

We are excited to bring you this newsletter after another action packed half term. We hope you all enjoy a restful half term break ready to begin the final chapter of this academic year!

Mrs Gemma Rehal

EVENTS

Meadow Class Cake Sale	26 May
School Closes at 3.05pm	26 May
School Starts at 8.40am (5 Jun Inset Day)	6 Jun
CLESA Summer Fair	10 Jun
Reception Vision Checks	12 Jun
Reception Visit to Bekonscot	14 Jun
Pierre Henry Fontaine Visiting	20 Jul
Little Chestnuts Cake Sale	23 Jun
Significant Women Workshop—Yr 1&2	27 Jun
Transition Days	4-5 Jul
Year 2 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo	11 Jul
Sports Morning (Reception, Yr 1 & Yr 2)	12 Jul
End of Year Celebrations	13 Jul
Little Chestnuts End of Year Celebrations	14 Jul
Tea in a Box	14 Jul
CLESA Summer Camp Out	15 Jul
Year 2 Leavers Assembly	19 Jul
School Closes at 2.05pm	21 Jul

Summer Term News

Year 2 Waddesdon Manor

Year 2 children loved visiting Waddesdon Manor. They explored the grounds, and used their knowledge about fairy-tales to recount the story of Sleeping Beauty.



Year 1 Land Artist



Year 1 had a brilliant time with James Blunt. They worked collaboratively to create an amazing piece of land art. This workshop was funded by the school fund.



Little Chestnuts' Local Area Walk

Little Chestnuts went on an exciting adventure to Chesham Bois Common where they took part in some group nature activities including making a potion and creating nature art. They also enjoyed munching on the cakes they made in class the day before. Staff were impressed with the delightful behaviour of the children.



Happy Puzzle Company Maths Workshop

Children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 had a fantastic puzzle day thanks to The Happy Puzzle Company. Children developed their maths knowledge through problem solving and team work. This workshop was funded by the school fund.



Vesak Day

We were lucky enough to have Bhante, a Buddhist Priest, visit Chestnut Lane

for the day! He taught each class about Buddhism, led a mediation session and we practised offering food to him!



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We would like to say thank you to Mrs

Gallege for making it all possible, and an extra special thanks to Mr Liyanage for getting the Buddhist priest to us and back home safely.



Staff Update

We can't quite believe that the end of this half term (26th May) marks the start of Mrs Harper's maternity leave. We are all very excited for her to meet her new arrival! Whilst she is away, we are pleased to have a number of staff taking on her key roles. Mrs Louise Naidoo will be our Deputy Headteacher, Miss Catie Vacher will be our Early Years Lead teacher and Mrs Sandeep Sanghera will be an additional Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.



Celebrations at Chestnut Lane

We enjoyed a number of events in school to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. We would like to say a huge thank you to Amersham Town Council for their gift of a 'royal burgundy' cherry tree which was planted with Amersham Town mayor and members of Year 2's Environment Club.

We were also thrilled to be part of Amersham Town Council and Rotatory Club of Amersham's Coronation Meadows. The new designated area of our school drive will form part of a pollinator 'corridor' between Amersham schools, creating vital habitats, increasing biodiversity, and helping pollinators to thrive.

On Tuesday 9th May the whole school joined in a wonderful day of crown creating, cake decorating and performing coronation songs. Despite the British weather, we had a lovely time getting the whole school together.



Upcoming Events

Samba Drumming Workshops—24th May



On Wednesday 24th May, all classes are going to explore a drumming workshop. They will learn different rhythms and patterns by clapping them, and then they will transfer them onto playing the drums.

Reception Trip to Bekonscot Model Village—14th June

Reception parents have been sent a letter and form to complete for the upcoming visit to Bekonscott Model Village. Please complete forms and make payment of £10 by this coming Friday. This trip is being subsidised by the school fund.

Sports Fundraiser with Athlete Visit—20th June

We are very excited to be welcoming Pierre Henry Fontaine to our school on Tuesday 20th June. Children will be participating in a sponsored circuit training event on the day. Please could we ask that you return completed sponsorship forms and money to the school office by **Friday 9th June**.



World Music Day—21st June

We are making plans to celebrate World Music Day in school and make use of the full range of instruments we have to offer. We have recently been lucky enough to receive grant funding from the Universal Music Sound Foundation UK to purchase new musical instruments, including keyboards, and are looking forward to making use of them.

