

# Chesterfield Primary School Newsletter

October 2023



## Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a very busy and productive first half term at Chesterfield. It has been lovely meeting so many of you and I would like to thank all of our parents and carers again for the very warm welcome you have extended to me since I started at Chesterfield. The children have settled in well to learning in their new classes and have been getting to know their new class teachers. Our children in Reception and Nursery have had a fantastic start and their teachers have been really impressed with how well they have settled into school life here at Chesterfield. Our Year 5 children have been swimming this term as part of their PE and Sports provision and are making great progress. Year 4 enjoyed their school trips to the British Museum over the last couple of weeks which supported their learning on the Ancient Egyptians. Year 5 also enjoyed their recent trip to the Science museum and were a credit to the school in terms of their behaviour and learning.

## Digital Schools Award

We are very proud that, along with Bowes Primary, our partner school, we are the first school in England to receive the Digital Schools Award. This is a national award scheme to promote, recognise and encourage excellence in the use of digital technology across the whole school. Our thanks go to Chloe (Y3 teacher) and Cristina (Deputy Head) for all of their hard work in making this happen.



## School improvement Plan

We have already begun working on our school improvement plan and I wanted to share our improvement priorities for this academic year with you:

We will be working to improve our whole-school attendance and reduce the number of pupils who are persistently absent.

We will be embedding the improvements we have already made and working to embed excellent teaching in all subject areas across the school

We will be supporting children to develop their 'learning behaviour' so that they are curious, resilient learners who are able to retain and apply knowledge

We will be working to ensure strong leadership at all levels to drive school improvement

## Curriculum information

At the start of each half term, we send home curriculum information sheets to keep you informed of what your child will be learning in all subjects at school. Look out for the next edition which will be sent out when we return from our half term break. If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do ask your child's class teacher and they will be happy to discuss it with you.

I wish you all a pleasant and restful half term break and look forward to seeing you all when we **return to school on Monday 30th October at 8:45am.**

Sarah Roberts  
Headteacher

## Dates for your Diary

### October 2023

#### Monday 30 October

*Back to school 8:45am*

*Individual pupil photographs*

#### Tuesday 31 October

*Sibling photographs*

### November 2023

#### Monday 13 November

*Odd Socks Day*

*Year 5 Bikeability starts*

#### Wednesday 15 and

#### Thursday 16 November

*Parent's Evenings*

#### Monday 20 November

*INSET Day*

*School closed for children*

### December 2023

#### Monday 4 December

*Y2 Atlantic class trip*

#### Thursday 7 December

*Y2 Pacific class trip*

#### Friday 8 December

*KS2 Poetry Assembly*

#### Wednesday 13 December

*Christmas Lunch and*

*Christmas Jumper Day*

#### Thursday 14 December

*EYFS Christmas Performance*

#### Friday 15 December

*ARP Christmas Performance*

#### Monday 18 December

*KS1 Christmas Concert*

#### Wednesday 20 December

*Last Day of Term*

*(1:30pm finish)*



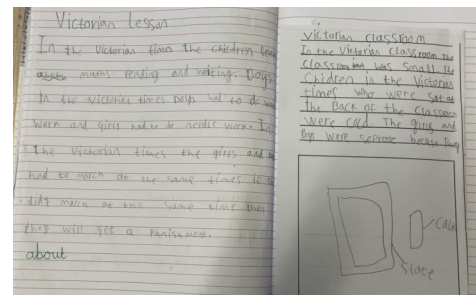
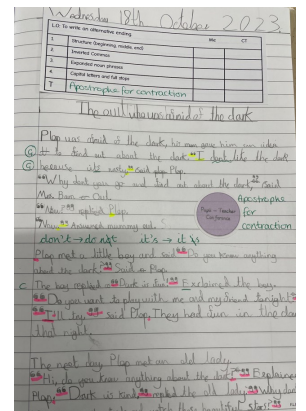
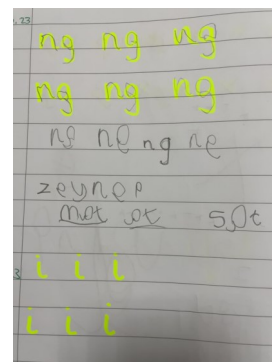
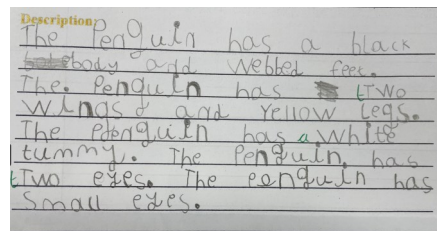
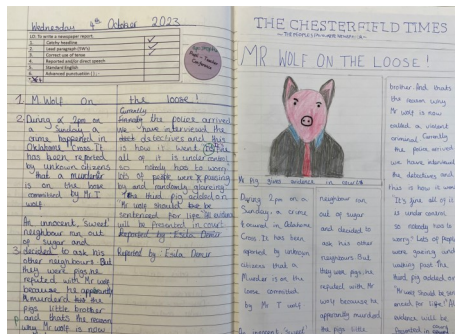
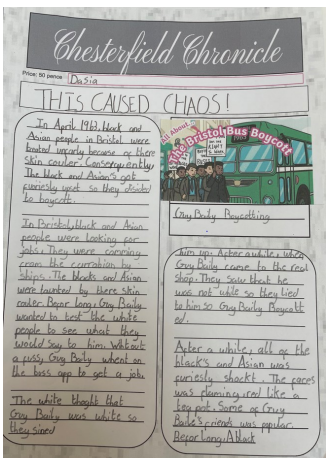
## Year 4 Trip to the British Museum

Year 4, who have been studying Ancient Egypt this half term, visited the British Museum to support their understanding of the Ancient Egyptians. They explored different rooms to look at gods and goddesses, mummification and everyday Egyptian items. The trip gave us the fantastic opportunity to see artefacts that are thousands of years old, including parts of statues, hieroglyphics, sarcophagi and genuine mummies. It was great to see the children so engaged and interested in primary sources and able to make links between what they saw and what they have learned in class.



