

# Chilwell Chronicle Updates



## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Chilwell Families,

If I have not had the opportunity to speak to you already since our return, I wish you and your families a very Happy New Year! With the dark mornings it does seem strange to be thinking about this as the beginning of our Spring term but hopefully it will not be too long before we can enjoy longer drawn-out days.

Our Value this month is  
*Positivity.*



## Performances

It was wonderful to see so many of you come and see the children's performances at the end of last term. They were all so very brave taking part, remembering their words, and performing with such enthusiasm. It was a delight to see them. Performing is such an important aspect of education as it encourages rich language, a shared experience and of course builds confidence. It is a lovely thing to share together. We have had a lovely thank you note from Panel Croft care home thanking Year 6 for their visit. They love to see the children they are always very complementary of their behaviour and maturity, thank you Year 6 for the kindness that you have shown to others. We hope to ask some of the residents to join us here at Chilwell for a visit this year.





## Winter Fayre

The winter fayre too was a lovely opportunity for the children to show their entrepreneurial skills creating a rich variety of items for the children to sell. What talented pupils we have! (and a competitive bunch as well!!) But who could beat the busyness of Mr Dad and Ms Byrne's Candy Floss stall - a real treat. Thank you for all families who came, and the kind donations made. We raised an amazing £500 which we shall be passing onto our pupil leadership team. They have some ideas for playground friendship benches and resources so do keep an eye out for their work in this

## Reading

Reading continues to be at the heart of our learning and with this in mind we are pleased to unveil our brand-new book vending machine. Children will be nominated by their class teacher regularly when showing positive attitudes to reading; they will receive a gold token to spend at the machine. We hope they enjoy their book; Mr McGonigle has promised to fill the machine with wonderfully imaginative and informative items.



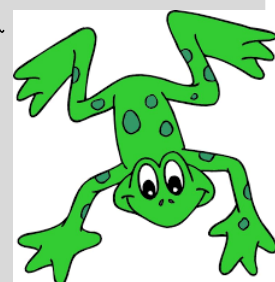
Our RWI phonics scheme continues to go from strength to strength; it was amazing to see so many children receive certificates for progress last week. These children were awarded a certificate for completing the whole scheme - WELL DONE!!



Our pupils work hard in their phonics slot each morning from 9:00am and are making great progress with their reading and writing as a result. Can we ask for your support in two areas for this:-



1. Please ensure that children are at school on time. It is tricky for children arriving late to move around school to their phonics group. No child likes to be late into class.
1. Please do read with your child the book that they take home for phonics each Friday they really do like to share their new learning with others.





## Attendance

Prior to the winter break we saw a steep rise in absences from school, often for extended periods of time. Every day of learning is a key learning day at school. All year groups have many areas of learning that need to be covered as detailed in the National Curriculum. These cannot be repeated, and pupils find it very concerning when they have missed key lessons and experiences when away from school. We understand that there has been a rise in illnesses at this time and would ask that you always speak with office staff to consider the appropriate length of time to stay off school. Please do not keep siblings away from school if they are well.

With regard to holiday in school time, this is not a valid reason to be absent from school. As already detailed, each day of learning is crucial and pupils often find it difficult in class, in all year groups, if they have gaps in their learning. Our curriculum means there are no opportunities to go over previous lessons. We would ask for your support in ensuring that children are in school learning each and every day.



## Maths Competition

We wanted to share with you some wonderful achievements from Chilwell pupil's last term. A group of budding mathematicians represented Chilwell Croft at the King Edwards Maths challenge and came FIRST!! This means they will be moving on to the regional event this year.

Well done to Noah, Muhammad Al-Bakri, Asmaa and Shayaan all from Year 4 Fabulous Foxes



## Aston Villa

A big thank you to Aston Villa Football Club for their support for the children with the Villa Vision initiative. All our children in Year 5 and 6 were offered a full eye test and when needed they have provided 2 pairs of glasses free. This all took place on their amazing mobile opticians - what a clever invention it is!

## New Staff

We are pleased to introduce two new members of staff here at Chilwellcroft.

Ms Preston is an experienced Early Years teacher; she really enjoys working with our younger pupils. While she is going to be teaching in Year One with Ms Fazil she will also be looking after our Reception classes. Most excitingly Ms Preston really loves being outside and we look forward to seeing her forest school skills at work in our own garden area.



Ms Willetts is a further addition to our PE team and is really looking forward to encouraging all of our pupils to take part in a range of sports, building life skills that will encourage them to be confident and take care of themselves as they grow. Ms Willetts has so many experiences to share of how sport and the benefits that committing to elite sport brings - showing that hard work and dreaming big can take you anywhere! Ms Willetts has already shared with the children how she has been a Kick Boxing European Champion, Team GB boxer and British Army Soldier. Let's hope that some of our pupils are inspired to become the next generation of champions! Dream BIG!!



## Wraparound

Thank you for your responses to our wraparound survey, we have had a good amount of interest in running a daily afterschool club. We shall be hoping to establish this facility after this half term and will be in touch with Chilwell families to advise of the next steps.

### Reception Trip - Ash End Farm (27<sup>th</sup> March 2023)

More details will be sent on parent mail in March.



## Uniform

Please see below details of our school PE Kit. Our PE staff will be keeping an eye on standards of PE kit at school. We would not ask that you buy expensive items of clothing for PE but do ask that you ensure that this meets our school requirements. Please do speak with our PE staff if you have any queries.

### JUMPERS/CARDIGAN



School Uniform



School Uniform

Children can wear any of the following items below:

### POLO-SHIRTS



School Uniform



PE Kit

### BOTTOMS



School Uniform



PE Kit



PE Kit

### DRESS/SKIRT



School Uniform



School Uniform Summer Dress

### SHOES/BAG



School Uniform



PE Kit

## Dates for the diary

Year 6 booster classes start Tuesday 10 January and letters have been given to the children.

## Parents Evening

We will holding parents evening on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2023. Year groups to be advised near the date.