Sports Morning—12th July

On Wednesday 12th 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—13th July

On Thursday 13th 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—14th July

Parents are invited to come to a celebration morning on Friday 14th 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 Friday morning, then you and your child are still very welcome to come and join us. Full details will be provided in due course.

Year 2 Leavers' Event & Disco—19th July

All Year 2 parents and guardians are invited to attend the Year 2 Leavers' Event 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!

Transition

Tuesday 4th 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 4th July and Wednesday 5th 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 30th June.

Year 2 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo—11th July

The Year 2s will be visiting Whipsnade Zoo in their final term of Chestnut Lane School. A letter will be sent home to parents with further details after the half term.

Half Term Holidays

We would like to remind parents that school closes for half term this coming Friday 26th May at 3.05pm. We will be returning on Tuesday 6th June (Monday 5th June is an inset day).



Important Information

Statutory Assessments

As many of you will know May has been a busy month for Year 2 who have taken part in their statutory assessments (SATs). 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.

No Mow May

In the Quad area you will have noticed that we have taped off half of the grass area. This month we have taken part in No Mow May, an initiative to liberate part of our lawn and provide a space for nature. This will allow us to take a closer look at how wildflowers within lawns provide vital food for pollinators.

Parent Survey

After half term parents will be receiving our annual parent survey from the Governing Body via a ParentMail Form. We would appreciate hearing from as many parents as possible.

Volunteer Morning

After the success of our volunteer morning in the Autumn term, we will be holding a second volunteer morning to help us improve areas of the school. Full details will be communicated to parents shortly.

Cake Sales

We have had a bit of a run on cake sales recently! The Forest class cake sale raised an incredible sum of £231.63 and, at the end of March, the Silver class sale also made an impressive £238.90. Thank you to all class reps for organising.



Meadow Class will be holding the next cake sale this coming Friday, 26th May.

Sun Hats

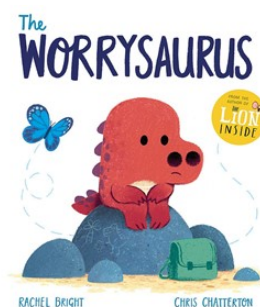
As the weather is warming up, please send your child to school with a summer cap (please ensure it is clearly labelled).

Focus on Wellbeing

There are lots of ways we can support our mental health. Having routines to look after our mind can help it to stay healthy and well. Strategies can also help us to manage big emotions when we experience them. The theme of Mental Health Awareness Week was 'anxiety'. Anxiety is an emotion that affects us all but with healthy coping strategies, anxiety can be made more manageable.



Books: Books are a great way to start conversations around what might be on your child's mind or causing them to feel anxious. We have a book list in the wellbeing section of our website to support anxiety, with titles such as; 'The Huge Bag of Worries', 'Ruby's Worry', 'The Worrysaurus'. <https://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk/wellbeing/parents-and-guardians>



Activity: Create a dice or a spinner with 6 activities to do that will help you feel calm. When you / your child notices a change in emotions, roll the dice / spin the spinner and do the activity it lands on. Activity can be anything but some suggestions are: paint a picture, learn something new, yoga, dance to your favourite song, go on a nature walk, play an active game outside, make a card for someone, starfish breathing.

CLESA Update

Urgent Request for new CLESA Chairs

Despite a number of pleas, we do not currently have any volunteers to Chair the PTA from September. If we don't get any volunteers by the beginning of June, then sadly, steps will be taken to fold CLESA as it cannot run without a Chair(s) - this means all fundraising activities and events organised by CLESA will stop going forward. Please, do consider stepping forward, as the money raised benefits ALL our children.

Contact clesachair@gmail.com if you would like more information about what is involved.

CLESA Coronation Trail Thank you to Kate Nash and Kristina Zwaig for organising the recent Coronation trails - we hope lots of families had fun completing them!

CLESA Quiz Night Thank you also to Taryn McCall, Sally Hardcastle, Jo Rees, Trudie Holt and Nicky Shaw for a fantastic quiz held on Saturday 13 May and well done 'Team France' for winning on the night!!

CLESA Summer Fair The organising team for the Summer Fair are also hard at work and we are looking forward to a fun day on Saturday 10 June - fingers crossed for some sunny weather! Look out for raffle tickets in book bags as there are some great prizes to be won. Tickets and tokens are also available to buy now to save you queuing - they will also be available to buy on the day.

