

We are excited to bring you this newsletter after an action packed week celebrating the Platinum Jubilee. Thank you to everyone across the school community who have helped to make this week a great success!

Mrs Gemma Rehal

EVENTS

Reception Vision Checks	13 Jun
CLESA Summer Fair (Elangeni School)	18 Jun
Bucks Mind Wellbeing Assembly	21 Jun
Reception Visit to Bekonscot	1 Jul
Year 1 Cake Sale	1 Jul
Transition Days	5-6 Jul
End of Year Reports to Parents	8 Jul
CLESA Camp Out	9 Jul
Sports Morning	11 Jul
Year 1 Trip to Roald Dahl Museum	12 Jul
Year 2 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo	13 Jul
Reserve Sports Morning	18 Jul
Year 2 Leavers' Assembly	19 Jul
Year 2 Leavers' Party	19 Jul
School Closes at 2.05pm	20 Jul
School Starts at 8.40am (2-5 Sep Inset Days)	6 Sep

Summer Term News

Year 1's Local Area Walk



On Monday 4th April Year 1 had a fantastic time on their local area walk. They enjoyed finding

features on a 'spotter sheet'.

Wellbeing & Yoga Day

On Wednesday 11th May, as part of Mental Health Awareness Week, we were delighted to be joined by Julie Kenwright who is from Inform Yoga and our YogaBears Club Instructor. All children and staff across the school took part in mindful sessions, where we discussed small steps everyone can take to improve their wellbeing.

The sessions included a range of wellbeing activities including breathing, relaxation and balance techniques. All the staff and children really enjoyed taking part.



This day was funded by our PE & Sport Grant.

Reception's Letters Home

On Thursday 19th May Reception classes took a local area walk to the post box to post their letters home. All staff were extremely impressed with their great lis-

tening, and sensible behaviour.

The children enjoyed looking at the trees in blossom and checking out the door numbers on the way.



We hope everyone enjoyed receiving their letters at home!

Little Chestnuts' Local Area Walk

Little Chestnuts "took a stroll through the deep, dark woods"...and went on a Gruffalo trail! They had an amazing time when they visited Elangeni's woodland area and enjoyed doing activities based around the story.



Looking at Workbooks

Thank you to everyone who joined us just before the half term break to share the children's workbooks and classroom displays with them. We hope you found this an enjoyable, and useful experience, to see first-hand what your child has been learning in school.

Statutory Assessments

As many of you will know May was a busy month for Year 2 who took part in their statutory assessments (SATs), and this past week has been a particularly full week for Year 1 as they have taken their phonics screening checks. We would like to say a huge well done to all of the children, and the staff, for their hard work and impressive learning behaviours. Assessments will be shared with parents and guardians as part of your child's end of year reports.

Staff Update

It is with huge sadness that we will be saying farewell to Miss Poppy Jones as the end of this academic year. Miss Jones has been with us for four years and over this time has become a much loved member of our school community. She will be moving to London to embrace a new challenge as a PE teacher. I know that the children and parents will want to join the staff in sending her our very best wishes for her next chapter.

We are pleased to have recruited a new teacher for September. Miss Ennia Barden will be joining us, and will be spending some time in school in July to get to know the staff and children in preparation for the new school year.



Celebrations at Chestnut Lane



We have had an action packed week celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. The children enjoyed showing their parents round at the open morning, dressing up and participating in our very own street party!



Whole School Events

Sports Morning—11th July

On Monday 11th July we will be holding a Sports Morning for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children on Elangeni's field, supported by sports coaches from First Touch Football. This will be an opportunity for the children to demonstrate the PE skills and activities they have been developing throughout the year. Parents will be invited to attend and further information will follow.

End of Year Celebration Morning—14th July

On Thursday 14th July we will be inviting all parents and guardians to our End of Year celebration morning. This will be another opportunity to look at the children's workbooks and displays, as well as watch Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 perform a song and a dance, taught by Mrs Douglass and Mr Turnham.

Little Chestnuts Sports & Celebration Afternoon—Monday 18th July

Parents are invited to come to a celebration afternoon on Monday 18th July where Little Chestnuts will showcase some of their amazing sports skills and then join in with activities to celebrate the end of their nursery year! If your child does not normally attend Monday afternoon, then you and your child are still very welcome to come and join us.

Year 2 Leavers' Assembly & Disco—19th July

All Year 2 parents and guardians are invited to attend the Year 2 Leavers' Assembly on Tuesday 19th July, at 9.15am. Due to capacity, this is restricted to two adults per family please.

In the afternoon of Tuesday 19th July, CLESA have generously funded a disco for the Year 2 children. All children are welcome to bring party clothes to school on the day, to get changed into after lunch. We hope that the children have a lots of fun, and a great send off!

Amersham in Bloom Writing Competition

The winners of the Amersham in Bloom writing competition were invited to attend a special event on Saturday 4th June in St Michael's Square. The winning entries have been published in a book which is available to purchase on Amazon. All proceeds from book sales will be invested into creating more pollinator pathways around Amersham.

Buckinghamshire Council Adult Learning Courses

There are a number of courses available to parents in June including supporting your child's transition to the next school year as well as handwriting, maths, phonics and reading workshops. Full details can be found in the attached flyer or by visiting: <https://www.adultlearningbc.ac.uk/family-learning/schools-kit-newsletter/>

Transition

Tuesday 5th July is the county-wide transition day, where lots of our Year 2 pupils will be invited to attend their new schools. If your child has a place at Elangeni School, our staff will drop them off and pick them up from Elangeni for their morning visit. If your child is not attending Elangeni, please let us know of any plans for transition with their new junior school.

