

# Chesterfield Primary School Newsletter

December 2023



## Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of a very busy and rewarding term, I would like to start this newsletter by thanking all of our families for your continued support. Our recent parent/carer survey showed very high levels of satisfaction with all aspects of our school and 96% of those surveyed said they would recommend Chesterfield to another parent.

Educational visits are an important part of the curriculum at Chesterfield. Year 2 enjoyed a visit to the Ragged School Museum to support their learning on the Victorians in their history lessons. Our Year 5 children have been out and about in the local area undertaking fieldwork for their geography topic and they have also completed their swimming sessions—we are all really proud of their achievements in developing their swimming skills. Everest Class attended the Pentathlon at Lee Valley Athletics Centre where they represented our school beautifully by participating in all ten events.

## Staffing update

We are bidding a fond farewell to some of our staff at the end of this term. Jayne Pike has been at Chesterfield since 2009 and us leaving us to pursue the next stage in her career. We will miss her and I am sure you will all join me in thanking her for her hard work and commitment to our school over the last 14 years. Samina Hussain and Maria Shala are leaving us after four terms working as teaching assistants—Samina most recently in Year 6 and Maria in our Nursery. We would like to wish them both well for the future. Hannah Thomas has supported Chesterfield in her role as Graduate Teaching Assistant for the last three years and is leaving to take up a new position in a local school. Finally, we are bidding a temporary farewell to Lauryn Melvin who is moving to support at Delta Primary School until the end of the summer term and we would like to wish her every success.

We are pleased to welcome Daphne Parr as our new Bulgaria Class Teacher and to say welcome back to Emma Fowler who is returning to her post as Deputy Head at Chesterfield following her recent secondment.

It has been lovely watching our end-of-term performances, they were a huge success and we are very proud of all the children who performed for friends and family. Our school choirs and cheerleaders performed beautifully during their concert and a special shout out goes to our soloists who showed a great deal of courage in performing their solos. Children in Nursery and Reception put on a wonderful performance and there were plenty of cheers. Year 1 sang beautifully during their concert and our we had amazing songs and poem recitals from children in Year 2 and 3. All of our performances were hugely popular and very well attended by families and friends.

Our Christmas lunch and Christmas Fair were hugely popular events last week. Children enjoyed their Christmas lunch and there was even a visit from Santa! Thank you to all of our families for coming along and supporting us at our Christmas Fair.

Finally, I am sure you will join me in thanking our wonderful staff at Chesterfield for all of their hard work in ensuring the very best for our children every day.

I wish you all a peaceful and enjoyable break with your friends and family and look forward to seeing you all when school starts again on Tuesday 9th December at 8:45am.

Sarah Roberts  
Headteacher

## Dates for your Diary

### January 2024

**Tuesday 9 January**  
Back to school 8:45am

**Friday 15 January**  
Year 4 Ukulele Concert  
2:30pm

### February 2024

**Friday 9 February**  
End of half term  
(3:15pm finish time)

**Monday 12—Friday 16 February**  
Half term holiday

**Monday 19 February**  
Back to school 8:45am

**Friday 23 February**  
Bring your Parent to School  
Day 2:30pm

### March 2024

**Thursday 21 March**  
Parent Consultation  
Meetings

**Friday 22 March**  
Year 4 ukulele concert

**Monday 25 March**  
Year 2 and 3 concert

**Wednesday 27 March**  
Year 5 poetry assembly

**Thursday 28 March**  
End of term  
(1:30pm finish)

**Easter Holidays : Friday 29  
March—Friday 12 April**

### April 2024

**Monday 15 April**  
Term starts 8:45am

### EYFS News—Christmas Performance

The children in nursery and reception have spent the last few weeks learning the words and actions to songs and rehearsing every day for their Christmas concerts. On Thursday 14th December their hard work was recognised when they performed to their families who responded with smiles, tears, laughter and applause. We are so proud of every one of the children who demonstrated courage and confidence performing in front of a large audience, many of them for the very first time.

**Sarah-Lee Ward, EYFS Leader**



### News from Year 2

Year 2 visited the Ragged school museum in Mile End. They took part in an immersive workshop travelling back to 1843. The children took part in a Victorian lesson taught to them by Mrs Perkins and had to ensure that they were on their best behaviour to avoid being subjected to a Victorian punishment like wearing the dunce hat, writing lines or being restrained in the finger stocks. After finishing a day at school, they had to complete household chores typically done by children who would have attended the Ragged school.

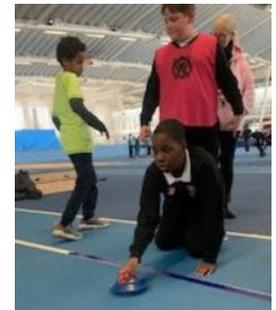
**Charmaine Blair, Year 2 Leader**



### News from Everest Class

Everest Class was invited to a Penathlon at Lea Valley Sports Centre in December. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and participated well in all activities. We are proud of their achievements and they were awarded certificates and medals!

**Dressika Blair, Everest Class Teacher**



### Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

Children and staff enjoyed wearing their Christmas jumpers and eating their Christmas lunch. There were Christmas crackers and even a visit from Santa! Thank you to the Pantry, our Chesterfield lunchtime team and Santa for making it such an enjoyable day!