## Writing at Chesterfield

Children are being taught to plan, revise and evaluate their writing and are learning the two dimensions of writing: Transcription (spelling and handwriting) and Composition (talking about their ideas and using them in speech and writing). We are teaching children to ensure their writing has clarity, that they are aware of who they are writing for (their audience) and the purpose and context of their writing. They are developing their knowledge of vocabulary and grammar and children are also working on developing fluent, legible and, eventually, speedy handwriting. Here are some examples of our writing from across the school:



## Year 5 Trip to the Science Museum

Year 5 had the opportunity to visit the Science Museum this half term. They carried out lots of experiments in the Wonderlab linked to friction, air resistance and gravity and were truly amazed by the forces that exist around us.



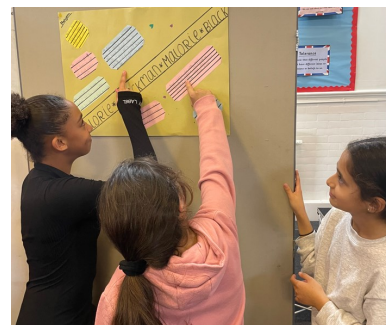
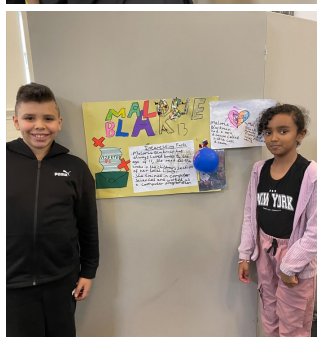
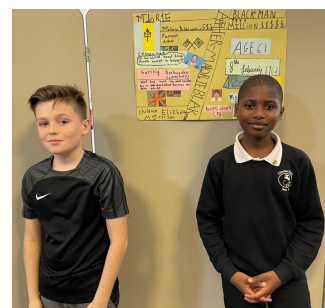
## Digital School Award

We were very proud to be recognised as the first recipients of this award in England. We were given the award at a special ceremony at Bowes school. Chesterfield pupils were represented by 6 children from Key Stage 2 who did a great job of sharing their learning and talking to others about their experiences of using Chrome Books in school.



## Year 6 Black History Month Showcase

Year 6 researched inspirational figures as part of our work during Black History Month, including Malorie Blackman and Nicola Adams. They then presented their work to Year 5 pupils during a special showcase in the school hall.



## Primary Science Quality Mark

We are delighted to have been awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark in recognition of our work in science. The award celebrates successful schools' commitment to excellence in science leadership, teaching and learning.



## Design Technology: bread making

Our Year 5 children worked hard in their DT lessons to design, make and evaluate their own bread. Their loaves looked and smelled amazing!



## Attendance

At Chesterfield Primary School we believe that good attendance is crucial to children attaining well, making good progress and reaching their potential. The vast majority of parents/carers bring their children to school regularly, and on time. Thank you.

### Attendance Target



**Our school attendance target is 96%.** The Department for Education tracks attendance carefully and judgements on how well a school is doing is partially based on whole school attendance. We still have a way to go to reach our school target—you can help by coming to school every day!

## Getting your child to school really matters!

### Did you know?

If your child's attendance during the school year is	Your child would have lost approximately	Or they would have missed approximately
95%	9 days from school	50 lessons
90%	19 days from school	100 lessons
85%	29 days from school	150 lessons
80%	38 days from school	200 lessons
75%	48 days from school	250 lessons

### Whole-school attendance figures—first half of Autumn Term

Reception	89%
1	91%
2	95%
3	94%
4	96%
5	94%
6	95%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94%</b>

**Well done to Year 4 for reaching our 96% target!**

### My child is unwell, should I send them to school?

Sometimes it is difficult to know whether to keep your child off school or send them in. Always try and send your child to school if they are a little 'under the weather', for example, with a runny nose, headache, tummy-ache. The school will always contact you if your child is unwell, which is why it is vitally important that we have your correct contact details. HOWEVER, please do not send your child to school if they have any infectious illnesses like Chicken Pox, Measles etc. Medical confirmation from your doctor will ensure your child's absence is authorised. If your child has been vomiting or is suffering from diarrhoea, then they must stay away from school for 48 hours from the last bout of illness. This is to ensure that any infection does not spread through the school.

The NHS has a handy guide to the most common childhood illnesses and what you should do. Please do contact the school office if you need any additional advice or support and we will be happy to help.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

## Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club operates from 8:00am until 8:45am

Children can choose from cereal, bagels and fruit and can take part in a range of games and activities.

Our breakfast club leaders are Debbie and Liz. Please contact the school office for more information.

We are delighted that our breakfast club has been awarded the highest grade in our recent Food Hygiene inspection.