On Tuesday 5th July and Wednesday 6th July we will welcome our new Reception children to visit their new classrooms and teachers. This provides an opportunity for our current classes to also go and visit their new teachers on these mornings. This will be the start of a number of opportunities for the children to work in their new classrooms in July. We find this to be useful in supporting the children with the upcoming changes, and gives them a chance to ask any questions they may have. New classes will be shared with everyone by Friday 1st July.

Focus on Wellbeing

Our wellbeing vision is 'To ensure a safe environment with wellbeing at the heart, where everyone feels supported, heard, valued and empowered.' Our long-term wellbeing aims form part of our overall whole school strategy, and will shortly be available in the wellbeing section of our school website.

We will be welcoming Bucks Mind back for one final assembly with the children on Tuesday 21st June. This has been a great collaboration, covering the children, parents and staff and we would like to thank Bucks Mind for their time.

Our verification for the Wellbeing Award in Schools is fast approaching at the end of June. On the day we will be presenting the progress of our wellbeing journey to date, and this will include virtual conversations with the children, staff, governors and the parents. If you feel you are able to contribute to this we would love to hear from you, particularly if you have engaged with any of our wellbeing work.



Important Information

Instagram

Have you heard that we are now on Instagram? You can find us by following the link on the homepage of our website, or searching 'Chestnut Lane School' on Instagram. Thank you to all those parents, guardians and wider friends of the school who have already found us, we are really excited about sharing life in school with you in this way.

Parent View

A huge thank you to the Class Reps who shared the link to our Parent View survey in their WhatsApp groups. Whilst this has been successful in being able to see some results, there are still a low number of responses and so we would urge parents and guardians to contribute to the survey if they haven't done so already, so that we have a broader view.

We have also shared an SEN survey with parents whose children are on the SEN register. Thank you to those who have responded.

This half term there will be further surveys targeted at specific areas of our work. Our wellbeing survey from 2021 will be shared again, in preparation for our Wellbeing Award in Schools verification, and Year 2 parents and guardians will be invited to participate in a short survey about their overall experience of the school.

From September we hope to roll out a programme of shorter, themed, surveys which will focus on one area at a time. We hope that this will make them more manageable to complete, and analyse, and give parents regular opportunities to provide feedback.

Hours in the School Day

Many parents and guardians will be aware of the Government's recommendation for the length of school days to cover a minimum of 32.5 hours a week. We wanted to make everyone aware that the Governing Body are discussing this, and the potential changes to the school hours. This will need to follow a consultation process, and so parents and guardians will hear more on this matter in due course.

Dogs on Site

We have been alerted to an increasing number of dogs being tied up at the school gates during drop-off and pick-

up times. We understand that families will often want to bring their dogs on the walk to school, however we ask that parents are mindful of other people, and other dogs. Please ensure that if you are leaving your dog, that you do so responsibly. We would like to remind parents and guardians that no dogs should be in the front field, as indicated by the signage, and that dog fouling (including on the walk to and from school) is unacceptable and a health and safety concern.

Do you have any time or skills to share?

Thank you to all the volunteers who have returned to school to support the work of the classrooms. This is a much appreciated role, and a huge support to the staff. Earlier this week you may have seen our request for volunteers to help us with specific jobs and projects within school. If you feel you, or somebody you know, have the time and skills to offer, then we would love to hear from you via the school office.



How long should you keep your child off school?

We know that it can be confusing unpicking your child's symptoms when they are unwell, and deciding whether they should attend school, or when they should return. The UK Health Security Agency have produced a new checklist poster which we will be referring to in school, and is a useful guide for parents. We have attached a copy with this newsletter.

EYFS E-Safety Parents Guide

This guide has been added to our school website. Please click on the following link: <https://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk/classes/resources-for-parents> for top tips to keep your children safe online.

Summer Caps

Please send your child to school with a summer cap and a named water bottle everyday. Please also ensure all school uniform is clearly labelled.

Cake Sales

Thank you to all the year 2 parents who ran the cake sale before the half term break. A total of £149.48 was made on the day.



Year 1 will be holding the next cake sale on Friday 1st July.

CLESA Update

CLESA Summer Fair

The Summer Fair arrangements are fully underway and we are looking forward to welcoming you all on **Saturday 18th June** from 12-3pm on Elangeni's School Field. There will be games, bouncy castles, tombolas, face painting, a BBQ, bar and a cake sale so it's going to be a day to remember!

Please remember to purchase your raffle tickets (which have been sent home in bookbags this week) and return them to the school office.

Summer Camp Out

We are looking forward to sharing a fun day and night under the stars at the Amersham & Chiltern Rugby Club with those families who signed up for this event. Don't

forget to bring your own tents, sleeping bags and other camping equipment with you!

CLESA Giftcard Scheme

We would like to thank Trudie Holt for managing the Giftcard Scheme over the past few years. Trudie will be stepping down at the end of the term so if anyone is interesting in taking over this important fundraising initiative, please email clesacochair@gmail.com.

Dates for the Diary

Summer Fair—Saturday 18th June, 12-3pm
Summer Camp Out—Saturday 9th July
Tea in the Box—Friday 15th July