### News from Year 5

Year 5 had the opportunity of carrying out a local area study about the amount of litter at Albany Park. Data was collected and analysed and presented in a graph with recommendations for local residents. They also had the opportunity of listening to a presentation about air pollution to understand how our local area responds to the challenge of air pollution. Year Five's message is it is **everyone's responsibility!**

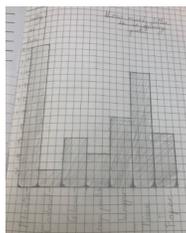
Here are some messages from year 5:

Celina- I was shocked by what I saw.

Lexi- The community need to work together.

Sophie- People need to stop littering around the river.

**Maria Evangelou, Year 5 Leader**



Item	Tally	Total
Plastic		20
Cardboard		2
Glass		6
Other metal		4
Wood		9
Paper		16
Other		7

### News from Year 4

Children in Kenya Class have been learning about Climate Zones and Biomes as part of their Learning Quest. They created some very impressive Biomes-in-a-Box to demonstrate their understanding of what a Biome is, as well as what can be found in the different kinds. Pupils were also able to explain which Climate Zone each Biome can be found in, as well as the animals and plants that belong in them. At the end of their learning journey, they made very interesting and engaging leaflets explaining Climate Change, what effect humans have on the environment and offered some sensible solutions

**Carol Amonsingh, Assistant Head/Year 4 Leader**



### Friendship and Kindness (anti-bullying) Week

In November, Chesterfield celebrated the national anti-bullying week. Our theme was Friendship and Kindness and we started the week with Odd Socks Day. Each day, children participated in different anti-bullying activities, including Acts of Kindness and creating a Kindness Wreath. We also taught the children the 'STOP' message to help understand what bullying is and what we can do about it:



### News from Year 6

The Autumn term in Year 6 has been jam-packed full of learning with a particular focus on maths, reading and writing. As a result, the children have made great progress and we are really proud of their focus and dedication to their learning. Alongside this, we have conducted some wonderful investigations in Science. When studying the heart and the circulatory system, the children particularly enjoyed making blood to represent red blood cells, white blood cells, plasma and platelets.



In PE we have focused on creating mirroring and matching gymnastics sequences developing our control, fluidity and flexibility. The children have really enjoyed this unit and have worked well as a team to create and perform well rehearsed sequences.

**Sarah Hudson, Year 6 Leader**



### Christmas Fair

With many stall selling Christmas gifts and food and drink, games, tombola, a raffle and performances from our Junior and Chesterfield Voices Choirs, the Christmas Fair was a huge success! Santa was even in attendance in his magical grotto and there were long queues to meet him in person. Many thanks to everyone who attended, as well as Lale and her team of volunteers, all of the friendly stallholders and the Chesterfield staff who gave up their Friday evening, for making this such a wonderful event. We raised an amazing £1,208 towards our playground fund.



### Year 1 Christmas Production

This year, our Year 1 children performed their Christmas production in front of their families and friends. There was some beautiful singing, expert narration and lovely actions. All the children had been working hard preparing and were very excited to perform. Thanks to Nikhat, Clara, Ayshe and the whole of the Year 1 team.



### Choir and Cheerleader Concert

We were treated to very professional performances by our school choirs and cheerleaders. All the hard work in rehearsals paid off and the children sang beautifully. Well done to all the children who participated and to Magda and Olivia for all their hard work preparing the children.



### Year 6 pupils visit to Parliament

Two of our Year 6 children were chosen, along with children from Delta and Bowes primaries, to attend The Children's Rights inquiry at the Houses of Parliament. Children listened to debates on a range of topics including environment and climate, racism and discrimination and children's mental health. Our pupils were a credit to the school and even got to ask their own questions during the debate.



## Attendance update

### Whole-school attendance figures for the Autumn Term

Year	%
1	91%
2	93%
3	95%
4	95%
5	95%
6	94%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>94%</b>

### Attendance Awards

131 children attained at least 99% attendance this term! What a fantastic achievement! The children were rewarded in assembly with a certificate and prizes to celebrate. Well done!

**Our school attendance target is 96%**



### 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, mild 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.

Please do contact the school office if you need any additional advice or support and we will be happy to help.

The NHS has a handy guide to the most common childhood illnesses and what you should do.

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

### Exciting new club at Chesterfield!

#### HELP YOUR CHILD BECOME THE NEXT ELON MUSK WITH US!!

We at Code Crazy understand there is a huge need in the local community for a generation that not only enjoys gaming - but how it all works. We currently offer our child-friendly coding curriculum at many schools in London in which KS2 children learn how to code, build confidence, cognitive skills, and vital programming languages to build a brighter future. **NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!**

#### Activities include:

- Java, Python, HTML fundamentals
- Bloxels 8-bit game builder
- VR experience
- Block-based game builders
- Scratch projects
- 3D modelling
- Minecraft
- Roblox studios

Free session on  
Thursday 11th  
January. Hurry,  
places are limited!

Please refer to the flyer on the left and click the link below to reserve:

[https://calendly.com/code\\_crazy/chesterfield](https://calendly.com/code_crazy/chesterfield)

**GAME BUILDING EXTRAVAGANZA**

**BUILD VIDEO GAMES, LEARN TO CODE, HAVE A BLAST!**

Join our fun & exciting after-school coding club, lets build a brighter future with YOUR child being ahead of the game.

Kids will have a great time learning how to code in a child friendly way using creative gaming platforms. No prior coding experience is required. All children from years 3- 6 are welcomed.

Space for this event is limited. Scan the QR code to find out more & reserve your spot today!

HTML

ROBLOX STUDIO

MINECRAFT EDUCATION EDITION

TINKER CAD

CODE

CC BY