emily Ross, Finton Barnes-Watts, Harley Lilley

**Owls:** Lucas Raymond, Issy Garvey, William Hawkins, Louis Sheppard

**Kingfishers:** Emily Twiggs, Skye Davies, Amelia Garcia, Louis Clay

## Forest School request



Please could parents bring in any wood, sticks or foliage that they may be getting rid of when they have been cutting back and tidying their gardens? It would be lovely to start having sticks and things available for the children to make things with.

Thank you – Tanya Orgill (Forest School leader)

## Dates for the year

Assembly dates Badgers 12.7.19, Hedgehogs 28.6.19, Otters 22.3.19, Squirrels 5.7.19, Owls 29.3.19, Kingfisher 15.3.19

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Christmas Craft morning – parents/grandparents welcome from 9.10am -10.20am
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Rainbow Theatre Group visiting school. 'Snow White'
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA: Christmas Fair after school
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception and Parents' Christmas lunch (details on Parentmail)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Y1 and 2 Christmas lunch (Details on Parentmail)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Christmas Performances 9.15am and 2.15pm
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2 Performances 1 9.15am and 2.15pm
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Christmas Performances 9.15am and 2.15pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas parties, all year groups Last day of term

## Best Attendance of the past two weeks

Hedgehogs and Owls

### Reception Parents' Christmas lunch

Christmas meal choices are on Parentmail and Reception parents can pay for their choice in 'Payments'. We look forward to seeing you on 12<sup>th</sup> December. Sorry, we can only accommodate one adult per child.

### Christmas Performances

Christmas performance programmes will be out week commencing Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Please note that these are your tickets so **please bring with you**. Am/pm performances will have different coloured programmes, so please ensure that you attend the correct performance. **An additional ticket may be reserved for some performances from 8pm on Sunday evening**. Entrance to morning performances will be via the hall doors from the main playground and via the front door in the afternoons.

### Dear Father Christmas...



Reception classes wrote and posted their letters to Father Christmas last week. They are now eagerly awaiting their replies!

### School Post box

Children can post their Christmas cards to friends during the school day. These will then be sorted each morning and taken to classes to be handed out.

### Senior SMSA Vacancy

We are seeking to appoint a reliable and committed individual who can provide care, guidance and support for our children during the lunch break in the role of lunchtime School Meals Supervisory Assistant and lead a team of lunchtime staff.

Hours are 11.55am to 13.25pm, Mon – Fri, term time only.

Chandag Infant School forms part of Wellsway Multi Academy Trust, a growing family of schools in East Bristol and Bath. <https://www.wellswaymat.com/>

Please ask at the office for application forms.

### Breakfast Café

Many thanks to all that gave feedback on the Breakfast Café; we appreciate you taking the time to do this.

Having looked at some of the suggestions, we have made some small changes and taken on board the comments given.

We are going to change the way we cook our bacon to ensure it's crispier. We use a Local Farm Assured Back bacon so the fat content is to a minimum however this method of cooking will render the rind to reduce the visible fat. The sausages we use are a high meat content (much higher than government standards) therefore the texture is different to a standard sausage. The fat content on the sausages is very low, in fact there are only four ingredients in the recipe which has been made specifically for the Multi Academy Trust. We are very proud of our purchasing and feel our ingredient quality standards are very high, however we will always look to seek different options available to us.

We will provide additional training to our staff on customer service.

We are planning a Christmas themed breakfast which will run over two weeks, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of December. Our menu will feature items such as pigs in blanket baps, sticky cinnamon buns and eggs Florentine. This will be instead of the usual menu.

Please let us know if there are any further ways of ensuring that the breakfast café is a great experience for all.

Thank you



Thank you!

A big thank you to Andy Weeks for his kind donation of our beautiful Christmas tree. We look forward to decorating it on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Thanks also to the PTA for our new climbing frame which is perfect for our Reception garden.

## PTA News

Thank you to everyone that supported our mufti-day today. We have received lots of sweetie cones and bottles for our **Christmas Fair** and are super excited for the big day. We still **need a couple of extra volunteers** from 3pm on the day to set up the fair so please let us know if you are able to help (either message us through Facebook, or speak to your class representative). As a reminder our **Christmas Fair will be held straight after school on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December**. We plan to sell cakes and would be extremely grateful for **cake donations** on the morning of the fair please. These can be left in the **Butterfly Room**. Please remember that we are a **no nut school**. Please also see your class rep to buy **Christmas Fair raffle** tickets as we've got some great prizes lined up, including a vouchers for Reflections and Perfect Fit and some Christmas goodies kindly donated by Tesco's. More details will be issued in a Parentmail next week.

We've recently received a payment of **£93 from easyfundraising** which is the total money raised by our supporters in quarter 3 of the year (July – September). We have **109 people** signed up and supporting us through easyfundraising so **if you are one of those then thank you**. We are hoping for a bumper end of year pay out to reflect Christmas shopping season so if you haven't signed-up to support us then now is the time to do so. Last year we received £132; can we raise more this year? You can sign us at this link – [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chandaginfants](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chandaginfants)

We hope that many of you will be coming along to the **school Christmas craft morning** on Monday (3<sup>rd</sup> December). This is a great opportunity to get into the festive spirit and to help the children to make decorations for the school Christmas tree. **We are pleased to be able to support this event by donating the craft supplies** that will be used on the day and this is only possible thanks to all the support that shown throughout the year.

Our next PTA meeting will be held at **7pm in the school hall on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January** and we plan to talk about PTA spending and events for the rest of the year. We also need to **vote in a new Vice-Chair** as our current Vice-Chair has been temporarily filling this role alongside being a class representative. The Vice-Chair role is a great way to get more involved in PTA activities and decision making and more details can be found on the school website at this link – [https://www.chandaginfantschool.org.uk/assets/uploads/Documents/PTA/20180104-pta\\_roles.pdf](https://www.chandaginfantschool.org.uk/assets/uploads/Documents/PTA/20180104-pta_roles.pdf) . If you are interested in this role then please speak to the current committee members or drop us an e-mail at [pta@chandaginfantschool.org.uk](mailto:pta@chandaginfantschool.org.uk).

Finally, we are really pleased to confirm that we have two corporate sponsors this year. Our main sponsor is **Eveleighs Estate Agents** who are the main sponsor on our [PTA Events page](#). If you are looking to move house and you choose to use Eveleighs to sell your home then please quote 'Chandag Infant School' and they will give us £250 for each successful completion. Our second sponsor this year is **Wards Solicitors**. Wards are a local company who have been providing expert legal advice to local businesses and individuals for over 100 years. They have an office on Keynsham High Street so please pop in if you are in need of a good local solicitor.

The PTA Team

## Community News

A group of Yr 1 Chandag mums have created a community project to collect donations to distribute to BANES and Bristol homeless communities. They did an assembly at the Infant school today and had a great chat with the pupils around their thoughts of homelessness and especially at Christmas and in the winter.

If you'd like to donate, please look at the poster for donation locations in Keynsham. There will also be a collection point at the Infant School Reception on Monday and Tuesday next week if you would like to drop anything in on the school run. Please see poster for appropriate items to donate as well as the justgiving website if you would prefer to donate cash. Thank you so much for your support and enthusiasm for this project so far.

## 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 **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 responsibility<sup>1</sup> 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. " <sup>1</sup> 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